WATER, THE KEY FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

WORLD WATER COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT 2013



The World Water Council is an international organization that aims at promoting awareness, building political commitment and triggering action on critical water issues by bringing people together, through active hydro-politics, and serving as linkage between stakeholders and decision-makers.

Established in 1996 and headquartered in Marseille, France it brings together around 300 organizations from more than 50 different countries. It represents a multistakeholder water community including representatives from intergovernmental organizations, national governments, business sector, NGOs and water users associations, and academia.

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Floating market in Bangkok, Thailand.

PREFACE

FOR THE FUTURE OF WATER



During the first year of my mandate, I have made the call for water security the overarching theme of the World Water Council's activities. Based on the priorities of our members, our strategy translates the global concerns about the future of water and our need to gather stakeholders from all sectors and countries to make water a priority in the international agenda.

On the way to the 7th World Water Forum, which will be held in 2015 in Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Korea, the inclusion of a standalone goal for water among the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals has been our major objective. To do so,

the organization of the Budapest Water Summit has allowed the Council to broaden its audience at the international level and strengthen its collaboration with UN agencies.

As the times are changing, the global answer should be adapted to new needs and realities. Meeting the global energy demand from green sources, ensuring universal access to water and sanitation as a human right, protecting our natural resources and livelihoods, must enable us to make water the common thread connecting all of the sustainable development goals.

Gradually, the Pact for Water Security carried by the Council imposes itself upon political and economic leaders and is being recognized as a key for development in all sectors.

To fulfill this ambitious task, we have engaged solid partnerships with institutions, States, public and private enterprises and NGOs, to maximize our outreach. By the establishment of collective responsibility, we will be able to lead the solutions for water to their implementation. The successes accomplished by the World Water Forums have been tremendous by the past, the achievements are still important, but our commitments remain bigger.

Benedito Braga President World Water Council



As a UN partner, the World Water Council supports the inclusion of a dedicated water Sustainable Development Goal.

STRENGTHENING THE POLITICAL VOICE

STRENGTHENING RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

"A stand-alone water goal is critical as part of the Post-2015 Development Agenda" stated the World Water Council during an engaging year with UN institutions for the preparation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The World Water Council released in November 2013 a position paper⁽¹⁾ in favor of a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal on water within the Post-2015 framework and identifying water as a pre-requisite for all development by underlining above all the cross-cutting role of water in supporting development to eradicate poverty. It also highlighted other issues such as the importance of sustaining the momentum generated by the Millennium Development Goals, and the need for a high-level multistakeholder platform where ideas can converge and be developed.



On the occasion of the World Water Day celebration on 22 March, the UN General Assembly organized a high-level interactive dialogue on water cooperation in New York. Council Governor and Bureau member Karin Krchnak represented the Council in the dialogue that addressed proposals, strategies and cooperative solutions for the Post-2015 Agenda. The dialogue included the UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, the President of the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly, Vuk Jeremić, the Prime Minister of Tajikistan, and the Ministers of Environment and Water of the United Arab Emirates, Bolivia and Spain. On the same day, the Government of the Netherlands organized a celebration in The Hague; members of the Board of Governors András Szöllösi-Nagy and Bert Diphoorn represented the Council for the occasion.

Discussions were further engaged during a high-level luncheon and roundtable discussions held at the UN Headquarters in New York on 25 September. The event, with the objective of having water considered in the Post-2015 Agenda, was hosted by the governments of Colombia, the Netherlands and Switzerland together with UNSGAB and the World Water Council, and the participation of UN-Water. The President of the World Water Council called to develop "no regrets approaches for societies to adapt to climate and social uncertainties, regardless of the climate scenario."



On 8 October, more than 1,200 delegates came to the Budapest Water Summit co-organized by the Government of Hungary, the United Nations System and the World Water Council. The event aimed to contribute to the design of Sustainable Development Goals that incorporate the fundamental role that water plays in securing food, reducing poverty, empowering girls and women and in improving the quality of life of humans in both the developing and developed world. During the opening plenary, Benedito Braga appealed to the President of Hungary, János Áder and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon to define a common strategy to put water at the center of development objectives.



