WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION COLLABORATIVE COUNCIL

4th Global Forum: Water and Sanitation for All
Manila, Philippines, 3-7 November 1997

Ed Burke & Alf Simpson
SOPAC Secretariat

December 1997
SOPAC Miscellaneous Report 274

Participation at this Meeting was funded by the
Commonwealth Science Council
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACKGROUND</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDS WORKING GROUP</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4TH GLOBAL FORUM IN MANILA</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDS REGIONAL GROUP SESSIONS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANILA ACTION PROGRAMME (MAP)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIDS INFORMATION BOOTH</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOLLOW UP ACTIONS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 1 - LIST OF BUSINESS CARDS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 2 - LIST OF PAPERS/PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 3 - DETAILS OF THE WSSCC AND ITS OPERATION</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 4 - FORUM PROGRAMME</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 5 - DRAFTMANILA ACTION PLAN</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 6 - SIDS PRESENTATION</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTACHMENT 7 - REPORT FROM SMALL ISLANDS REGIONAL SESSIONS</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SOPAC gratefully acknowledges the support of the Commonwealth Science Council, and in particularly Dr Siyan Malomo, Chief Project Officer, for not only supporting SOPAC but others from Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the quest to improve water and sanitation conditions within SIDS.

INTRODUCTION

This report documents the 4th Global Forum of the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) that met in Manila, Philippines, on 3-7 November 1997. Alf Simpson, SOPAC Director designate, and Ed Burke, Manager of the Pacific Water and Sanitation Program (WASP), were invited to attend the Forum. The Commonwealth Science Council funded the participation of both Mr Simpson and Mr Burke.

Over 230 water sector people representing donors, international organisations, educational and research institutions, NGOs and practitioners from all over the world attended the Forum. Attachment 1 lists business cards of some of the delegates met during the meeting. A list of presentations and papers given and distributed during the Forum appear as Attachment 2. All these papers are available from the SOPAC library.

BACKGROUND

The WSSCC was formed at the end of the UN International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990) to provide a framework for collaboration between water sector agencies in both developed and developing countries. Forums are held every two years to discuss key sector issues, increase awareness, promote collaboration and lobby donor support. Between Forums the Council operates through a number of Working Groups, Networks and Task Forces dealing with specific issues, topics and tasks targeting improving water supply and sanitation provision in developing countries. Attachment 3 provides more details about the WSSCC and its operation.

The first WSSCC was held in Oslo, Norway, in 1991, and Alf Simpson has attended all three Forums since the Oslo meeting: Mr. Simpson and other SIDS representatives have lobbied for the small islands resulting in the establishment of a Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Working Group at the Barbados Forum in 1995. SOPAC, through it's Pacific Water...
and Sanitation Program (WASP) played an active role in the SIDS Working Group. SOPAC also participated in the Council's Water Demand Management and Conservation Working Group plus prepared materials and manned the SIDS information booth at the Manila Forum.

**SIDS WORKING GROUP**

The SIDS Working Group (Pacific region) hosted by SOPAC met in February 1997 in Suva, Fiji. The meeting was held in conjunction with a Small Islands Water Information Network (SIWIN) Workshop that was sponsored by the Commonwealth Science Council.

Since the Barbados Forum, SOPAC’s WASP has implemented the following relevant activities:

- Workshop on Technologies for Maximising and Augmenting Freshwater Resources in Small Islands, Suva, Fiji, February 1996. (Funded by UNEP).

- Produced a SIDS tool: Source Book on Technologies for Augmenting Freshwater Resources in Small Island Developing States. (Funded by UNEP).

- Workshop on Appropriate and Affordable Sanitation for Small Island States, Kiribati, August 1996. (Funded by UNDP).

- Workshop on Small Island Water Information Network (SIWIN), Suva, Fiji, 5-6 February 1997. (Funded by CSC and British ODA).


- Establishment of the Pacific Water Association (an association of island water and wastewater utilities plus allied members).

- Produce and distribute SIDS tool; Guidelines on Appropriate Sanitation for Small Islands. (Included in the Sanitation Promotion Kit to be distributed at the Manila meeting by the Council’s Working Group on Sanitation - See section A3).

