

International Commitments on Water and Sanitation

Convention/ Treaty/ Meeting	Status	Description	Key Areas	Review	Scope	Links
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (02 February 1971)	In Progress Binding, but without any punitive sanctions	Ensure conservation and wise use of wetlands in participant parties' territory	Four main commitments are: designate at least one wetland at the time of accession for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (the "Ramsar List") and to promote its conservation; formulate and implement planning to promote the wise use of wetlands in their territory; establish nature reserves in wetlands; consult with other Contracting Parties about implementation of the Convention	Every three years, representatives of the Contracting Parties meet at the Conference of the Contracting Parties to review the past period and discuss Strategic Plan for the next period.	159 contracting parties and 1,634 designated wetlands Any member of the United Nations or of one of the Specialized Agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency or Party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice may become a Party to this Convention	www.ramsar.org
UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes – 1992		Intended to strengthen national measures for the protection and ecologically sound management of transboundary surface waters and groundwaters. It promotes joint management and conservation of shared freshwater ecosystems.	UNECE tackles a wide range of water quantity and water quality problems: high water stress and overexploitation of water resources, increasing droughts and floods, contaminated water resulting in water-related diseases.	The Meeting of the Parties is the main governing body of the Convention. It comprises all Parties to the Convention. The mandate of the Meeting of the Parties is to keep under continuous review the implementation of the Convention and take the necessary measures required to achieve the purposes of the Convention. The governing body meets every 3 years; the next meeting will be in 2012.	The Convention entered into force on 6 October 1996. It has 36 Parties in Europe and neighbouring regions. In 2003, agreement was reached, in principle, for the UNECE Water Convention to be opened up to non-UNECE member states. Fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties took place in November 2009 in Geneva.	http://www.unec.org/env/water/ Convention: http://www.unec.org/env/water/pdf/watercon.pdf



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Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) - Earth Summit 1992 (05 June, 1992)	Legally binding treaty	Treaty to develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	Its three main goals are: conservation of biological diversity (or biodiversity); sustainable use of its components; and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from genetic resources	A Conference of Parties governs the Convention and advances its implementation through decisions made at periodic meetings. Since 2000 these meetings have been held biennially. In accordance with Article 26 of the Convention, Contracting Parties prepare national reports for the COP on the status of implementation of the Convention. The progress is also being reviewed by the Commission for Sustainable Development at its annual meetings.	193 members. Andorra, Holy See, Somalia and United States. The US has signed, but not ratified the treaty.	http://www.cbd.int/ Document: http://www.cbd.int/biosafety/protocol.shtml
Agenda 21 – United Nations Conference on Environment and Development Also known as: Earth Summit 1992 (05 June, 1992)	In Progress Non-binding	Protection of the Quality & Supply of Freshwater Resources: Application of Integrated Approaches to the Development, Management & Use of Water Resources	Integrated water resources development and management; Water resources assessment; Protection of water resources, water quality and aquatic ecosystems; Drinking-water supply and sanitation; Water and sustainable urban development; Water for sustainable food production and rural development; and Impacts of climate change on water resources	The progress is being reviewed by the Commission for Sustainable Development at its annual meetings. One of the aims of Earth Summit 2012 (also known as the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development), to take place in May 2012, is to assess the progress and implementation gaps in meeting already agreed commitments. This will include Agenda 21.	UN run programme for sustainable development	Agenda 21: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_00.shtml UN CSD: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_aboutcsd.shtml Earth Summit 2012: www.earthsummit2012.org



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UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Non binding	UNCCD is a product of integrated process involving both community action and Intergovernmental negotiations to tackle desertification launched as a follow up to Rio Conference.	Integrated strategies focus simultaneously on improved productivity of land, and its rehabilitation; conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources; improving living conditions, in particular at the community level.	The Conference of Parties, made up of all ratifying governments, is the governing body and oversees implementation of the Convention. It has been meeting biennially since 2001. A Committee for the review of the implementation of the Convention (CRIC) was established at COP5 to review reports from Parties and Observers and propose recommendations to the COP. The CRIC meets annually.	193 countries were Parties as at August 2009. The Conference of the Parties (COP), which is the Convention's supreme governing body, held its first session in October 1997 in Rome, Italy. The ninth session of the conference of the Parties will be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 21 September to 2 October 2009.	http://www.unccd.int/main.php Convention: http://www.unccd.int/convention/text/pdf/conv-eng.pdf
Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (1997) Also know as: The Watercourses Convention	Not Ratified	The first global water law, aimed to set rules for use and conservation of all waters that cross international boundaries, including both surface and groundwater.	Main Articles are 5,7,8,21,23,24: Factors relevant to equitable and reasonable utilization; Obligation not to cause significant harm; General obligation to cooperate; Prevention, reduction and control of pollution introduction of alien or new species; Protection and preservation of the marine environment	Annual sessions take place to review and exchange information and data related to the Convention.	As of January 2010, it has not been ratified by the U.N. membership. Ratification requires 35 contracting parties and only half of that number has been reached.	http://untreaty.un.org/cod/avl/ha/clnuiw/clnuiw.html Document: http://untreaty.un.org/ilc/texts/instruments/english/conventions/8_3_1997.pdf