President of Hungary, János Áder, meets with UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, for the Budapest Water Summit.

CONTINUING TO ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

During the year, the Council deepened its actions with national governments. The first meeting of the OECD Water Governance Initiative was held at the end of March in Paris, France. Council Vice-President Doğan Altinbilek gave an opening speech in which he congratulated the organizers for taking the initiative to improve water-related governance. A second meeting was held in November in Paris and saw the participation of 17 member organizations of the Council.

The initiative builds on the OECD-led Good Governance Core Group of the 6th World Water and seeks to bridge the gap between the 6th and the 7th Forum by discussing stakeholders engagement, performance and governance of water supply and sanitation, basin governance and integrity and transparency.



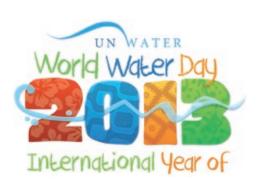
2nd Asia Pacific Water Summit.

Further, on 17 to 20 May, on the occasion of the 2nd Asia Pacific Water Summit, placed under the theme "Water Security and Water-related Disaster Challenges: Leadership and Commitment", in Chiang Mai, Thailand, the Council recalled the need for leadership for water in the Asia-Pacific region.



High-Level International Conference on Water Cooperation, Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

In addition, President Braga and Governor Jerome Delli Priscoli attended the High-Level International Conference on Water Cooperation in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 20-21 August, held in the context of the 2013 International Year of Water Cooperation. The Council asked to strengthen joint water management to guarantee social, economic, environmental and political security.



EMPHASIZING PARLIAMENTARIANS' ROLES IN THE FUTURE OF WATER

Part of the Council's strategic mission is to develop greater inter-parliamentarian cooperation to adopt and enforce better water legislation. For this purpose, the World Water Council has been liaising with parliamentarian organizations to determine the needs of parliamentarians as related to water issues and to design a Parliamentarian Helpdesk. It is expected that the development of this tool will be an integral part of the Parliamentarian process for the 7th World Water Forum.



President of the European Parliament Water Group, Richard Seeber.

On 10 July, the World Water Council addressed the European Parliament by video message during a conference on innovative financing mechanisms for access to water organized by EU Members of Parliament Sophie Auconie and Patrizia Toia. The purpose of the conference was to share new solutions and practices to the whole European community, so as to improve access to water and sanitation



Cooperating beyond borders seminar.

Within the scope of the International Year on Water Cooperation, the Council organized the seminar Cooperating Beyond Borders on 11 December at the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, France, to share and learn from examples of how countries can succeed in their transboundary water management and cooperation. The event, co-organized with the Rhine Meuse Water Agency, the European Parliament and the Cercle français de l'eau, gathered more than 100 high-level international and European representatives and experts. The seminar was opened by the European Commissioner for the Environment, Janez Potočnik, who addressed the audience in a video message, stating that cooperation is the key word - both on a European and on a global level. He encouraged the participants at the seminar to learn from each other's experiences to bring together common solutions. Other high-level speakers present during the day included the Minister of Agriculture for Tunisia, Mohamed Ben Salem, the Vice-Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, Pithaya Pookaman, the President of the European Parliament Water Group, Richard Seeber, and the State Secretary for Water for the Ministry for Rural Development of Hungary, Peter Kovacs.



Member of the European Parliament, Sophie Auconie.



To learn more on successful examples of transboundary water management read the seminar proceedings available on our website:

www.worldwatercouncil.org/library/thematic-publications

ENGAGING LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES FOR BETTER WATER MANAGEMENT



At the end of the year 2013, the Istanbul Water Consensus had gathered signatures from 1,111 Local and Regional Authorities from 58 countries. The signatories of the Consensus have committed to develop and implement action plans to improve their water management practices. To present the achievements reached since the launch of the Consensus in 2008 and involve more signatories, the Council has developed a dedicated website. This innovative tool enables not only Local and Regional Authorities to promote their successes in water management to the world but also to contribute to informing the public at large about the key role of Local and Regional Authorities in drafting sustainable water policies and programs.