SOPAC Miscellaneous Report 244 has full details of the SIDS meeting.

4th GLOBAL FORUM IN MANILA

The meeting was hosted by the Government of the Philippines and the Asian Development Bank and held at the ADB conference facilities.

The basic format of the meeting was to first report on the activities of the existing working groups and task forces. Regional group sessions were helped to develop regional priority issues and propose actions and support requirements. The regions are: Africa; Asia; Latin America, Small Island Developing States; Central & Eastern Europe and the New Industrial States. The regional groups then reported back to plenary for discussion. The regional reports were consolidated on the third day that was also set aside for various field trips that were organised. Consolidated reports of regional groups were presented along with the Programme Committee's recommendations of the Manila Action Program. Attachment 4 contains the Forum Programme and Attachment 5 is the draft Manila Action Program.

Each working group, network, task force and region had an information booth that Forum participants had access to during the meeting. Various Filipino agencies also operated information booths.

SIDS REGIONAL GROUP SESSIONS

On the first day of the plenary meeting, Alf Simpson presented the SIDS report on regional activities during the previous two years. The need for continued and increased donor support was stressed. See Attachment 6 for the SIDS presentation.

The SIDS regional group consisted of participants from Barbados, Cyprus, Fiji, Haiti, Maldives, Mauritius, PNG and Trinidad. Representatives from the Commonwealth Science Council, WHO, WaterAid and UNICEF also participated in the SIDS regional meeting that met in three sessions for a total time of 4.5 hours.

After much discussion it was agreed that the issues that make small islands special must be highlighted. SIDS vulnerability to natural and man-made disasters plus human resources...
development and capacity retention were priority issues. Attachment 7 contains the "Report from Small Islands Regional Sessions" that resulted from the SIDS meeting.

The report proposes actions and support requirements for individuals, agencies, countries, regionally and from the Council Secretariat and donors. Efforts must be made to implement these actions and to obtain the required support to improve water and sanitation facilities for SIDS.

**MANILA ACTION PROGRAMME (MAP)**

Again the MAP is set out in Attachment 5.

The WSSCC will provide the mobilisation of resources for the establishment of Regional Chapters Council of which SIDS is one. This may be difficult for SIDS are really global including the Caribbean, the Pacific, Indian Ocean and Mediterranean Sea.

Global Working Groups were established and Council will provide resources for the Groups. These Groups will help to co-ordinate, oversee and assist priority activities of regional groups. The five Groups are:

- Environmental Sanitation
- Community Management and Partnerships with Civil Society
- Institutional Issues
- Human Resources Development
- Water Demand Management and Conservation

SOPAC has been actively involved with the Demand Management and Conservation Group and have Taiwan Government funding to undertake a demand management project in 5 member countries (Kiribati, Tuvalu, Tonga, Samoa and the Solomon Islands).

The four existing Networks continue to operate without direct Council support. The Networks are:

- GARNET (Global Applied Research Network in water and sanitation)
  - Internet address http://www.lboro.ac.uk/departments/cv/wedc/garnet/grntover.html
- Gender
- Operation and Maintenance
- Service for the Urban Poor
Note that GRANET and SOPAC/WASP are now linked through the internet as a result of the Forum.

Council is seeking to mandate responsibility for four new Task Forces to agencies able to undertake the task on its behalf. With Council support SOPAC could assist with the following two tasks:

- Development of improved indicators and monitoring methodologies in relation to the UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme,
- Drafting guideline and model plans for disaster preparedness in small developing states.

Thus there is potential for SOPAC to participate in the above two tasks and WASP will follow up these tasks with the Council.

**SIDS INFORMATION BOOTH**

Several posters about SOPAC water and sanitation activities were displayed. SOPAC also contributed a poster to the Water Demand Management and Conservation information booth.

The new SOPAC Water and Sanitation Newsletter was distributed at the booth. Copies of the following two SIDS tools produced by SOPAC were on display:

- Technologies for Augmenting Freshwater Resources in Small Island Developing States, SOPAC Joint Contribution Report 112
- Sanitation for Small Islands; Guidelines for Selection and Development, SOPAC Miscellaneous Report 250

There were 20 requests for the Freshwater report and 16 requests for the Sanitation report.

