



MESSAGE OF FOZ DO IGUASSU

This message will be sent to the 5th World Water Forum from the participants in the Water Forum of the Americas in Iguassu Falls, Brazil. The Water Forum of the Americas was the culmination of the Americas Regional Process in preparation for the 5th Forum. The event included more than 250 people from different sectors of water management throughout the Americas. Participants included Ministers of State, Governors, Mayors, Parliamentarians, international organizations, academics, the private and public sectors, non-governmental organizations and river basin committees. Participants included the Ministers of Environment from Brazil and Turkey.

The following recommendations were produced during interactive sessions involving all the participants:

- Promote social inclusion and the eradication of poverty through universal access to water supply and sanitation as well as through the productive use of water, by means of the usage of hydroelectric power, irrigation for food production, transportation, tourism and recreation, within a sustainable development context.
- Institutional strengthening of management bodies and promotion of internal and external integration of water resources policies with other sectoral policies.
- Incorporate the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in water resources management, and the need for technology transfer and additional financial resources, in particular in strategies to face climate change.
- Because of the transversality principle, water management must be at the core of public policy in all three phases: planning, implementation, and control.
- Within specificities of each region, one should consider the multiple use of water on an efficient and rational basis, incorporating environmental conservation, protection and reclamation as necessary actions toward the improvement of water availability.
- Water sustainability requires good regulation and economic incentives.
- Promote agreements on the management of transboundary aquifers and basins.
- Decentralized, participative and integrated management of water resources with local stakeholders and indigenous and traditional communities, taking into account a gender perspective.
- We need to promote cleaner production by making investments in applied research, technological development and capacity development.
- The challenge of water management in small islands (SIDS) and the wider Caribbean region must be recognized and receive special attention due to their vulnerability to global climate changes.
- Support capacity development to help cope with the impacts of climate change.
- Need to raise awareness about water with training and education for everybody at different socio-economic levels, connecting people with the basin where they interact.