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World Water Forum, Marrakesh - March 1997	Non binding	Reinforcement of earlier commitments. Namely, the Mar del Plata, Dublin Principles and Chapter 18 of the Rio Summit	The Forum adopted the Marrakech Declaration recommending: “action to recognize basic human needs to have access to clean water and sanitation, to establish an effective mechanism for management of shared waters, to support and preserve ecosystems, to encourage the efficient use of water, to address gender equity issues in water use and to encourage partnership between the members of Civil Society and Governments.”	Progress is reviewed at future World Water Forums by the World Water Council and at preparatory meetings in the run up to the next Forum, which take place every three years.		World Water Council: http://www.worldwatercouncil.org/index.php?id=6 Marrakesh: http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/index.php?id=1959 Marrakesh Declaration: http://www.ielrc.org/content/e9712.pdf
RIO + 5 - United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS)	Non-binding	Five year review of Earth Summit progress made in 1997 by the United Nations General Assembly meeting in special session.	Paragraph 27 - Eradicating poverty efforts in many instances to uplift overall living standards in numerous countries	The Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 was arranged to be reviewed in four sections by the CSD (1998-2002)	Parties signed to Rio declaration	Rio +5: http://www.un.org/esa/earthsummit/ UN CSD: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_aboutcsd.shtml Resolution: http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/spec/ares1992.htm
United Nations Commission on Sustainable		Report on Sanitation as a follow up to Agenda 21	Emphasized importance of achieving sustainability and the goals of Agenda 21, particularly	Declaration from the regular meeting of the CSD to review the progress on Agenda 21.		CSD 6: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd



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Development (CSD) 6, Decision I (1998)/ Paragraph 117			in view of the high rate of urbanization and the consequent challenge to the local and global environment, and also in view of the lack of shelter and sanitation for a large segment of the population in developing countries			_csd06.shtml Session Report: http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N98/166/67/PDF/N9816667.pdf?OpenElement
Millennium Development Goals, 2000 Also known as: Millennium Summit	Non binding	Eight major International development goals that United Nations member states agreed to achieve by the year 2015	Target 10/ Indicator 30 and 31 Target 10: Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. Indicator 30: Proportion of population with sustainable access to an Improved water source, urban and rural Indicator 31: Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural	The MDG Monitor (a tool for policymakers, development practitioners, journalists, students and others to track progress through interactive maps and country-specific profiles) shows how countries are progressing in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. There have also been a series of reviews – there was a World Summit on the MDGs in 2005, the 2008 High-Level Event on the MDGs and the MDG+10 Review in 2010.	192 United Nations member states and at least 23 international organizations agreed to achieve goals	Millennium Development Goals: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/ Millennium Declaration: http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm
2nd World Water Forum, The Hague, March 17-22, 2000		Provided vision on dealing with the state and ownership of water resources, their development potential, management and financing models, and their impact on poverty, social, cultural	Key areas identified as: meeting basic water needs, securing food supply, protecting ecosystems, sharing water resources, managing risks, valuing water and governing water wisely as the key challenges for our direct future.	Progress is reviewed at future World Water Forums by the World Water Council and at preparatory meetings in the run up to the next Forum, which take place every three years.	Involved ministers and officials of 130 countries at the Ministerial Conference	2nd World Water Forum: http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/index.php?id=1961 Declaration: http://www.wate