**FOLLOW UP ACTIONS**

During the meeting period many contacts were made that may benefit the development of water and sanitation of SIDS. The following is a list of follow up actions required as a result of the meeting:

- Contact Gordon Fox, Pacific Operations Division of ADB, regarding the possibility of collaborating in water and sanitation projects in the Pacific.
- Check on assisting with UNICEF/WHO water and sanitation monitoring task force for PacificSIDS.
• Remind Global Water Partnership to include SIDS in its program.

• Contact International Water Supply Association and the African Water Utility Partnership (including World Bank who assist WUP) to see if they may be able to assist the Pacific Water Association.

• Check with UNICEF, Fiji office, about collaborating with water sector projects in the Pacific.

• Check with UNICEF, head office, regarding assistance with proposed drillers training workshop for Pacific.

• Establish internet links with GARNET (Global Applied Research Network for water and sanitation in developing countries) and interWATER (guide for information on water and sanitation in developing countries plus WSSCC Home Page).

• Check with ESCAP Water Resources Section, of Bangkok office, on support for pricing and demand management workshop collaboration with ESCAP, Port Vila office.

• Send out copies of Freshwater Source Book and Sanitation Guidelines that were requested at the SIDS information booth.

List of Papers/Presentations

1. Participant's handbook.
2. Background documentation
5. Sulabh International Museum of Toilets
9. UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy. 1997. UNICEF-WHO joint water supply and environmental sanitation strategy
10. The International Secretariat of Water. 1997. Final report of the working group on community management and partnerships with civil society
11. UNICEF-World Bank Water and Environmental Sanitation Collaboration in Africa, Memorandum of understanding
15. Maynilad Sept 1997 Vol. 1, Issue 1
16. Water front 1997 Issue 10
17. Cost-effective and appropriate sanitation systems: the case of Sulabh International
18. Braadbaart, O., Blokland, M. 1997. Bridging the urban-rural divide: public water PLC's for developing countries
24. The Rarotonga agreement: towards healthy islands. Meeting of the Ministers of Health for the Pacific Island Countries, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, 6-7 August 1997
27. Water Newsletter 1997 No. 248/249
28. WaterAid: strategic framework
37. Water utility partnership for capacity building - Africa
ATTACHMENT 3 - DETAILS OF THE WSSCC AND ITS OPERATION
The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council was formed at the end of the United Nations International Drinking Water and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990) to provide a framework for collaboration between sector agencies in both developed and developing countries.

Mission

The Mission of the Collaborative Council is

To enhance collaboration among developing countries and External Support Agencies so as to accelerate the achievement of sustainable water, sanitation, and waste management, with special attention to the poor.

Functions

The Council provides a forum for the discussion of key issues, alerts members to opportunities for more efficient use of resources, increases awareness of the need to expand water, sanitation and waste management coverage, promotes collaboration at the country level, and stimulates the adoption of harmonious policies and programmes.

The Council meets in a Global Forum once every two years. The next Global Forum will be held in Manila, Philippines, in November 1997.

In between the Global Forums, the Council operates through a number of Working Groups, Networks and Task Forces dealing with specific issues, topics and tasks concerned with improving water supply and sanitation provision in developing countries and countries of the former Soviet Union.

Working Groups


2. Community Management and Partnerships with Civil Society. Coordinator: Mr. Raymond Jost, International Secretariat for Water (ISW), 157 rue St. Paul Ouest, Bureau 106, Montreal, Quebec H2Y 1Z5, Canada. Tel: +1 514 849 4262. Fax: +1 514 849 2822. E-mail: isw@infobahnos.com

3. Promotion of Sanitation. Coordinator: Ms. Mayling Simpson-Hebert, Rural Environmental Health, World Health Organization (WHO), 20 Avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Tel: +41 22 791 3531. Fax: +41 22 791 4159. E-mail: simpson@who.ch

5. **Water Demand Management and Conservation.** Coordinator: Mr. Lester Forde, Water & Sewerage Authority, 19 Bates Terrace, Santa Margarita, St. Augustine, Trinidad. Tel +1 (809) 663-2697. Fax: +1 (809) 645-1306.

