



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Distr.:
General
10 August
2006

Resolution 07 (2006)

Adopted by the General Assembly at its 12th meeting, on 10 August 2006

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization,

Emphasizing that water is essential for life and sustainable development,

Reaffirming the commitment to achieve the goals on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), access to safe drinking water, agreed upon in Agenda 21, the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI),

Noting the contents of the UN World Water Development Report: Water for People and Water for Life,

Noting especially the valuable contribution to sustainable clean water provision by services of Service Module 8 (Environmental Management),

Recalling its resolution 55/ 196 of 20 December 2000 by which it proclaimed the year 2003 the International Year of Freshwater,

Recognising the alarming number of people without access to clean water and sanitation,

Observing the fact that the share of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to water supply dropped from 9% in 1999/2000 to 6% in 2003/2004,

Being convinced that a swift solution to the Doha Round, increasing trade liberalization worldwide, strengthening the economic prospects for developed and developing countries, could increase efficiency of the agriculture and industry and therefore reduce pollution, waste of water, and the destruction of bio-diversity, caused by unsustainable farming and production,

Strongly emphasising that service delivery in the LDC's requires urgent short term actions, which focus on building integrated water resource management needed to implement large scale programs over the medium term, and sustain the benefit made over the long term,

Further emphasizing the importance of campaigns in order to improve the knowledge and awareness of the MDG among citizens, especially concerning water and poverty,

Keeping in mind the fact that international cooperation is a key factor in tackling water-related issues,

Stressing the important role of women played in the provision, management and safeguarding water,

Recognizing that economically sensible pricing of water is a benchmark situation that would be strongly beneficial to sustainable development and the achievement of the MDG's,

1. *Calls upon* the Member States to support a closer cooperation with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), especially in regard to clean water provision;

2. *Decides* to strengthen Service Module 8 by extending water management related services

- a) to also cope with already polluted water;
- b) by supporting local communities through technical expertise and management know how in regard to water treatment facilities;

3. *Encourages* the international community to increase development aid dedicated to the water sector;

4. *Recommends* to all governments to set incentives, which could be enlarged to an award system for outstanding projects, for efficient, sustainable water usage rather than to impose sanctions for the opposite;

5. *Calls upon* the national governments to promote the existing (and when necessary new) independent national centres of excellence for the water sector in each member country, to be supported and connected to a suitable national ministry; these centres should be supported by UNIDO through specialized personnel, know how (institutional and technical), and where necessary finance;

6. *Encourages* local governments to strengthen the role of PPPs in the water sector in order to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and finance water provision and maintenance;

7. *Decides* on the extension of the International Technology Centres (ITCs) and the creation of new ITCs where necessary with the purpose of acting as a regional information sharing platform and a global network that

- a) shares and collects knowledge and assistance;
- b) cooperates with the OECD which provides it with statistics, analyses and best practice and provision of policy options;
- c) promotes the use of "FEASIBLE" in order to facilitate financial management in the water sector;
- d) strongly cooperates with NCPCs, ITPOs and research centres dealing with water related issues,

8. *Recommends* private and public actors to share expertise, knowledge and technology with the ITCs in order to further promote them in the developing world, particularly through the implementation of Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) ensuring a strong public sector and participation of local stakeholders;

9. *Assumes* the role of an advisor in cooperation with the OECD regarding the establishment of PPPs and the choice of contract type and structure with assistance of the ITCs;

10. *Encourages* the responsible national actors and aid agencies to review in collaboration with the ITCs their water-related actions annually and set up programmes in order to establish an efficient share of information, an independent control and an unbureaucratic and transparent international framework, these reports have to especially focus on:

- a) Integrated Water Resource Management approaches;
- b) Safe water provision;
- c) purification of contaminated water, technical innovation and efficiency, particularly in the industrial sector;
- d) their financial needs to realise their programmes;

11. *Recommends* the involvement of domestic private sector operators where possible in PPPs in the water sector;

12. *Emphasizes* that the final responsibility for water provision, setting and enforcing performance standards should stay within the governments;

13. *Recommends* governments to create a minimum level of water infrastructure and institutions in order

- a) to attract foreign direct investment,
- b) to accelerate private sector participation,
- c) to promote corporate governance,
- d) to ensure easier access to water for consumers, especially for women and children;

14. *Strongly recommends* governments to provide income-related support for poor people as measured by income per day and water stress;

15. *Invites* FAO (Food Agriculture Organization) and other agriculture organizations to intensively accelerate the implementation of new technologies to improve the efficiency of irrigation systems in developing and developed countries;

16. *Recommends* governments to implement international environmental agreements about water issues and consider to provide and enlarge award systems for outstanding projects, for efficient, sustainable water usage;

17. *Decides* that the proliferation of the ISO 9001 should be considered as a tool to improve water governance and governments should implement legal and economic incentives for companies to obtain this certificate;

18. *Encourages* the extension of training programs to educate members of regional communities, especially farmers, females and children, in Integrated Water Resource Management, entrepreneurship and efficient and responsible use of water to foster the set up of grass root organisations;

19. *Supports* programs to build and to improve waste management systems in developing as well as in developed countries for industries and households in rural areas;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of River Basin Management and therefore

- a) encourages the promotion of River Basin Cooperation throughout the world;
- b) provides with the help of ITC's assistance the development of Integrated Resource Management and water efficiency plans;
- c) supports the development of appropriate legal regulatory institutional and technical frameworks for water management.