

The 21st century has already been labelled the “century of water”. There is a growing collective concern for water security in the 21st Century. Also, there is an emerging consensus that an increasing part of this challenge will have to be met in the coming decades in our cities and megacities, where most people will live in this century, much water will be consumed and most of the pollution will be generated. Sustainability in this new Millennium will be largely defined in our Cities, which are the centres of political power, public opinion and engines of economic growth and technological innovation.

The explosive growth of urban centres over the past 25 years or so, which continues unabated, is rapidly depleting previously bountiful fresh water resources. The urban water challenge is taking an ominous dimension in vast tracts of Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia, where the situation is most precarious. Rapid urbanization, growing populations and development are overwhelming traditional water management practices.

The populations mostly at risk are the urban poor living in slums and informal squatter settlements. Often without access to municipal services, the urban poor pay much more to private vendors than their affluent neighbours who are connected to municipal supplies. The urban poor also pay for inadequate sanitation through lost dignity and productivity. Extending water and sanitation service coverage to the urban slums and informal settlements remains an outstanding challenge of this century.

Cities are also imposing huge ecological footprints in their rapidly expanding hinterlands. Over-abstraction of ground water reserves has reached critical proportions in many large cities. Increasing concentration of populations in the low-lying urban areas and changing land-use patterns are also making cities more flood-prone with time.

In a unique process of knowledge-sharing and consensus-building, the 3rd World Water Forum has invited UN-HABITAT to co-ordinate wide-ranging discussions on WATER AND CITIES over two days, 18 and 19 March 2003 at the Osaka International Convention Centre in Osaka, Japan. Information on the sessions organized by UN-HABITAT, together with its partners, are given below.

Programme of the Opening Plenary Session

Theme: Water and Cities

Date:	18 March 2003
Time:	1030 – 1200 hrs
Venue:	Main Hall, Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan
1030 – 10:40	Opening song by school children from Japan
1040 – 10:50	Welcome & An Overview on Water and Cities Theme sessions
10:50 – 11:00	Forging partnerships for Water in Asian Cities: Signing of MOU by UN-HABITAT and the Asian Development Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signing of MOU by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT and Mr. Tadao Chino, President, Asian Development Bank• Short remarks by Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka and Mr. Chino
11:00 – 11:50	High-level Panel: Charting a road map for achieving the Millennium Goal <p>Moderator: Jerry Delli Priscoli, Editor, Water Policy Journal, USA</p> <p>Invited Panelists: Dr. Mahmoud Abu-Zeid, President, WWC Mrs. Fusae Ohta, Governor of Osaka Mrs. Nane Annan Mme. Mercedes Bresso, President WACLAC Mr. Tadao Chino, President, Asian Development Bank Hon. Wang Guangtao, Minister of Construction, Peoples’ Republic of China Prof. Hirotake Imamoto, President, Hydraulic Engineering Research Institute, Japan Mr. Ian Johnson, Vice President and Head of Delegation, the World Bank Sir Richard Jolly, Chair, WSSCC Hon. Ananth Kumar, Minister for Urban Development, India Mr. Henri Proglio, Chairman, Vivendi Environment Mr. Kyosuke Shinozawa, Governor, JBIC Hon. Lenna Sommestad, Minister of Environment, Sweden Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT Dr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director, UNEP Konrad Otto Zimmermann, President, ICLEI</p>
11:50 – 12:00	Closing Song
12:00	Close of Plenary
1200 – 1230	Press Conference <p>Venue: Press Center, Osaka International Conference Centre ADB and UN-HABITAT collaboration in Water for Asian Cities Programme</p>



Programme of Water for Asian Cities Session

Date: 18 March 2003

Time: 1545 – 1830 hrs

Venue: Rooms 1001 and 1002, Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan

Session Convenors: UN-HABITAT and ADB

Objective of the Water for Asian Cities Session

- Inform Asian policy makers, city managers, the private sector professionals, NGOs and the media on the new regional initiative.
- Assess perspectives and priorities of the partners.
- Forge a Stakeholders' forum, promoting ownership of the programme partners

Anticipated outputs

- Reevaluation of programme priorities by the partners.
- Consensus on the format and the structure of the Stakeholders' Forum.
- Media releases.

Session agenda

- Overview and short presentations on various facets of the programme
- Moderated panel discussion with the participation of key programme partners
- Summarizing the outcome by session chair.

Programme details

- Opening remarks by Mr. Tadao Chino, President, Asian Development Bank, Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tubaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT and Head of the Dutch delegation.
- Programme overview by UN-HABITAT and ADB.
- Short Presentations on Thematic Priorities of the Programme
- Panel discussion
Invited Panelists
 - W.D. Ailaperuma, Secretary, Ministry of Housing, Sri Lanka
 - Kailash Vijayvargiya, Mayor, Indore, India
 - Tran Thi Hong, Women's Union, Viet Nam
 - Juan Miguel Luz, Under Secretary, Education, Philippines
 - Sheela Patel, SPARC, India
 - R. Wirasinha, Consultant, Sri Lanka
 - Zhang Yue, Dy. Director General, Ministry of Construction, China
- Wrap up.