6. **Advocacy and Communication Strategies.** Coordinator: Ms. Kathleen Shordt, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, PO Box 93190, 2509 AD The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 (0)70 30 689 30. Fax: +31 (0)70 35 899 64. E-Mail: shordt@irc.nl. Telex: 33296 irc nl. http://www.oneworld.org/ircwater

7. **Water Supply and Sanitation Issues in Small Island States.** Coordinator: Mr. Peter Cox, Western Samoa Water Authority, PO Box 245, Apia, Western Samoa. Tel. +685 20409. Fax: +685 21298.

8. **Water Supply and Sanitation Issues in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.** Coordinator: Mr. Helmut Weidel, Mountain Unlimited, Zollstrasse 1, 6060 Hall, Austria. Tel. +43 (1) 512-6590. Fax: +43 (1) 513-8658/9. E-mail: weidel@weidel.co.at.

9. **Institutional and Management Options including Decentralization.** Coordinator: Mr. Frank Hartvelt, Deputy Director, STAPSD, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), One United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA. Tel. +1 (212) 906-5858. Fax: +1 (212) 906-6350. E-mail: frank.hartvelt@undp.org.

10. **The Lusophone Initiative.** Coordinator: Mr. Felix Matias Neto, National Director, National Directorate for Water, Rua Rainha Ginga 210, Luanda, Angola. Tel +244 (2) 390 385. Fax: +244 (2) 334 037.

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**Networks**

1. **Services for the Urban Poor.** Coordinator: Mr. Ivo Imparato, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNHCS-Habitat), PO Box 30030, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel. +254 (2) 623 703. Fax: +254 (2) 6242-6576/7. E-mail: unhcs.sup@unep.no

2. **Operation and Maintenance.** Coordinator: Mr. Jose Augusto Hueb, Sanitary Engineer, REH, World Health Organization (WHO), 20, Avenue Appia, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland. Tel. +41 (22) 791-3553. Fax: +41 (22) 791-4159. E-mail: hueb@who.ch.

3. **Global Applied Research Network.** Coordinator: Mr. Andrew Cotton, Water, Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC), Loughborough University, Ashby Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 3TU, United Kingdom. Tel. +44 (1509) 222 885. Fax: +44 (1509) 211 079. E-mail: a.p.cotton@lut.ac.uk

4. **Gender Issues.** Coordinator: Ms. Christine van Wijk, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, PO Box 93190, 2509 AD The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 (0)70 30 689 30. Fax: +31 (0)70 35 899 64. E-Mail: wijk@irc.nl. Telex: 33296 irc nl. http://www.oneworld.org/ircwater

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**Task Forces**

1. **Documentation and Dissemination.** Coordinator: Mr. Anthony Milburn, Executive Director, International Association for Water Quality (IAWQ), 1 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BT, United Kingdom. Tel. +44 (171) 222-3848. Fax: +44 (171) 233-1197. E-mail: compuserve:100065.3664.

2. **INTERWATER.** Coordinator: Mr. J. Stephen Parker, IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, PO Box 93190, 2509 AD The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 (0)70 30 689 30. Fax: +31 (0)70 35 899 64. E-Mail: parker@irc.nl. Telex: 33296 irc nl. http://www.oneworld.org/ircwater
3. Human Resources, Development, Training and Education (HRD). Coordinator: Mr. Frank Hartvelt, Deputy Director, STAPSD, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), One United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA. Tel. +1 (212) 906-5858. Fax: +1 (212) 906-6350. E-mail: frank.hartvelt@undp.org.