On 27 November, Council Governor Guy Fradin attended, on behalf of the World Water Council, the General Assembly of the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA) held in Barcelona, to present the Council's contribution in helping to strengthen the capacities of local authorities in delivering water and sanitation and building sustainable models. This meeting gave the opportunity to identify collaboration channels with UN-Habitat in supporting local authorities for improved water management.



To join the global movement for Local and Regional Authorities committed to water, visit the dedicated website: www.istanbulwaterconsensus.org



RESPONDING

TO GLOBAL WATER CHALLENGES

WATER, FOOD AND ENERGY

The implementation of the project "Water and Food Security" carried out jointly with the Qatar National Food Security Programme (QNFSP) started in March 2013 under the guidance of its Steering Committee. The project strategy and outline have been built around four pillars: to demonstrate the linkages between water security and food security through a state of the art literature review; to test the review outcomes through case studies; to produce a smart and holistic framework; and to run workshops with experts and other stakeholders.

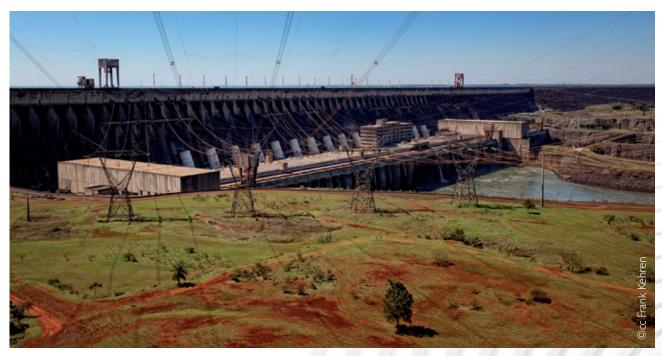


On 6 May, President Braga was invited to the annual Water for Food Conference hosted by the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Institute at the University of Nebraska and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to discuss how to feed an expected population of 9 billion people by 2050 while using less water. The President emphasized the need to promote sustainable agriculture practices including efficient water use in irrigation systems. He highlighted the importance of science and technology in achieving sustainable practices worldwide.

On the thematic issue of Water and Energy, the Council and Électricité de France (EDF) signed an addendum to their Memorandum of Understanding in May, providing further clarification on the objectives of two working themes that would figure within their ongoing collaboration: one on the cross-use of energy impacts on water and another on multiple uses of water in hydroelectric reservoirs. Each working group organized dedicated stakeholder workshops during 2013 to prepare for the International Water and Energy Conference, to be held 29-31 October 2014 in Lyon, France, and the 7th World Water Forum in 2015.

The President of the Council was invited to Africa 2013, a conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in mid-April and co-organized by our institutional member, the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD). The focus was on the potential in Africa for future water resources and hydropower development and the need for accelerated development. The conference focused not only on technical but also on important political issues. The conference had the presence of high level political authorities including the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Desalegn Hailemariam, and the Ethiopian Minister for Water and Energy, Tegenu Alemayehu. In his speech, the President spoke about the role of water as an engine for socio-economic development of the less developed countries in Africa.

Vice-President Doğan Altınbilek participated in the Ist World Irrigation Forum in Mardin, Turkey, from 29 September to 3 October. This event was organized by the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID), with the support of the Turkish Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs and the General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSi), in order to increase global concerns on the efficient use of water for agriculture to meet food security challenges.



Itaipu dam, Brazil.

CLIMATE AND WATER-RELATED DISASTERS

At the Special Thematic Session on Water and Disasters held at the United Nations in New York in early March, the World Water Council encouraged the world community to change the approach to water-related disasters and act collectively to anticipate the challenges. The session gathered international experts and high-level representatives to share experiences and discuss progress towards global actions.



President of the World Water Council, Benedito Braga, Han Seungsoo, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and founding chair of HELP on Water and Disasters and UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon.