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		and economic development and the environment.				runc.com/gb/se/cwwf12.htm
UNGA resolution 55/196, 2000	Non - Binding	Noting the ongoing work in the United Nations system and the work of other intergovernmental organizations on freshwater	Proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater; Calls upon Member States, national and international organizations, major groups and the private sector to: make voluntary contributions in accordance with the guidelines for international years and anniversaries; and to take advantage of the Year to increase awareness of the importance of freshwater and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels.	The International Year of Freshwater provided an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the principles of integrated water resources management. It was expected to follow up on agreements reached at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, September 2002).	The resolution adopted on 20 December 2000, was initiated by the Government of Tajikistan and supported by 148 other countries.	Year of Freshwater: http://www.wateryear2003.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=1456&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html Resolution: http://www.unesco.org/water/iyf/w/res_55_196e.pdf
International Conference on Freshwater, Bonn, 2001 Also known as: Bonn Dialogues	Non binding	The theme of the meeting was: Water a Key to Sustainable Development. The outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit 2002) must include decisive action on water issues.	Ministerial Declaration proclaimed that water management requires an integrated approach in following key areas: Governance (joint efforts of various stakeholders); Funding gap (for water infrastructure investment); International Community (strengthen commitment and efforts to enable developing countries to manage water sustainably and to ensure an equitable sharing of benefits from water resources); Gender (equal participatory approach).	Conference was forerunner to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, September 2002), which was expected to elevate issues discussed to an international agreement. As an outcome from this document a set of 5 key targets was produced (the Bonn Keys), which outlined the activities needed to achieve sustainable water management	There were approximately 2500 participants from 122 countries, UN agencies, international organisations and the so-called “major groups”.	Website www.water-2001.de/ Conference Report: http://www.thirdworldcentre.org/freshwater.PDF The Bonn Keys: http://www.earthsummit2002.org/ic/freshwater/Bonn%20Keys.pdf



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World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 2002	Non-binding In Progress	WSSD was organized to discuss ways of implementing sustainable development in the world. Delegates concluded that integrated water resources management and water efficiency planning should be an essential element in all national or regional development strategies by 2015 and added this target to the list of Millennium Development Goals	Johannesburg Plan of Implementation – Chapter IV. Protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development. Paragraphs: 24. Managing the natural resources base in a sustainable and integrated manner is essential for sustainable development. 25 Launch a programme of actions, with financial and technical assistance, to achieve the Millennium development goal on safe drinking water. 26. Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005. 27. Support developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts to monitor and assess the quantity and quality of water resources. 28. Improve water resource management and scientific understanding of the water cycle through cooperation in joint observation and research. 30. Oceans, seas, islands and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical for global food security and for sustaining economic	It was convened to discuss sustainable development by the United Nations. WSSD gathered a number of leaders from business and non-governmental organizations, 10 years after the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. (It was therefore also informally nicknamed "Rio+10".) In the same way as the Agenda 21 adopted at Rio Conference, Commission on Sustainable development reviews progress of Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.	The Johannesburg Declaration was the main outcome of the Summit; however, there were several other international agreements. The major drawback of the summit was a nonparticipation of the US and one of the most important stakeholders to sustainable development promotion.	UN Website: http://www.unep.org/wssd/ Plan of Implementation: http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/WSSD_PlanImpl.pdf



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The Abuja Declaration on Water: A Key to Sustainable Development in Africa, Abuja, Nigeria, 2002			prosperity and the well-being of many national economies, particularly in developing countries.			
	Non binding	Launch of the African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW) to respond to the existing and emerging challenges in Africa in ensuring the sustainable and equitable management of water resources. Resolution adopted by the African Ministers responsible for water takes note of Africa's assessment of water and sanitation related issues to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).	Support measures which: (a) encourage stronger and better performing institutional arrangements for the water sector; (b) strengthen the monitoring and assessment of available water resources; (c) ensure sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure development and services delivery and the transfer of water to drought-prone areas for the poor majority in our region; (d) promote policies for the appropriate allocation of water for domestic use and food security and other competing demands.	The Steering Committee will work in close cooperation with the African Water Task Force monitors progress in the implementation of major regional and global water resources and water supply and sanitation initiatives; and reviews progress in the implementation of the commitments set forth in key international arrangements for the provision of financial resources and technology transfer in support of water sector reforms in Africa	Forty-five African ministers responsible for water resources in their respective countries met in Abuja and adopted The Abuja Declaration on Water	http://www.africanwater.org/amcow_declaration.htm Declaration: http://www.africanwater.org/Documents/amcow_declaration.pdf
Third World Water Forum, Kyoto, 2003	Non - Binding	Attempt for common resolve to implement the appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the internationally agreed targets and goals including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).	Key areas of agreement deal with: Water Resources Management and Benefit Sharing; Water for Food and Rural Development; Water Pollution Prevention and Ecosystem Conservation; Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation and Disaster Mitigation and Risk Management;	Progress is reviewed at future World Water Forums by the World Water Council and at preparatory meetings in the run up to the next Forum, which take place every three years.	Ministerial Conference involved ministers and officials from 130 countries.	http://www.waterforum.jp/worldwaterforum3/index.html Declaration: http://www.mlito.go.jp/tochimizushi/gen/mizsei/wwf3/mc/md_final.pdf



