



# Aquawareness Policy Forum

## “Water 2030 – who cares?”

### Recommended Actions

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010**

Representation of the state Saxony-Anhalt to the EU  
80, Boulevard Saint Michel, 1040 Brussels



### **Article 1: 'Water as a common heritage'**

- 1) EU Member States' authorities and other actors, including business, should take action to inform and educate the public to stimulate personal motivation. The European Commission could facilitate sharing of best practices on this.
- 2) By 2012, the European Commission should produce a Vision for 2027 on the Future of EU Waters, linked to the expected reporting on the River Basin Management Plans

### **Article 2: 'Water is an essential human need'**

- 1) In order to ensure water as a basic human right, the consensus of all of Europe has to be obtained through the signing of a European Water Protocol that will lead to the establishment of the European Water Regulator (Board).
- 2) The European Water Regulator will optimise the water chain, ensure protocol adherence, ensure that user needs are balanced and that all user needs will be prioritised.

### **Article 3: 'sustainable, integrated and adaptive water management'**

- 1) The River Basin Management Plans should be used, not just as a document, but as a planning tool, involving better communication, better data and strengthened political will.
- 2) Transparency in water management has to be increased, including in costs, data and decision making.



#### **Article 4: 'water democracy'**

- 1) Invite UNECE and EU to partner with EWP to host a workshop on water democracy
- 2) A benchmarking process should be developed to enable the development of a yearly review

#### **Article 5: 'integrated demand and supply driven approach'**

- 1) A framework on pricing has to be set up, including intelligent cost planning, metering and transparency. This framework should combine agriculture, housing and industry together.
- 2) Give the people a relationship to water. Create a water-conscious attitude, and link this attitude to a best use of technology.

#### **Article 6: 'water efficient society'**

- 1) Open dialogues have to be set up at the right levels, including all stakeholders (specifically agriculture)
- 2) Set up benchmarking schemes on best cost-, water- and energy-efficiency

#### **Article 7: 'pricing instruments'**

- 1) Grant funding rates should be reviewed by the funding institutions, and should be considered to be lowered. Grant funding should be mixed with other financing instruments.
- 2) Water and wastewater utilities should increase transparency on the bills, to inform about the *real* costs of water and wastewater. Information should be provided on the percentage of costs covered by the fees.



### **Article 8: 'interlinked approaches to ensure adaptation'**

- 1) A taskforce should be set up to develop principles for retention and recycling of water at a local level to benefit both adaptation and mitigation. The taskforce should report to the EP, and include all stakeholders.

### **Article 9: 'application appropriate technologies'**

- 1) Set up the European Water House, to collect, monitor, evaluate all information on water available and host a thinktank on water policies
- 2) Set up a dialogue between industry and end users to overcome barriers on the application of new technologies.

### **Article 10: 'Europe is a responsible partner in the world'**

- 1) More coordination between donors is urgently needed. The EU institutions could take a facilitating role to promote sustainable water development
- 2) EU institutions should communicate better what they are doing to promote sustainable water management in developing partner countries.



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