Friends of Water Steering Group

Recommendations for Rio ("10 Commandments")

1. Access to safe drinking water and sanitation should be regarded as inseparable. The growing infrastructure-gap gives rise to a wide range of public health and environmental risks.

2. Water reuse and recycling will be unavoidable, particularly in rapidly growing urban settlements.

3. Sanitation / wastewater treatment should be achieved at reduced costs on infrastructure - due to new technologies.

4. Integrated and efficient water management and sanitation would be a catalyst for a more sustainable economy.

5. Proper pricing on water and sanitation is not contradicting to the principle of W and S being part of human rights. Without proper pricing, water is over consumed and mismanaged, consequently leading to further scarcities.

6. Well-regulated and monitored transboundary cooperation is essential throughout shared water catchment area - based on river basin approach.

7. Cross-sectorial integration and cooperation on all water and sanitation related issues are unavoidable in order to achieve sustainability.

8. Participatory approach

9. Risk reduction and preparedness and emergency response require increased environmental awareness and improved permit procedures control, monitoring and early warning systems, emergency plans and strengthened national, bilateral and multilateral international water governance.

10. Ensuring long term sustainability of water use and sanitation requires proper educational and awareness raising programs.

Global goal on water and sanitation should embrace principle of sustainability
- access to water and its quality,
- pollution control and the reuse of water,
- water efficiency and integrated water management,
- all within the rationale of a functioning economy