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International Conference on Sustainable Safety: Municipalities at the Crossroads, EThekwini, November 2003		eThekwini Declaration builds on the declaration and plan of action of the Johannesburg Conference of 1998 to achieve sustainable community safety	Declaration requires participants to develop: National Plan; Sanitation & Hygiene Profile in PRSP; Lead Institution for Sanitation; Public Sector Budget Allocations; Behavior Change Approaches; Sanitation & Hygiene Information M&E Systems; Gender Aspects; Capacity and Knowledge.	Timeframe 2003-2006: The plan of action of the Conference has been measured by WSP (Water and Sanitation Programme - Coordinating organization of the implementation of the eThekwini Declaration), UNICEF and WaterAid.	300 mayors or delegates from cities in Africa.	http://www.durban.gov.za/durban/government/media/press/502/view
Resolution 58/217 adopted by the General Assembly, December 2003: International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005-2015	Non - binding	Resolution emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being. Proclaims the period from 2005 to 2015 the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”	Goals of the Decade should be a greater focus on water-related issues at all levels and on the implementation of water-related programmes and projects: further Implementation of Agenda 21; the United Nations Millennium Declaration ⁵ and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation; Consideration of CSD eleventh session suggestions to consider water, sanitation and human settlements as the thematic cluster in the first cycle; and Calls upon the relevant United Nations bodies, specialized agencies, regional commissions and other organizations of the United Nations system to deliver a coordinated response, utilizing existing resources and voluntary funds, to make “Water for Life” a decade for action.	Reviewed by CSD at its regular meetings, but resolution is only considered as recommendation.	UN Resolution adopted by UN General Assembly	Resolution: http://www.un-documents.net/a58r217.htm



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The Pan-African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water (PANAFCON), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 2003	Non – binding	The objective of PANAFCON was to appraise the performance of the water sector in Africa at the national, sub-regional and regional levels and to develop a programme for action towards addressing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s), the WSSD targets on water and sanitation and the HABITAT Agenda. The meeting also sought to build and consolidate partnerships.	Key recommendations: Meeting basic needs water, sanitation and human settlements; Water for food security; Protecting ecosystems and livelihoods; Managing risks : water and climate; Financing water infrastructure; Integrated Water Resource Management/Shared water resources; Valuing and allocating water; Ensuring water wisdom; Governing water wisely; Managing rapid urbanization; Financing slum upgrading programmes and projects; Decentralization and strengthening the role of local authorities; Africa’s contribution to CSD-12 on the cluster of water, sanitation and human settlements.	Recommendations of the Pan African Implementation Conference on Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements were presented to the Extraordinary Summit of the African Union in February 2004, in Tripoli, Libya, but there is no specific review mechanism involved.	The Conference was held under the auspices of the African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW)	Official Website www.uneca.org/Panafcon/ http://www.wateryear2003.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=4659&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html
Sirte Declaration on the Challenges of Implementing Integrated and Sustainable Development in Agriculture and Water in Africa, Sirte, Lybia, February 2004,	Non binding	Meeting of Second Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly further reinforced the determination to prioritize implementation of integrated water and agriculture programmes to enhance sustainable development in Africa.	Strengthen existing river and lake water basins organizations where they exist and establish new ones wherever appropriate to inter alia. Promote the strengthening of tertiary and research institutions for fisheries, range management, water management, desertification, drought, floods and environmental management. Support the African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW) in its role of preparing plans and policies related to water	No review mechanism	Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union.	Declaration: http://events.worldwaterforum5.org/fileadmin/WWF5/Preparatory_Process/regional_process/Ministerial_Conference_on_Water_Declaration.pdf