Further information on the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council and its activities is available from:

Mr. Ranjith Wirasinha, Executive Secretary, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council c/o World Health Organization Avenue Appia 20 CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland. Tel: +41 22 791 3685. Fax: +41-22-791 4847. E-mail: wirasinha@who.ch

Back to INTERWATER index page
ATTACHMENT 4 - FORUM PROGRAMME
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 3 November</th>
<th>Tuesday, 4 November</th>
<th>Wednesday, 5 November</th>
<th>Thursday, 6 November</th>
<th>Friday, 7 November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08.00 Registration of Forum participants</td>
<td>09.00 Reports by WG Coordinators on</td>
<td>09.00 Second session of Regional Groups</td>
<td>09.00 Consolidated reports of the Regional Groups</td>
<td>09.00 Farewell cocktails for Mrs Margaret Catley-Carlson, hosted by WSSCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.00 ADB Workshop on Second Water Utilities Data Book</td>
<td>Community Management and Partnerships with Civil Society; Water Demand Management and Conservation; INTERWATER (WSSCC Internet Home Page)</td>
<td>10.30 Merienda</td>
<td>09.30 Programme Committee’s recommendations for the Action Programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome Address by AED Director Yang Weimin, ADB</td>
<td>09.50 Synthesis Report on CLC and National Sector Strategies; Promotion of Sanitation; Advocacy and Communications; Institutional and Management Options + Decentralization; The Lusophone Initiative; Services for the Urban Poor; Operation and Maintenance; GARNET; Gender Issues; HRO, Education and Training; Emergency Measures in WSS</td>
<td>11.00 Third session of Regional Groups (including time for agreement of recommendations to be reported to plenary after lunch)</td>
<td>10.00 Merienda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation and discussion of operational data from 50 utilities in the Asian and Pacific region</td>
<td>12.15 Lunch</td>
<td>12.30 Lunch</td>
<td>10.30 Open discussion on the Action Programme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.15 Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11.15 Executive Secretary’s response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.30 Welcome on behalf of Philippine Govt by Secretary Cielito F Habito, National Economic and Development Authority, and introduction of Session Chairman, Minister Joao Cardoso, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>13.40 Address by Asian Development Bank Vice-President Bong-Suh Lee: Good Governance</td>
<td></td>
<td>11.45 Address by outgoing Chairperson, Margaret Catley-Carlson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00 Address by Secretary Victor O Ramos, Department of Environment and Natural Resources: Towards Sustainable Cities in the Third Millennium</td>
<td>14.00 Address by new Chairperson</td>
<td>14.00 Open Forum</td>
<td>12.00 Vote of Thanks to Margaret Catley-Carlson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.20 Response on behalf of the Council</td>
<td>14.25 Introduction and endorsement of new Council Chairperson</td>
<td>14.30 Address by new Chairperson</td>
<td>12.15 Chairperson’s closing remarks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.00 Tea/Coffee Break (Merienda)</td>
<td>15.25 Explanation of Working Group procedures by Chief Facilitator</td>
<td>15.30 Merienda</td>
<td>12.25 Closing remarks by AWD Director Eustace A Nona, ADB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.20 Executive Secretary’s Report and Objectives of the Fourth Forum</td>
<td>15.30 Merienda</td>
<td>15.00 First Session of Regional Groups</td>
<td>12.30 Closing Statement by Secretary Robert Z Barbers, Department of Interior and Local Government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.40 Introduction of Chief Facilitator and Chief Rapporteur and briefing on organizational arrangements, exhibits, posters and booths Description of plenary and Regional Group arrangements by the Chief Facilitator</td>
<td>16.00 Report on the Second Water Utilities Data Book by Arthur C McIntosh, ADB</td>
<td>16.30 Field visits and opportunities for ad hoc meetings</td>
<td>16.00 Discussion of Regional Group reports and proposals for future Council activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.00 Plans for an evaluation of the Council and introduction of the Evaluation team by the Chairperson</td>
<td>16.15 Reports by WG Coordinators on Council Regional Activities: Africa; Latin America; CEE &amp; NIS, Small Island States</td>
<td>16.50 Preparing the Collaborative Council by Dr W Keitel, WHO</td>
<td>16.00 Hosting the Collaborative Council by Dr W Keitel, WHO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.15 Reports by WG Coordinators on Council Regional Activities: Africa; Latin America; CEE &amp; NIS, Small Island States</td>
<td>17.05 Questions/Clarification</td>
<td>17.00 Open Forum led by the Evaluation Team</td>
<td>17.00 Open Forum led by the Evaluation Team</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.05 Questions/Clarification</td>
<td>18.00 First Session of Regional Groups</td>
<td>17.30 The Global Water Partnership</td>
<td>17.30 The Global Water Partnership</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.30 Time for visiting exhibits</td>
<td>17.30 End of Regional Session</td>
<td>17.40 End of session</td>
<td>18.30 End of session</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTACHMENT 5 - DRAFT MANILA ACTION PLAN
WSSCC Fourth Global Forum - Manila Action Programme (MAP)

