



A Plea for water

The President of the World Water Council calls on Heads of State and Government to commit to water

Wednesday, June 20, in Rio - On the occasion of the Rio +20 conference, Loïc Fauchon, President of the World Water Council and rapporteur of the Sustainable Development Dialogue on water held on Monday evening, presented today to Heads of State and Government - such as Prince Albert II of Monaco, Mr. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, Wen Jiabao, Premier of the People's Republic of China - the three recommendations that were adopted for water:

- Implementation and constitutional recognition of the Right to Water and Sanitation,
- Importance of planning and integrated management of water, energy and land use,
- Securing water resources to preserve biodiversity and ecosystems.

Loïc Fauchon strongly emphasised the immense responsibility of Heads of State and Government present, reminding them that instead of incantations the world is expecting commitments and solutions: "Water is finally acknowledged and on the agenda of an Earth summit, and the water community is the first to rejoice. But we must now go further and faster. We demand that the Right to Water and Sanitation be inscribed into the Constitutions of every country. Support us, make commitments!

"Water and energy are intricately related; it is seen in the history and needs of those suffering. For the people who lack water are often those who also lack electricity. We demand the creation of a water-energy package in the climate negotiations and a Green or Blue Fund to finance water infrastructure. Support us, make commitments!

"Securing water resources is a major issue. It depends primarily on the ability to provide a decent life for everyone. For the world's population we demand a double security: food and health. If we feed people and then let them die of waterborne diseases we will achieve nothing. Support us, make commitments!

"We urge you to take real political decisions now, real COMMITMENTS!"

About the World Water Council

The World Water Council was established in 1996 by several States and international organisations to raise awareness with both the general public and the international political authorities to help further the cause of water. The World Water Council, which has its headquarters in Marseille, brings together around 350 organisations from more than 70 different countries. As a major international organisation

dealing with global water issues, the World Water Council staged the 6th World Water Forum in Marseille, France, 12 to 17 March 2012.

For more information

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