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United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) 13, 2004- 2005, (water and Sanitation were thematic clusters)			resource management on the continent. Encourage bilateral agreements on shared water resources and Enjoin the Regional Economic Communities to develop appropriate regional protocols to guide integrated water resources management.			
	Non binding	Report/ Outcome of the Thirteenth Session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development focused on three particular issues: Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements. Commission adopted measures to address water, sanitation and human settlements in an integrated manner, taking into account economic, social and environmental aspects, related sectoral policies and cross-cutting issues as identified at the eleventh session of the Commission, as well as national, subregional and regional specificities, circumstances and legal frameworks.	Water: In order to accelerate progress in providing access to safe drinking water, the Commission called for: instituting economic incentives to encourage the participation of small-scale water service providers; implementing affordable water tariffs to contribute to the financial sustainability of water services; and targeting subsidies for the poor, including connection costs. The decisions also set out specific actions for better water management, including more efficient irrigation, and for training farmers and water users associations in efficient water use. Sanitation: The Commission stressed the need for establishing an institutional home for the issue and giving it priority in national development plans and budgets. In its	The commission agreed to devote a special segment at the conclusions of its review session in 2008 and 2012 to monitor and follow up the implementation of decisions on water and sanitation and their inter-linkages, taken at the Commission’s thirteenth session. Little information was given on the substance, format and process of the review.	Declaration from the regular meeting of the Commission for the Sustainable Development to review the progress on Agenda 21.	CSD 13: http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd13.shtml



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Millennium Development Goals +5 (2005)	Non binding	Review of eight major International development goals that United Nations member states agreed to achieve by the year.	<p>decisions, the Commission further emphasised measures to target investment to areas of greatest need and greatest impact, such as schools, work places and health centres and to assess the health impact of the lack of sanitation at the community level.</p> <p>Review notes that improved sanitation is essential to fulfil Goal 4 Reduce child mortality and Goal 5 Improve maternal health. Improvements in public-health services are key, including safe water and better sanitation. Goal 7, Ensure environmental sustainability, is equally closely tied with improvement in water and sanitation.</p> <p>Access to safe drinking water has improved worldwide, but billions of people still lack safe drinking water and basic sanitation. The target is to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation</p>	<p>The MDG Monitor (a tool for policymakers, development practitioners, journalists, students and others to track progress through interactive maps and country-specific profiles) shows how countries are progressing in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.</p> <p>Periodic reviews of the MDGs have also taken place at meetings including the 2008 High-Level Event on the MDGs and the MDG+10 Review in 2010.</p> <p>Since 2005 an annual report and progress chart have been published by UN DESA providing in depth analysis of the progress being made towards the MDGs.</p>	192 United Nations member states and at least 23 international organizations agreed to achieve goals	<p>Word Summit 2005. http://www.un.org/ga/59/hl60_ple_narymeeting.html</p> <p>MDG+5 Report: http://www.un.org/summit2005/MDGBook.pdf</p>



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Fourth World Water Forum, Mexico, 2006	Non Binding	Main aim is to seek to enable multi-stakeholder participation and dialogue to influence water policy making at a global level, thus assuring better living standards for people all over the world and a more responsible social behaviour towards water issues in-line with the pursuit of sustainable development.	Main objectives of the 4th World Water Forum were: a) To actively promote the participation of all stakeholders during the Preparatory Process and the Forum itself. b) To reinforce the conviction that local actors facing main water management and implementation challenges. c) To actively seek to remove the barriers obstructing local action. d) A regional scheme will be used throughout the Preparatory Process in order to foster regional debate geared at addressing regional challenges to later yield regional and global commitments.	Progress is reviewed at future World Water Forums by the World Water Council and at other appropriate meetings and conferences, such as the 10-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21.	World water forum is the main international event on water. Ministerial Conference involved ministers and officials from 148 countries.	http://www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx/home/home.asp Declaration: http://www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx/home/..%5Cfiles%5CDeclaraciones%5CMinisterialDeclaration.pdf
High Level Event on MDGs, New York, USA, 2008	Non binding	Event to review progress, renew and reinforce commitments, and identify concrete actions and initiatives to ensure that all countries achieve the MDGs by 2015.	Water: Improve drinking water supplies for almost a billion people lacking them, including about 300 million in sub-Saharan Africa. Sanitation: Increase spending on water and sanitation from 0.5% to at least 1.0% of GDP to greatly increase access as scheduled.	Periodic reviews of the MDGs take place every few years. Following this High Level Event was the MDG+10 Review in 2010. Since 2005 an annual report and progress chart have been published by UN DESA providing in depth analysis of the progress being made towards the MDGs.	Afghanistan, Andorra, Belarus, Brazil, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Romania, Sweden, and the European Union	http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2008highlevel/ Compilation of initiatives: http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/2008highlevel/pdf/commitments/Commitments%20Compilation%20ENGLISH.pdf



