

Trade Unions at the CSD 2005 preparatory meeting have emphasized the following:

* Access to water and sanitation must remain a fundamental human right and their provision must be guaranteed through essential public services;

· The joint workplace actions of workers, employers and their respective representative organizations can help improve the management of water and delivery of services. In all workplaces their joint action can help improve the efficiency of water utilization, reduce the consumption of water and help eliminate the wastes and pollution generated from production;

· Such collaboration should be sought through the linking of actions to the "Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work"¹ to which the CSD governments are bound via their commitments at the UN International Labour Organisation (ILO);

· Through training and education of workers, workplaces can become a springboard of action for policy implementation at the community and national levels;

· The ILO should become involved in helping countries attain the Millennium objectives through Decent employment promotion, which is the most direct way of addressing poverty and social equity issues. Such policies can enable more people to pay for water and sanitation and for services within urban settlements, be they for housing, health, transportation, food or social requirements;

· Strong local authorities must be made efficient providers and suppliers of water and sanitation, through broad multi-stakeholder involvement at the local level, within the context of integrated water plans;

· Financial and investment mechanisms for essential public services through investment policies of IFI's and other institutions must become a matter of priority;

· National governments must assume their roles for the provision of vital public services and for water, sanitation and other areas. They must also establish effective regulatory frameworks and oversight functions for provision of services and for the operation of the private sector;

· Major group quality of participation should be promoted and improved, especially at the national level.