The High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP) is an initiative of the UN Secretary-General and his Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB). It is aimed to assist the international community, governments and stakeholders in mobilizing political will and resources intended to address the issues of water and disasters. The World Water Council is a member of HELP and is committed to promote the idea of integrating in the global debate that extreme droughts provoking severe water shortages should also be considered as disasters, as much as the consequences of excess water, such as extreme flooding.

The Panel met on 3-4 June in Tokyo, Japan, to lay the groundwork for their mission. President Braga, congratulated Han Seung-soo, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and founding chair, for his devotion to water and disasters and thanked the political leaders for their continued commitment. The Panel met a second time in Paris in December. For this occasion, the Council was represented by Honorary President Fauchon. Panel members discussed the recent progress on the Post-2015 targets on water and disasters and the implementation of the 2009 HELP Action Plan.

The Chief of Engineers at U.S Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Thomas P. Bostick, invited the President of the Council to take part in an inspection of areas in New York City damaged by Hurricane Sandy. USACE, also a member of the HELP Panel, is committed to sharing its worldwide expertise on disaster response with water and policy managers locally and regionally.



Hurricane Sandy damages.

WATER AND GREEN GROWTH



Han River, Republic of Korea.

Since the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding on "Water and Green Growth" with the Korean Government in November 2010, the project has emphasized the role of water in achieving economic well-being and social equity, coupled with the protection and revitalization of ecosystems.

The second phase of the project (August 2012 - December 2013) has sought to further develop its analytical and policy framework through case studies. In parallel, an expert review process was established to gather feedback on the first edition of the project report and collect recommendations and views on water and green growth issues.

The project's findings were presented during the Green Growth Hub 2013 hosted by the Korean Ministry of Knowledge Economy and Ministry of Environment in Incheon, Republic of Korea (29-30 April 2013). In addition, the Council with ADB, IUCN and OECD, jointly organized a seminar on "Strengthening the Role of Water in Green Growth" during the Stockholm World Water Week (1-6 September 2013). The seminar offered a unique opportunity to explore measures, indicators and solutions to realize green growth through improved consideration of water resources in sustainable development, illustrated by a number of case studies.

In October 2013, the President of the Council was invited by the Prime Minister of Denmark, Helle Thorning-Schmidt, to take part in the Global Green Growth Forum (3GF) in Copenhagen and delivered a speech in the plenary session on Sustainable Food Production and Consumption. The event gathered a number of leaders of businesses and international organizations to provide a platform for carrying forward major public-private initiatives, in particular one related to non-revenue water.



To learn more on the Green Growth project, read our joint publication available on our website:

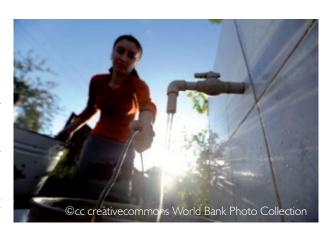
www.worldwatercouncil.org/library/thematic-publications

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WATER FOR HEALTH AND NATURE

As a follow-up to the Council's activities during the Council's activities during the Rio+20 summit, the President of the World Water Council participated in the opening of the first meeting of the Brazilian National Confederation of Industries on Sustainability dedicated to water and called on the private sector and government leaders to join forces in order to identify solutions to reconcile the economic and environmental goals of the global community for water security.

The President urged the industry to start reusing and recycling water in their productive systems. The meeting showed that industry is now convinced that water needs to be part of any business plan.







ENHANCING

THE VALUE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE FORUM AND CATALYZING FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

MPLEMENTING THE SOLUTIONS AND COMMITMENTS OF THE 6TH WORLD WATER FORUM

The Council has been following the outcomes of the 6th World Water Forum, including the Platform of Solutions, given the 1,300 collected solutions and the necessary linkages in content to be established with the 7th World Water Forum platform. A number of important steps were outlined to move forward in this process, including working with solution providers to help them meet the specific implementation criteria for consideration within the 7th Forum preparatory process.