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The Second African Conference on Sanitation and Hygiene—AfricaSan+5, Durban, South Africa, February 2008	Non binding	eThekwini Declaration made at the AfricaSan conference on Sanitation and Hygiene, 2008 during the International Year of Sanitation made firm resolutions to place sanitation and hygiene at the top of the development agenda in Africa.	Commitments on sanitation: To review, update and adopt national sanitation and hygiene policies; To ensure that one, senior, accountable institution takes clear leadership of the national sanitation portfolio; To establish specific public sector budget allocations for sanitation and hygiene programs; To use modern behaviour change approaches (such as community-led total sanitation, marketing for behaviour change, educational programs, involving communities and their leaders) which make a specific impact upon the poor, women and children.	The <i>eThekwini Declaration</i> was presented to the African Union at its 2008 Heads of State and Government Summit to be held in Egypt in July 2008, which approved it.	More than 600 delegates: including 32 African government ministers responsible for sanitation-related portfolios; managerial-level sector professionals from the public and private sectors; sanitation sector practitioners in civil society; multilateral donor/development agencies; research/training institutions and the media.	www.africansan2008.net/ Declaration: http://www.dwaf.gov.za/dir_ws/2a/ww/docs/eThekwiniAfricaSanFinalEng.pdf
5th World Water Forum, Istanbul, March, 2009	Non binding	Theme of the forum was “Bridging Divides for Water”, underlining not only the geographical crossroads, but also the conceptual barriers between developed and traditional water cultures, between rich and poor, between developed and developing regions of the world. It implies creating enhanced understanding and improved information	The six major global themes discussed at the Forum were: Global Changes and Risk Management; Advancing Human Development and the MDGs; Managing and Protecting Water Resources and their Supply Systems to Meet Human and Environmental Needs, Governance and Management; Finance; and Education, Knowledge and Capacity Development. Ministerial declaration produced an appeal to all stakeholders to generate a common vision and framework to develop and	Progress is reviewed at future World Water Forums by the World Water Council and at other appropriate meetings and conferences, such as the 10-year review of the implementation of Agenda 21. A review of the World Water Forum is currently in progress with a specific focus on stakeholder engagement, learning and dialogue processes.	World water forum is the main international event on water. Ministerial Conference involved ministers and officials from 192 countries. 33,058 participants, making it the world’s biggest ever water-related event.	http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/ Final Report: http://www.worldwaterforum5.org/fileadmin/VWF5/Final_Report/VWF5_Final_Report.pdf Declaration: http://newsletter.worldwaterforum5.org/vol8/volume8_files/Minist



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		exchange between and amongst water users, decision-makers, and water practitioners, at local, regional and global levels.	manage water resources in a sustainable manner and to guarantee access to safe water and sanitation for all. Focus should be on promoting water solidarity and security in their countries, as well as the tools needed to face up to climate change.			erial_Statement_22_3_09.pdf
United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) 17, May 2009	Non binding	Report on progress in Agenda 21. Particular focus of the session was on the thematic cluster of agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa. Review of UNCCD.	CSD work on Desertification and draught is particularly relevant for areas of Water and Sanitation. In relation to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) CSD called to integrate measures to prevent and combat desertification as well as to mitigate the effects of drought through relevant policies and programmes, such as land, water and forest management, agriculture, rural development, early warning systems, environment, energy, natural resources, health and education, and poverty eradication and sustainable development strategies.	CSD 17 Session finished in 2009. The progress on recommendations will be reviewed during the next session. The UNCCD is particularly relevant to Water Management, as their recent Water Policy Advocacy Framework highlights, This document, drafted in 2010, aims to provide a framework for the UNCCD Secretariat to advocate to countries’ policy makers to develop water resources management policies at country level.	Declaration from the regular meeting of the Commission for the Sustainable Development to review the progress on Agenda 21. Members of the CSD at this time included the USA, Canada, Brazil, UK, France, Germany, Japan and India.	CSD 17 http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/csd/csd_csd17.shtml UNCCD COP 9 http://www.unccd.int/cop/cop9/menu.php
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), COP 9, October 2009, Buenos Aires Argentina						