

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL SYNTHESIS MEETING FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC WATER SUMMIT AND THE 6<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011, SINGAPORE**

**Summary**

The meeting was Held at PUB Water Hub in Singapore. The meeting was co-chaired by Mdm Erna Witoelar and Mr Ravi Narayanan, Vice Chairs of the APWF Governing Council.

**The meeting provided the opportunity for APWF members to:**

- Concerning the targets, recognize that:

*In commitment to water security in the Asia-Pacific region, several organizations of the APWF propose targets to this end. These targets have not been selected based on political endorsement throughout the region. Rather, they reflect the understanding and work of the various organizations on water security challenges and our commitment to moving forward the vision of a water secure Asia-Pacific region.*

- The date for revised wording of targets was set for 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011 (see ANNEX 1) and the production of a Target Action Plan by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2011.
- The submission of the draft final report for the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is set for 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 and the submission of the final report by 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis Meeting is currently proposed for 20-23 September 2011 in Seoul Korea (dates to be finalized).

**Key points of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July**

**Chairmanship of the Meeting**

- The meeting was co-chaired by Mdm Erna Witoelar and Mr Ravi Narayanan, Vice Chairs of the APWF Governing Council.

**Agenda Item 1: Opening**

- Mr Ravi Narayanan Chair opened by welcoming everyone and acknowledged the informal meetings held between the APWF Secretariat and lead organizations on the targets for the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (6<sup>th</sup> WWF)
- The synthesis meeting schedule was accepted.
- Ms Salmah Zakaria of ESCAP requested FAO to confirm they were the lead organization for the Focus Area Session “Economic, Food and Water Security”.
- Mr Thierry Facon of FAO confirmed FAO and ESCAP would be working together on the Focus Area Session to be held at the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS.

## **Agenda Item 2: Presentation by APWF Secretariat**

- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi shared points from the informal meetings held with lead organizations on the targets for the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.

### **Ownership and legitimacy of the proposed targets**

- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi acknowledged that there had been some concerns raised regarding ownership and legitimacy of the proposed targets. She suggested that the APWF request the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF to include a preamble recognizing this.
- The Preamble was presented:

*In commitment to water security in the Asia-Pacific region, several organizations of the APWF propose targets to this end. These targets have not been selected based on political endorsement throughout the region. Rather, they reflect the understanding and work of the various organizations on water security challenges, and our commitment to moving forward the vision of a water secure Asia-Pacific region.*

- Mr Thierry Facon stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS provides an opportunity for the targets to be politically endorsed and that in February 2012 (after the Summit) the Preamble should be revised to acknowledge which targets are endorsed in the Message from Bangkok.
- Mr Hiroki Kenzo of ICHARM mentioned that we need to be precise in the revision after the Message from Bangkok in terms of who has endorsed which targets i.e. endorsement by the Summit not by the United Nations.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan asked attendees if they accepted the Preamble with minor changes. There were no objections raised.

### **Points from the previous meetings regarding specific targets**

- Target 1.1 and 3.1 will be revised by the Secretariat upon advice from ESCAP and UNHABITAT.
- KWF will reduce the number of targets by one (two KWF proposed targets remaining)
- IUCN proposed a tentative new target for 4.1
- UNHABITAT proposed a new target.
- Ms Salmah Zakaria stated that ESCAP and UNHABITAT work together closely and are presently discussing the target.
- The APWF Secretariat confirmed they will be in touch with ESCAP and UNHABITAT for clarification on the wording and lead organization for the target.
- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi then presented the revised target list based on the previous meetings and lead and partner organizations made suggestions for further revision.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar reminded that sanitation is a critical issue to be considered and was glad to see sanitation in a number of the targets. She noted that sanitation means waste water as well as minimum basic toilet facilities (rather than open defecation). She stated that sanitation needs to be noted in a number of targets to ensure it receives attention at the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS and the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.
- Mr Djoko Sasongko of GWP SEA asked if target 6.1 on IWRM had been removed.
- Mr Toshihiro Sonoda of UNESCO replied that the target would be taken on by UNESCO as a lead organization and that he will present on this later.
- Ms Sophie Nguyen-Khao of the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF asked for clarification on the number of targets as well as the lead organizations for the Focus Area Sessions.
- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi confirmed that there can be multiple targets under one Focus Area Session and that there is one coordinator for each target and not a further coordinator for multiple targets under one focus area.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar stated that it is important to keep target 6.1 and that the ADB will be contacted to confirm this. She also recognized that this is something that has existed in the region for some time. She requested UNESCO to contact ADB. Mr Toshihiro Sonoda stated that UNESCO would also like to invite GWP as a partner organization.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan mentioned that Secretariat has not heard from GWP and requested ADB to confirm that they can invite partners.

