



7th World Water Forum – Conference of Parliamentarians for Water

Parliamentarian Statement

We, the representatives of parliamentarians participating in the 7th World Water Forum, meeting within the framework of the Conference of Parliamentarians for Water held in Daegu · Gyeongbuk on 15 April 2015,

- a. Reiterating that billions of people still lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation services in spite of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the official recognition in 2010 of the human right to water and sanitation the challenge after having recognised the human right to water and sanitation,
- b. Recalling that good legal frameworks are crucial in order to ensure water security for all, for present and future generations,
- c. Stressing that the global water situation continues to deteriorate due to climate change, poor water governance and other crises, exacerbated by environmental damages that are artefacts of unsustainable models,
- d. Recognizing the existence of conflicts over shared water resources, despite regional and national efforts to establish relevant water governance,
- e. Acknowledging the need to share and diffuse comprehensive water management solutions that encompass food, energy, both urban and ecological, and cultural solutions, not only confined to water,
- f. Affirming that Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) based on hydrographic basins, concertation between stakeholders and creation of synergies between different policies are a key to adaptation and attenuation for climate change,

Accordingly, we, the representatives of parliamentarians participating in the 7th World Water Forum, commit to support the following solutions and requests to advance human right to water and sanitation and to improve water management:

1. Ask that water security be given the utmost priority in allocation of financial resources in countries that lack access to water and sanitation; and that other countries get involved in decentralised cooperation. Allow prompt amendment of laws and minimise budget execution processes to enhance global human right to water and sanitation, improving budget execution efficiency in the water sector compared to the past, and allocate additional and separate financial

resources for urgent water and sanitation challenges.

2. Support continuously, education and training, in order to optimise investment in water and sanitation as a human right.

3. Establish institutional mechanisms to allow participation of all stakeholders, both directly and indirectly, in water management.

4. Call for all countries to promote sustainable economic development in due consideration of the environment, and for developed countries, to participate actively in providing financial support underpinning these efforts; make environment-related funds available for prompt financial support for countries in need; pursue effective environment restoration efforts both at national and international levels; thus, aim to achieve green growth.

5. Minimize water-related conflicts; strengthen collaborative research at national and international levels to establish governance that involves all stakeholders for protection of human rights and efficient water management; in particular, reaffirm the important roles of central, regional, and local government officials, water expert organisations and other stakeholders.

6. Create a global model for sustainable development and for synthesis of water with various sectors in the society, based on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) research. The model should encompass eco-friendly and sustainable agricultural, industrial, and urban development strategies. Establish legal instruments to support IWRM, as water, in synthesis with all sectors of society, have contributed to development in the past and will continue to do so in the future; mobilise and secure financial resources.

7. Work towards providing legal basis and procurement of financial resources for establishment of organisations that support operation of governance over shared water resources (transnational and transregional), executing water-related solutions of governance at the national level; efforts for the operation of various governance with regard to shared waters, establishment of legal base for this supportive organization and preparation of working funds. In addition, secure execution ability for solutions of water issues to be implemented in each country through governance.

8. Share and evaluate past Statements of the parliamentary process and results of today through the 'Water Legislation Helpdesk' and allow regular access to information on changes in water management circumstances of each country and its parliamentary response.

IN CONCLUSION,

We, the representatives of parliamentarians participating in the 7th World Water Forum, within the framework of the Conference of Parliamentarians for Water at the 7th World Water Forum held in Daegu · Gyeongbuk:

- 1) Hereby present solutions for the past, present and future water issues and pledge to implement them,

- 2) Declare the necessity for the involvement of youth and continuous efforts to secure safe drinking water and sanitation and for changes in water management to effectively respond to climate change and future water crises,
- 3) Ask our representatives to support the above proposals and commitments at the UN General Assembly to be held in September 2015,
- 4) Ask our representatives to incorporate water as a central component of adaptation during negotiations of COP21 to be held in Paris in 2015. As a consequence, water has to be treated as fundamental to the allocation of climate findings.

Daegu · Gyeongbuk, 15 April 2015