

Update on Water Issues

Jack Moss
AquaFed

Overview

- Engagement through Business Action for Water
- New Issues and Developments
- Link with climate Change

Engagement through Business Action for Water

- Origins in Business Action for Sustainable Development BASD – Johannesburg WSSD 2002
 - Two accredited "Major Group" representatives for Business & Industry ICC & WBCSD
- Adapted to Business Action for Water BAW for CSD
- Agreed to use for WWF5 Istanbul 2009
 - Presented to ICC E&E Commission Autumn 2008
 - AquaFed, ICC, WBCSD, BIAC + Turkish Partners

**BUSINESS ACTION
FOR WATER**

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Engagement through Business Action for Water

- The objectives of BAW
 - Consolidate a multi-business background into a unified "voice" for participation in intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder negotiations
 - Preserve identity and focus of individual organisations & initiatives
 - BAW is a "co-branding" not a new structure
- What has BAW achieved?
 - A strong & respected business participation at WWF5 & CSD
 - A good degree of business convergence (but)
 - Key messages that are clear and convincing

The Achievements of BAW @ WWF5

- Clear and agreed business messages posted before the Forum
- Press release
- Active participation in all prep-coms with considerable impact in negotiations
- A senior business representative on all 10 Ministerial round tables – substantial messages delivered
- Two business co-ordination meetings during the Forum
- Business one of only 3 major groups invited to speak in closing Ministerial plenary
- Active participation in Forum sessions
- Business input to World Water Development report 3 and OECD Reports published at the Forum

Note: this slide was not presented during the meeting, but the content was outlined in answers to participants' questions

Engagement through Business Action for Water

- Can BAW capitalise on future opportunities?
 - Yes: WWF6, Rio + 20, Bonn?, CSD,
 - Yes: Activities upstream of these events
 - Yes: Needs to be shaping these futures now
- Next steps
 - Support & agreement between existing partners
 - Modus operandi: Flexibility, ability to communicate
 - Additional partners?

New Issues & Developments

Without water, there is no business.
Without business, there can be no employment, no economy, no well-being for people or society.

BAW closing Statement WWF5

- Water : a growing social, environmental and economic issue
- A growing issue for business
- Attracting increasing civil society interest
- Growing as a political issue

Water as an "enabler" or "limiter" of business

New Issues & Developments

- Water, Energy, Food, & Environment/Ecosystems
- Water related risks
 - Drought, flood, business risks, public perception
- Water metrics & reporting
 - Water Footprints, LCA, ISO, Water Stewardship
- Human Rights & CSR
 - OHCHR, Albuquerque + Ruggie
- Water & Politics
 - Security, Allocation,
- Water for development
 - Water & Sanitation
 - MDGs etc.
- Water & Trade
 - Virtual Water

Business Opportunity,
Security, Image &
Reputation

Water economics for business

- Costs
 - Cost of water resources & supply
 - Scarcity, Quality, Allocation, Pollution
 - Water dependant materials & inputs
- Investment
 - Public & Industrial infrastructure
 - Business may be paying twice
- Pricing & Subsidies
 - Prices will rise and businesses will pay more
- Rating agencies
 - Water as an issue for Social & Environmental funds

Impact on bottom line & on share prices

Link with climate change

At last they are getting it!

"Britain faces killer floods, droughts and heatwaves if we ignore climate change", warns Brown

Daily Mail 19/10/09

Anthropocentric Climate Change is about greenhouse gasses and **Mitigation** the action required

The impacts of climate change are mostly felt through water & extreme weather events: Droughts, Floods, sea level rise

Dealing with these is about **Adaptation**

Water – adaptation to Climate Change

- Understand the wider contexts in which adaptation has to take place
- Adaptation measures should be robust and flexible enough to reflect scenario and uncertainty ranges
- Climate adaptation strategies in the water sector **can be** developed in the face of these uncertainties
- Tools include spatial planning, technical innovation, technical regulation, setting economic priorities, adaptive management, risk management, assessing cultural preferences & risk psychology

A great cover but missed the content



Neglected & broken water infrastructure

Neglected Sewers, drainage & pollution control

Climatic storms are more powerful than economic ones

Today's drought may end with tomorrow's flood

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THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF PRIVATE WATER OPERATORS

www.aquafed.org