- Mr Thierry Facon stated that there is a strong link between 6.1 and 2.1. He mentioned that FAO would like to join the ADB/UNESCO/GWP partnerships and that it is important to not only look at river basin targets but also national policy and governance.
- Ms Lu Liu of the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF IFC reminded target coordinators that they have to prepare separate target reports, find solutions and hold a session at the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.
- Mr Kenzo Hiroki asked who would pay for the preparation of the reports, compilation of case-studies etc.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan clarified that the lead organizations would be doing this on a voluntary basis.
- Mr Thierry Facon requested confirmation on funds/resources available for organizations for 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS and 6<sup>th</sup> WWF and Mr Kenzo Hiroki stated that if lead organizations have to pay then they have to be consulted not simply told what to do.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan clarified that lead organizations are not being directed and that they only have to take this forward if they choose to.

### **Agenda Item 3: Presentation by the International Forum Committee on Update on the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum**

- Ms Sophie Nguyen-Khao made a presentation on “how to participate and contribute to the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Marseille, France in 2012?” She explained six ways in which organizations can participate:
  - Join a World Water Forum working group
  - Contribute with a solution
  - Propose a project to have institutional support of the IFC
  - Organise a side event
  - Come to the exhibition
  - Appoint people and institutions to the Water Prizes

### **Agenda Item 4: Presentation by UNESCO on IWRM Process for a Water Secure World**

- Mr Toshihiro Sonoda of UNESCO presented on the focus area theme IWRM
  - Process for a Water Secure World. He started by reminding people of the definition and status on IWRM.
- He explained and elaborated on concrete initiatives by UNESCO including a proposed “Spiral” Model” of IWRM where new solutions are added at each stage, launching of an IWRM forum, as well as the activities of Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO).

- He mentioned possible areas for attention at the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF including:
  - Facilitating the establishment of RBOs
  - Capacity development of RBO on IWRM implementation
  - Adaptation to climate change through IWRM
  - Establishing interregional cooperation
- He presented a schedule for future activities including:
  - By December 2011 timeline and actions will be discussed among partners
  - At the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF a dedicated session to discuss and endorse target and action plan will be organized.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan asked if there was a narrower focus on specific targets for action.
- Mr Toshihiro Sonoda clarified that their aim was to enhance implementation capacity.
- Mr Tadashige Kawasaki of Japan Water Agency stated that they would like to contribute to this and support UNESCO's proposal.
- Mr Toshihiro Sonoda invited organizations that are interested to contact them.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar stated that sustainable development as a concept is similar to IWRM and that Rio+20 should be a focus as we are going too deep and we need to boost the issue again.
- Mr Thierry Facon requested they would like to see UNESCO have a target on this as it is a very good framework. FAO stated that they were willing to contribute and work with UNESCO on this.
- Ms Salmah Zakaria congratulated UNESCO and also recognized the important work done by GWP.
- Ms Sophie Ngugen-Khao mentioned that it would be good to show what is happening in the Asia-Pacific region at the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.
- Both Mr Ravi Narayanan and Ms Sophie Ngugen-Khao suggested that if a target could be set by early next week then there could be a session in the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Presentation by ESCAP on Household Water Security**

- Ms Salmah Zakaria of ESCAP presented on the focus area theme "Household Water Security". She confirmed that at the 1<sup>st</sup> synthesis meeting ESCAP confirmed they would be preparing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS and the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.

- She confirmed that for the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS:
  - ESCAP agreed to 2 focus areas of ESCAP
    - Household Water Security (agreed at 1<sup>st</sup> Synthesis meeting)
    - Economic, Food and Water Security (with FAO as of 2<sup>nd</sup> Synthesis meeting)
  - For the 1<sup>st</sup> focus area, ESCAP will work on Water and Sanitation for ADB AWDO 2010. This will form their core presentation at the sub-theme workshop
  - ESCAP will also be discussing with FAO on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Focus area
  - She further confirmed that for the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF:
- ESCAP has agreed to combine target 1.1 and 1.2 as follows:
  - *Reduce by half the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water and to basic sanitation in our region by 2015 and to reduce that number to achieve universal and sustainable target by 2025. On sanitation this includes the adoption of new and innovative sanitation systems that are not as water reliant as current methods.*
- EDD ESCAP Director has been submitted to attend 6<sup>th</sup> WWF.