Recommendations of the Programme Committee

On the basis of plenary discussions and the reports of the Regional Sessions, the Programme Committee makes the following recommendations for the Manila Action Programme, which should be the basis of the Council's Global and Regional activities until the next Global Forum. The recommendations take account of the supporting capacity of the Secretariat, the commonality of issues identified by the Regional Sessions, and the recommendations made in the reports of the ongoing working groups, networks and task forces.

1. Regional Chapters and Focal Points

The Council Secretariat will provide support in terms of staff time and mobilization of resources for the establishment of Regional Chapters or Focal Points identified in the reports from the Regional Sessions, where such support is requested. Support is not expected to be needed for any subregional nodes, as these are most likely to be existing sector institutions. Though the Secretariat will not directly finance the regional activities, the Regional Groups will be given a Council mandate to undertake activities in support of the priority issues identified in their Regional Session Reports. In its regular dialogue with ESAs, the Secretariat will also keep them informed about ongoing and proposed regional activities. In addition, the five Global Working Groups described below will schedule their meetings in such a way that regional issues can be addressed cost effectively, adding the Council's authority to the work of the Regional Groups from the start.

2. Global Working Groups

The Secretariat will also provide staff time and help to mobilize resources for five Global Working Groups. These Groups will help to coordinate and oversee the activities of corresponding regional groups, holding appropriate meetings in the regions to match the priorities of the relevant regional groups. The five topic areas will be:

1. Environmental Sanitation
2. Community Management and Partnerships with Civil Society
3. Institutional Issues
4. Human Resources Development
5. Water Demand Management and Conservation
In each case, the Working Group’s terms of reference will include requirements to address and report on the cross-cutting issues of Gender, Advocacy, Communications and Documentation. As a basic principle of all Council activities, country-level collaboration will be encouraged in all activities. In the case of the Environmental Sanitation Group, the TOR will also encompass support for the Global Sanitation Initiative.

3. Networks

Four existing networks will continue to operate with a Council mandate. The networks function without direct Council support and are responsible for identifying their own funding sources. The four networks are:

1. GARNET
2. Gender
3. Operation & Maintenance
4. Services for the Urban Poor

4. Task Forces

A Council Task Force is a small group formed to carry out a predefined task in a specified period of time. It requires logistical and financial support from the Council and will normally also involve a Council Steering Committee. Two such Task Forces are proposed:

1. The Evaluation Team
2. A Vision 21 Team, charged with developing a long-term vision and short/medium-term goals for the sector

In addition, the Council is seeking to mandate responsibility for a further four Task Forces to agencies able to undertake the following tasks on its behalf:

1. Develop advocacy and guidelines on application of the 20:20 principle and the establishment of WSS as a prime component of basic social services
2. Development of improved indicators and monitoring methodologies in relation to the UNICEF/WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP)
3. Drafting of guidelines and model plans for disaster preparedness in small island developing states
4. Completion of the work begun on Emergency Measures in WSS.
5. The Workload of the Secretariat

In addition to providing support to the five Global Working Groups, five Regional Chapters/Focal Points and two Task Forces, the Secretariat will develop and implement an Advocacy and Communication Strategy on the basis of the presentation made to the plenary and reflecting the views expressed by Forum participants. The strategy will include:

1. Preparation of flyers, reports, press releases and leaflets on the Council and its activities and support for Global and Regional Groups in reporting, publicising and disseminating their work.
2. Establishment of regular communication channels, including seeking cooperation from partner agencies to provide E-Mail gateways in developing countries
3. Further development of the INTERWATER concept and the Council’s Home Page in conjunction with IRC and WEDC
4. Advocacy for the sector and the Council by the Chairperson and Executive Secretary and development of advocacy materials for use by all members
5. Liaison with the GWP, WWC and other relevant initiatives

6. Scope of Global Working Group activities

The five Global Working Groups will help to address most of the priority issues identified either by the Regional Sessions or in the plenary discussions. The table indicates the specific concerns that each new Working Group will need to include in its term of reference.