The Initiative "Access to Water for All" resulting from the financial surplus of the 6th World Water Forum has supported 16 projects around the world, amounting to a total funding of over 900,000 euros. Most projects started in January 2013 and were completed over the year. Reaching either rural communities from Nicaragua to Cambodia or education facilities from Madagascar to Ukraine, the partnerships led with field organizations have reached thousands of people by improving their daily lives.



Access to water, a human right that facilitates sustainable development in rural communities with citizen participation and a gender approach, Ceamujer, Nicaragua.

SET SAILS FOR KOREA

The 7th World Water Forum will be held from 12-17 April 2015 in Daegu-Gyeongbuk. Over the course of 2013, substantial actions laid the foundations of the Forum. In partnership with the Council, the Government of Korea established the International Steering Committee which is comprised of an equal number of members of the World Water Council and its Korean counterparts, thus ensuring the governance of the 7th World Water Forum. The Secretariat of the 7th World Water Forum was created on 1 August 2013 through the enactment of a law passed by the National Assembly of South Korea.



Opening ceremony of the 7th World Water Forum Kick-off meeting.

Another great deal of effort took place throughout the year, by organizing dedicated events presenting the 7th World Water Forum on the occasion of the Asia Water Week in Manila, the World Water Week in Stockholm, the Budapest Water Summit and the Nakdong River International Water Week.

These efforts peaked with the organization of the Kick-off meeting on 14-15 May in Daegu-Gyeongbuk, with 500 participants from around the world.



Break-out sessions at the 7th World Water Forum Kick-off meeting.



2015 대구·경북 세계물포럼 Daegu & Gyeongbuk, Rep. of Korea

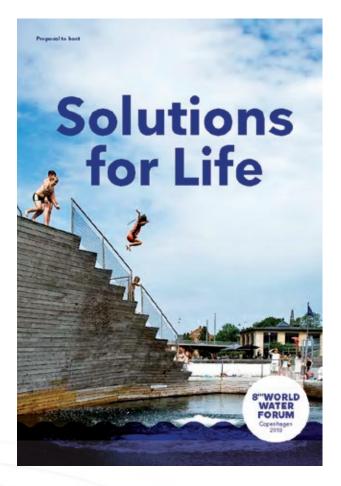
Official logo of the 7th World Water Forum.

The Kick-off secured the commitment of stakeholders in the preparation process and defined the scope of priority actions by providing guidance to the appointed commissions on the Thematic process, the Political process, the Regional process and the Science & Technology process.

SELECTING THE HOST CITY AND COUNTRY OF THE 8TH WORLD WATER FORUM

In 2012, the Board of Governors shortlisted four candidate countries: Brazil, Denmark, Qatar, and the Russian Federation. By the deadline of 3 I May, Brazil and Denmark had both submitted their candidatures to host the 8th World Water Forum.

Under the theme of "Sharing Water", Brasilia and Brazil proposed to share common practices on the use of water to serve all stakeholders and sectors.





Committed to realize sustainable development around the world, the bid submitted by Copenhagen and Denmark targeted key water challenges within water, energy and food. Promoting regional and global partnerships, the approach focused on bringing "Innovative Water Solutions to Life".

At the end of August, the members of the Selection Committee went to Brasilia, Brazil, and Copenhagen, Denmark, for site visits. The vote of the host city and country is set to be held during the 51st Board of Governors meeting in February 2014, in Gyeongju, Republic of Korea.



World Water Council members meeting in Budapest.

ORGANIZATION

ADEQUATE AND PROFESSIONAL MEANS

MEMBERSHIP

The Council's greatest asset lies in its members. Their experience and commitment constitutes the strength of the World Water Council. By providing a platform encouraging debates and exchanges, the Council has federated a great diversity of stakeholders in the water community. The World Water Council has gained its credibility by connecting all key actors, from the field to high-level decision-makers.

As of 31 December 2013, the Council counted 313 member organizations from 53 countries, representing the water community from all sectors, gathered within 5 colleges: Civil society and water users organizations, Enterprises and facilities, Governments and government authorities, Intergovernmental institutions and Professional associations and academic institutions.