#### **Agenda Item 6: Presentation by UNHABITAT on Urban Water Security**

- Mr Kulwant Singh of UNHABITAT provided a comprehensive presentation on Urban Water Security.
- He highlighted how the MDGs can act to create local attention and galvanize action and mentioned the need to have well defined targets for towns and cities. He further highlighted that in the Asia-Pacific region there is a very dynamic situation due to processes of urbanization. He noted the challenge between poverty, exclusion and marginalization and environmental degradation and decay.
- He suggested targets need to be based on gaps that exist and are likely to emerge from that i.e. there are billions of people without improved sanitation and large numbers are in South Asia. He made mention of situation in China and India and recognized they heavily influenced the global trend because of high populations.
- He noted that a right based target and action framework is being proposed and mentioned some misconceptions on right to water and sanitation. Right to water and sanitation does not mean free water, unlimited access to water, nor is a country in violation if not all people have access to water and sanitation.

- At the end of the presentation a new target was proposed:
- *Creation of a financing mechanism for local governments engaged in the realization of the target C of the objective 7 of the Millennium Development Goals:*
- *Reduce by half the percentage of population having no access to sustainable drinking water supply nor to basic sanitation services.*
- Mdm Erna Witoelar noted that the strength is getting models and tools for cities and decision makers to see water and sanitation in the right conception of the right based approach in order to bridge the gap. She suggested ESCAP and UNHABITAT might want to communicate with those involved in IWRM focus area session.
- Mr Thierry Facon suggested it might be useful to clarify between personal and domestic use i.e. domestic use for food production as this is currently a grey area.
- Mr Kulwant Singh stated that any case studies they will be presenting will be highlighting alternative technological solutions for towns and cities, especially for waste water.
- Mr Jack Sim of the World Toilet Organization mentioned that the ADB is developing a knowledge system on sanitation.

#### **Agenda Item 7: Presentation by FAO on Economic, Food and Water Security**

- Mr Thierry Facon of FAO presented on the focus area theme “Economic, Food and Water Security”. He began by mentioning that the original target of 2.1 “Developing a framework for action” was added to include local, national and regional issue and that FAO will be in touch with the ADB on action plan.
- He stated that FAO want to test the framework in a number of areas in the Asia-Pacific region and that ADB is also going to test this for things such as feasibility, social consensus, finances.
- He mentioned that FAO currently has two target options.
- Option 1: Based on available resources.
- Building on the work of FAO and partners on the sustainable water resources use project and linked to FAO initiative:
  - Case studies and dialogues
  - E-conference
  - Publication
  - Mobilizing additional partners and their solutions
  - E-work shopping on [www.asia-water.org](http://www.asia-water.org)
  - Testing of the framework in 5 or more countries
  - Inception workshop of regional initiative

- Workshop at 2<sup>nd</sup> APWF
- Focus area and message from Bangkok
- Option 2: More ambitious, beyond 2012

Add new elements beyond the APWS and WWF6:

- Rio+20
- Water 2030 plans
- Plan of Action on food and water security
- Capacity building
- Regional components of FAO-IWMI+ regional initiative
- He mentioned Option 2 was preferred but would depend on interested partners and resources.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar reminded everyone that there is still a few days left for target text revision, that we would like to limit the number of targets today, and that we need to be sure the targets are realistic and regional.
- Mr Kenzo Hiroki congratulated Mr Facon on a very good presentation and asked if he had discussed this with Bonn + 10 secretariat.
- Mr Thierry Facon replied that he is involved in the Bonn process.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar stated that FAO's nexus between food, water and green growth is very timely and that climate change is also another area that could be another possibility.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Statement by the Korea Water Form**

- Delegates from the KWF stated that they want to delete target 5.1 and focus on target 6.2.

#### **Agenda Item 9: Presentation by ICHARM on Water Risks and Resilience**

- Mr Kenzo Hiroki of ICHARM presented on the focus area theme water risks and resilience.
- He highlighted that water and disasters is low on the political agenda and urged that we needed clear-cut message, priority actions, and commitment by all. He made the following suggestions for principles for action:
  - Start not from scratch but from existing documents/plans
  - Act according to demarcation or expected roles
  - Minimum use of resources / maximum output

- Coordinate whenever possible
- He continued by mentioning a number of activities and upcoming events were important messages and priorities could be discussed and highlighted.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar noted the presentation was not a presentation on a proposed target but recognized that there were very important issues raised and made suggestions for ICHARM to link with others on the water and disaster nexus. She also noted that a lot of development is happening on climate change adaptation.