7. Issues omitted from MAP

A few issues raised in plenary have been omitted from the Manila Action Programme, either because of lack of resources, or because it was felt that there was a need for more detailed proposals before the suggestions could be assessed. Omitted issues include: A proposed Middle-EastNorth Africa Regional Group (this may be reconsidered at the mid-Term Review, if strong interest is mobilized); Mobilization of financial resources (mentioned by only one participant); Governance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scope of Work of Global Working Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanitation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Community Management and Partnerships with Civil Society</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Demand Management and Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Household sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional case studies related to Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decentralization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community management training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water scarcity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban &amp; rural promotion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coverage goals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Basic sanitation CM - research</td>
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<td>Institutional reform</td>
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<td>Management training and materials</td>
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<td>HRD Improve communication and information skills</td>
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<td>Rational use of domestic water and pollution control</td>
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<td>Cross-cutting issues</td>
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Background

At the 3rd Global Forum of the WSSCC held in Barbados in 1995, Small Island States emerged as a group that needed to be dealt with specially. This resulted in the Council establishing a SIDS Working Group.

Background cont’d

- The recommended actions of the Barbados Working Session were to:
  - establish a SIDS working group under WSSCC;
  - structure a small Core Group and network of contacts; whose
  - terms of reference was to include establishing a relevant information data bank and register of SIDS contacts, organising appropriate working relationships and developing a prioritised work programme.

SIDS Issues

- Pressure for Economic Development
- Employment Generation
- Health
- High Population Growth
- Inadequate trained manpower
- Environmental Concerns
- Global Warming and Sea Level Rise

SIDS Issues cont’d

- Water and sanitation are basic to all the above issues. Economic development requires water and with development comes employment and improved health conditions through better water supply and sanitation facilities. Small island environments must be managed to ensure sustainable development of natural resources especially water and the control of pollution.

SIDS Global Activities

- Workshop on Technologies for Maximising and Augmenting Freshwater Resources in SIDS and the production of a Source Book for UNEP
- Groundwater Pollution Study in Tonga including two on-the-job training fellowships. UNESCO
- Groundwater Recharge Study in Kiribati including two on-the-job training fellowships. UNESCO
- Workshop on Appropriate and Affordable Sanitation for Small Island States and the production of Sanitation Guidelines for SIDS. UNDP funded and WHO approved.
- Small Island Water Information Network Workshop, CSC funded.
SIDS Regional Activities

- Establishment of Pacific Water Association
- Water sector training of nationals
- Coordination of Pacific regional participation in the ADB Workshop on Water Resources Development and Management, Manila.
- Hosted UNESCO IHP Working Group Meetings
- Solar Pumping Workshop
- Comment on Waterless Composting Toilets

SIDS Planned Activities

- Demand Management and Conservation Workshop (donor required)
- Groundwater Drilling Operators Training Workshop (donor required)
- Small Scale Wastewater Disposal Facilities Project
- Sustainable Water Resources Development Project (donor required)

Action by Governments

During various regional meetings SIDS have recognised that inadequate water supply and poor sanitation is a major development bottleneck and have indicated that the water and sanitation sector is a high priority. Reinforcing this message, national governments are urged to provide additional resources to the water sector and back them with the necessary political will to move the sector forward at an accelerated pace.