In October, Council members were invited to attend the 50th Board of Governors meeting held on the occasion of the Budapest Water Summit. This opportunity allowed members to attend a special address on the theme of Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda delivered by the Head of the Hungarian Mission to the UN and Co-chair of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, Ambassador Csaba Kõrösi.

Being an active member of the World Water Council enables organizations to be closely involved in the Council's activities and to enjoy the benefits of networking opportunities.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is the Council's deciding body. It is comprised of 36 highly involved Governors whose voting powers proportionally represent the five colleges of the World Water Council. In 2013, the Board of Governors held three meetings in Marseille, Seoul and Budapest to review the Council's operations and make major policy decisions in implementing its strategy, the Pact for Water Security.

The Council's Governors are responsible for overseeing the activities and the programs.

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TASK FORCES

To bring the Council's strategy to fruition, the Board has launched several Task Forces involving member institutions dedicated to specific actions:

Post 2015 SDG Task Force

This Task Force works toward including water on the SDG agenda by reaching out and influencing UN member states. The Chair of the Task Force, Karin Krchnak (WWF-US), is working with Torkil Jønch-Clausen (DHI), Bert Diphoorn (UN-Habitat), Tomoo Inoue (JWF) and Rabi Mohtar (QNFSP), among others to promote the recognition of a dedicated goal for water in the Post-2015 Agenda.

Integrated Water Resources Management

This Task Force works on the creation of a High-level panel and White paper to address general policy issues in the planning and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), to ensure presence in regional and international IWRM-related events. The Task Force is chaired by, Torkil Jønch-Clausen (DHI), and involves Pierre Alain Roche (ASTEE), Ania Grobicki (GWP), Tom Soo (IWRA) and Mark Smith (IUCN).

Institutional and Legal Affairs

To improve the governance of the Council, this Task Force investigates administrative issues, rules and procedures in greater detail, by analyzing and making proposals on the college and membership system. The Task Force is chaired by Ken Reid (AWRA) with the participation of Irfan Aker (OZDEMIR) and Guy Fradin (MEDDE).

Communications

The Task Force on Communications works towards implementing the strategic communications goals of the Council. The Task Force has been building and strengthening the brand of the Council by segmenting target groups and differentiating communications to reach decision makers, the general public and the media. The Task Force has developed a long term membership plan with networking opportunities for members. The Task Force is chaired by Irfan Aker (OZDEMIR) with the participation of Dale Jacobsen (ASCE) and Hachmi Kennou (SOMEDEN).



 50^{th} Board of Governors meeting in Budapest.



 $\label{thm:members} \mbox{Members of the Board of Governors during a working session.}$



 $48^{\mbox{\tiny{th}}}$ Board of Governors meeting in Marseille.

COMMUNICATIONS

The World Water Council has made great efforts to communicate on the Pact for Water Security. For the World Water Council to reach stakeholders all across the globe, the website www.worldwatercouncil.org is now available in French, Spanish, Chinese and Russian.



World Water Council institutional website.



Over the year, the members have been updated regularly on the Council's activities through the monthly Letter from the President. The social media have carried the voice of the Council through Facebook and Twitter with links to Council representatives and members' activities. At the peak of the World Water Day, the Council reached an audience of nearly 7,000 followers.

The Council hosted various events at its booth during the Kick-off meeting in Daegu-Gyeongbuk and at the Budapest Water Summit. In order to maximize the promotion of the Council, the headquarters has developed over the year a new brochure for floor recruitment.







facebook.com/worldwatercouncil



twitter.com/wwatercouncil

HEADQUARTERS

In order to reinforce the Council as defined in the 2013-2015 strategy, the Council welcomed its new Executive Director. Three additional staff were hired over the year to work on political initiatives, thematic issues and communications.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

At the time of publication of the 2013 Annual Report, the accounts had not been audited nor approved by our legal auditor.

Still, the operating expenditures of the World Water Council represented 80% of the total operating budget of 2.8 million euros for the year.



WORLD WATER COUNCIL - CONSEIL MONDIAL DE L'EAU

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