### **Agenda Item 10: Closing**

- Mdm Erna Witoelar invited Ms Noriko Yamaguchi to summarize what we have achieved and what still needs to be done.
- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi summarized with the following points:
  - The number of targets for the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF had been reduced to ten. The coordination and number of targets was then confirmed with the participants and the APWF Secretariat stated they would get final confirmation of the relevant organizations and check with the ADB regarding coordination of target 6.1.
  - The date for revised wording of targets was set for 12<sup>th</sup> July 2011 (see ANNEX 1) and the production of a Target Action Plan by 15<sup>th</sup> July 2011.
  - The 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis Meeting is currently proposed for 20-23 September 2011 in Seoul Korea (dates to be finalized)
  - The submission of the draft final report on respective targets and identified promising solutions for the 6<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is set for 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2011 and the submission of the final report by 18<sup>th</sup> November 2011.
- In response to earlier questions regarding support for expenses for target coordinators for the 6<sup>th</sup> WWF Ms Yamaguchi stated the APWF Secretariat is responsible for coordinating work and to meet other requests made by organizer of 6<sup>th</sup> WWF. The Secretariat does not currently have resources for target coordinators.
- Mr Kenzo Hiroki stated that this did not seem fair.
- Ms Noriko Yamaguchi mentioned that the target coordinators will have a chance to organize the session under their name not under the name of the APWF or Secretariat.
- Mr Kenzo Hiroki stated that he understood this but still it did not seem fair.

- Mdm Erna Witoelar mentioned that the JICA water related program is very good. Maybe people can link with them to access resources and work with others like the Lee Kuan Yew School. She offered to look into these organizations for linking opportunities.
- Mr Kenzo Hiroki further stated that if the Secretariat is short of funds then they have to be transparent on their expenses and funds. Second, coordinating organizations should be treated as genuine contributors and coordinators.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar invited the governing council to respond.
- Mr Ravi Narayanan responded that we will look into these concerns and respond at some point.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar offered to discuss the governance process of the APWF at length. She commented that the APWF has grown but still has the same resources as five years ago. She suggested at the next governing council meeting governance issues would be discussed. She thanked Mr Kenzo Hiroki for the reminder.
- Mr Chaiporn Siripornpibul of MNRE thanked the Chair for the opportunity to attend the good atmosphere of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Synthesis Meeting and the comments and input from the floor regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS. He stated that MNRE will do their best to ensure an excellent Summit. He mentioned that MNRE has asked the APWF Secretariat to consider heads of government from the list of countries for their support in covering travel expenses.
- Mdm Erna Witoelar concluded by thanking everyone, the APWF Secretariat, and the PUB for supporting and facilitating this meeting.

ANNEX 1:

**Final List of Targets proposed from the organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region**

<b>Household Water Security</b>	<b>Coordinators</b>
Reduce by half the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation in our region by 2015 and to reduce that number to achieve universal and sustainable targets by 2025. On sanitation, this includes the adoption of new and innovative sanitation systems that are not as water reliant as current methods.	Ms. Salmah Zakaria, ESCAP zakaria8@un.org
<b>Economic, Food and Water Security</b>	
By 2012, propose a framework for action on water in green growth in support of economic, food and water security, that addresses local, national and regional action and could be included in the Forum's political declarations	Mr. Thierry Facon, FAO Thierry.facon@fao.org
<b>Urban Water Security</b>	
Reduce by half the number of people who do not have access to safe drinking water by 2015 and aim to reach universal and sustainable access to water and sanitation in the Asia-Pacific region by 2025.	Mr. Dzikus Andre, UN Habitat Andre.dzicus@unhabitat.org
<b>Water Risks and Resilience</b>	
By 2015, to develop a strategic flood risk-management framework that engages emerging technologies and strengthens regional information systems for enhanced community resilience through appropriate policies and practices in the Himalayan region.	Dr. Ramesh Vaidya, ICIMOD rvaidya@icimod.org
<b>IWRM Process for a Water Secure World</b>	
By 2018, Northeast Asia countries will have committed to establish and manage a training centre for climate change responsive water – research, -education, and teacher education in North East Asia.	Ms. Hyeyoon Ayleen Jung, Northeast Asia – KWF ayleenjung@gmail.com
Enhance capacity of River Basin Organizations to implement IWRM including adaptation to climate change.	Mr. Toshihiro Sonoda, UNESCO t.sonoda@unesco.org
<b>Other</b>	
By 2015, creation of a mechanism of financing for local government engaged in the realization of the target C of the objective 7 of the Millennium Development Goals: reduce by half the percentage of population having no sustainable access to safe drinking water supply nor to basic purification services.	Ms. Taeko Yokota, UN Habitat Taeko.Yokota@unhabitat.org

Recorded by: APWF Secretariat

Approved by: APWF Governing Council