Action by Donors

Donor support is still required for SIDS to provide safe and sustainable water supplies, sanitation facilities, public education and awareness programs, to improve the quality of life for small island residents. The SIDS Working Group recommends that donors continue bilateral and regional support for water and sanitation programs, to ensure that these are in place before embarking on more grandiose schemes. Capacity building initiatives are also needed in the fields of data collection and demand assessment, legislation/policy development and communication. The CSC initiative in establishing SiWWA is much appreciated, and further support is requested so that the network can be expanded to include all the SIDS water utilities.

Action by WSSCC

- The SIDS Working Group had a late start but is gaining momentum and producing some useful tools. Much more work is required, especially advocacy of SIDS by the Council and stronger linkages with other Council Working Groups. It is recommended that the SIDS Working Group continue for a further two years.
Report from Small Island States Regional Sessions

A. Identification of Priority Issues

1. Vulnerability of islands to disasters

WSS systems in Small Island developing states are vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters. It is important that countries and regions put in place disaster management plans and response systems to cope with the disasters.

2. Human resources Development - Capacity Retention

SIDS have poor capacity largely due to poor capacity retention. There is a need to encourage the development of the enabling environment that would allow trained personnel be retained in their countries or regions.

3. Holistic view of ecosystems

SIDS have a unitary ecosystem. WSS facilities should be an integral part of the development of the ecosystem. There is a need for an integrated approach to managing the ecosystem, an example of which is integrated water resources management.

4. Weak Regional Collaboration

Linkages on WSS issues between SIDS are weak. The support mechanisms for the linkages are also weak. There is a strong need to improve the linkages through the establishment of a SIDS chapter of the WSSCC. This chapter to be meaningful must necessarily have region nodes in island clusters.

5. Demand management

Many SIDS have reached the limit of their fresh water resources. Supply augmentation and desalination are expensive options resulting in the cost of new water being very high. All of the SIDS have high unaccounted for water and this is exacerbated by the small size.

6. Advocacy and Communication

WSS issues in SIDS affect several sectors of the society viz health, economy, agriculture etc. It is important that decision-makers, water users and the community at large are sensitised to this linkage.

B. Proposed Actions and Support requirements

1. Actions which can be taken by individuals

- Encourage public awareness campaigns and promotion of the sector
- Inform national agencies of the work of the Council
- Distribute tools, guidelines etc developed by the council
- Carry out gender analysis of all projects in the planning stages and implement projects with gender concerns
- Assist with the human resources development of nationals
- Provide information on the state of unaccounted for water and on revenue water
- Use public education and media to disseminate information on demand management strategies
- Promote efficient water use.
2. Agency/Country-level actions

- Produce vulnerability profiles/indexes of each island country
- Develop disaster response plans for the sector
- Build the capacity of nationals through training
- Carry out policy and institutional reform
- Demonstrate the "value added" by the WSS sector to heath, tourism and agriculture as well as the overall economy.
- Promote and encourage retrofitting and other new technologies, which reduce consumption.
- Document successful demand management experiences
- Develop best management practices for demand management and conservation
- Use economic studies to demonstrate the case for demand management
- Communicate international and regional events in the sector the highest possible level
- Brief UN representatives about WSS issues eg the CSD meeting

3. Regional activities

- In each region identify a focal point for disaster response in the sector
- Develop a core group of professionals centres that can respond to needs on a regional basis
- Establish/support regional networks that help in reducing the impact of lack of capacity.
- Develop a database of demand management strategies and experiences

4. Support required from others

From the Council Secretariat

- Help with the dissemination of information on the group activities as well as of the other working groups Council
- Help with establishment of the SIDS chapter
- Assistance with the promotion of the SIDS' case
- Dissemination of the tools, guidelines etc produced by the Council to SIDS
- Assist with networking for data collation, case studies and exchange of experience
- Help with the promotion of water reuse/recycling

From the External support agencies

- Support for the establishment of a regional chapter as well as for the regional nodes
- Assistance with studies on vulnerability profile of the WSS sectors of islands
- Development of tools/guideline for capacity retention
- Help with the exchange of experiences between professionals in the chapter
- Provide support to regional networks
- Provide training to nationals on the sector
- Help with the development of national HRD plans

5. Suggestions for a regional "vision" for the sector

6. Priorities for sector advocacy

[MR274 - Burke & Simpson]