



The Republic of India would like to thank the Forum for 21st Century for interest and activities in these issues. We want to express full support towards finding the best solution in the protection of water resources. After an in-depth analysis of the draft given by the Forum for 21 st Century we want to put forward the position of India and also our suggestions to mentioned topics.

Notes

- ✿ It is a fact, that water was one of the basic elements for creating life on planet Earth. India is convinced of irreplaceable role of water. Without this source not just evolution would not have been possible, but also the life would not exist and we would never meet there.
- ✿ The Republic of India agrees with the Forum for 21 st Century on the recommended reference daily intake, but we are worry, that daily there are more and more people, for who is it difficult to find appropriate water resources.
- ✿ India strongly believes that Forum for 21 st Century has identified rightly the access to safe water and the access to basic sanitation. With rapid growing population and improving living standards the pressure on our water resources is increasing and per capita availability of water resources is reducing day by day.
- ✿ India welcomes the note about poor water treatment legislation and we support the regulation of outsourcing of international corporations. It is necessary to improve legislation in these issues, because of the environment protection.
- ✿ India recently recognize the need to manage existing water reserves in order to avoid future water strain. However for a country of such vast geographical expanse the initiatives taken so far are too few and too spread out.

Proposes

- ✿ We would like to express our agreement with creation a committee which would have this agenda in its description. India would benefit from establishing an independent central regulatory agency to design, control and coordinate national programs for water conservation. We would welcome the proposal to create a fund which could support this agency. We think, that it is necessary to solve these issues on governmental and also on nongovernmental level. So we would like to support also NGOs.
- ✿ The Republic of India would like to support better wastewater management in the LDCs provided also by the committee, which could target on the main problems. We believe that committee should focus on maintenance of development of cost effective technologies for the LDCs using local resources and expertise for treatment of wastewater originating from cities, towns and villages.
- ✿ Government policy changes would also ensure that management techniques and initiatives are executed at a national level across sectors. We can not concentrate just on one sector.



- Agricultural sector:
 - Improve water usage efficiency in the production of water-intensive crops such as rice, wheat and sugarcane. Encourage adoption of techniques such as rain-water harvesting and water management in agriculture.
 - Reduce subsidies on power and implement customized pricing models to counter groundwater exploitation through excessive withdrawal.
- Industrial sector:
 - Encourage investment in recycling and treatment of industrial wastewater through regulations and subsidies for water treatment plants.
- Domestic sector:
 - Implement policies to make rain-water harvesting mandatory in cities with new construction projects.
 - Propagate efficient water usage practices through community based education programs.

✿ Prioritizing the implementation of the National River-Linking Project of India, that connects 30 big rivers and canals and generates 175 Tr liters of water by the interlinking of rivers. This is also an important step for government to take, because it will reduce regional disparities in water availability.

✿ Around 22.5 million people in India do not have access to safe drinking water. Requirement of freshwater in India for domestic consumption, agriculture, and industrial purposes every year is close to 900 billion m³. With the growth of world population the need of fresh water has also increased substantially which has resulted in growth of desalination installation. India started its first desalination project at Andaman way back in 1946 and has so far installed 175 plants. Indian desalination Association (InDA), an affiliate of International Desalination Association was set up in 1991 in Chennai, with goal for the development and promotion of the appropriate use of desalination and desalination technologies nation wide in water supply, water reuse, water pollution control, water purification, water treatment, other water sciences and technologies and various solute-solvent separations.

✿ India has around 25,000- km pipeline network and also needs to invest heavily in water pipeline infrastructure. We consider about central regulatory body or committee, which can support and coordinate distribution of fresh drinkable water.

✿ The question of financial support to this committee is not so much clear to us. We need to know more facts and possible effectivity of financing. After that we can create our statement. Our GDP is around 1,3 billion dolar, that means big amount of money to committie.