Programme for the Session on Financing Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor

Date: 19 March 2003

Time: 0845 – 1130 hrs

Venue: Rooms 1001, Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan

Session Convenors: UN-HABITAT, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank

Objective of the session

- Improving the understanding of financing needs, modalities and mechanisms to achieve the Millennium Development Goal and related targets for water and sanitation in urban areas
- Sharing of new and innovative practices of financing for the urban poor
- Providing a platform for sharing of ideas among public, private and community sectors

Anticipated outputs

- A broad consensus on the best strategies for achieving MDG in urban areas
- A Statement on financing needs and strategies for achieving MDG in urban areas
- Media releases.

Session agenda

- Welcome remarks
- Keynote on financing needs and challenges in meeting MDG on water and sanitation in urban areas
- Selected Case Studies from different regions
- Moderated panel discussion with the participation of key speakers
- Summarizing the outcome by session chair.

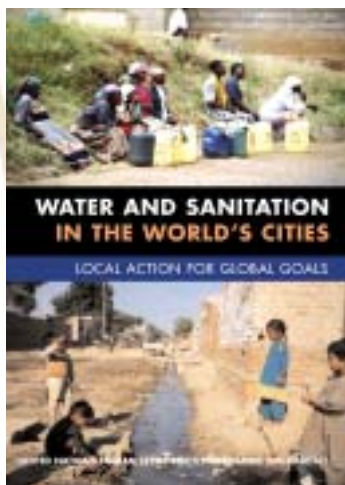
Invited Speakers and Panelists

- Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT – Opening Remarks
- Mr. Albert Wright, Co-chair, UN Millennium Task Force – Keynote address
- Mr. D.K. Biswas, Chairman, Housing and Urban Development Corporation, New Delhi - Panelist
- Mr. Loic Fauchon, Head, Eaux de Marseille - Panelist
- Dr. Khondkar Azarul Haq, Managing Director, Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority - Panelist
- Mr. Jan van Heeswijk, Director General, RSSD, Asian Development Bank - Panelist
- Mrs. Sheela Patel, SPARC, - Panelist
- Mr. Gerard Payen, CEO, ONDEO - Panelist
- Mr. Bernard Poignant, Director, Vivendi Environment - Panelist
- Mr. Jamal Saghir, Director, Water and Energy, the World Bank - Panelist
- Mr. Motonori Tsuno, Director General, Japan Bank for International Cooperation - Panelist
- Mr. Pierre Racicot, former Vice President, CIDA - Panelist



Program website: <http://www.unwac.org>

UN-HABITAT Book Launch: Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities A Luncheon Event



Date: 19 March 2003
Time: 11:30 – 12:30 hrs
Venue: Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan
Attendance: By Invitation Only
Hosted By: Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Under-Secretary-General, United Nations and Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

Objective of the session

Launch of the UN-HABITAT publication:

Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities: Local Action for Global Goals

Master of Ceremony:

Ms. Mari Christie, UN-HABITAT Goodwill Ambassador

Key Discussants:

Senior policy makers, representatives of international agencies, industry leaders, NGOs, media representatives

Programme of the High-Level Ministerial and Mayoral Session on Water for Asian Cities

Date: 19 March 2003
Time: 1230 – 1515 hrs¹
Venue: Room No.1001, Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan
Attendance: By Invitation Only
Session Convenors: UN-HABITAT and ADB

Objective of the High Level Session

- Informing the political leadership in the region on the WAC regional initiative.
- Develop a political statement addressing regional priorities concerning urban water management for the Ministerial Conference.

Anticipated outputs

- Political support mobilized at national and city level for WAC programme.
- A political statement as an input to the Ministerial Conference.
- Media releases.

High level Session Agenda

- Opening remarks by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT and Mr. Tadao Chino, President, Asian Development Bank
- Short statements (3 minutes each) by participating Ministers and Mayors.
- Discussion of the draft political statement on regional priorities.
- Adoption of the political statement.

¹ The event will follow a luncheon to be hosted by the Executive Director, UN-HABITAT, from 11:30 to 12:30 hrs.

Programme of the Closing Plenary Session

Theme: Water and Cities

Date: 19 March 2003
Time: 1830 – 2000 hrs
Venue: Main Hall, Osaka International Conference Centre, Osaka, Japan

1830 – 18:40 Opening Remarks by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

1840 – 18:50 **A Review of the Sessions under Water and Cities Theme**
By Jerry Delli Priscoli

18:50 – 19:20 **The Way Forward: A Panel Discussion by Session Convenors, focusing on session recommendations**

19:20 – 19:30 **Closing Remarks** by Mr. Tadao Chino, President, Asian Development Bank

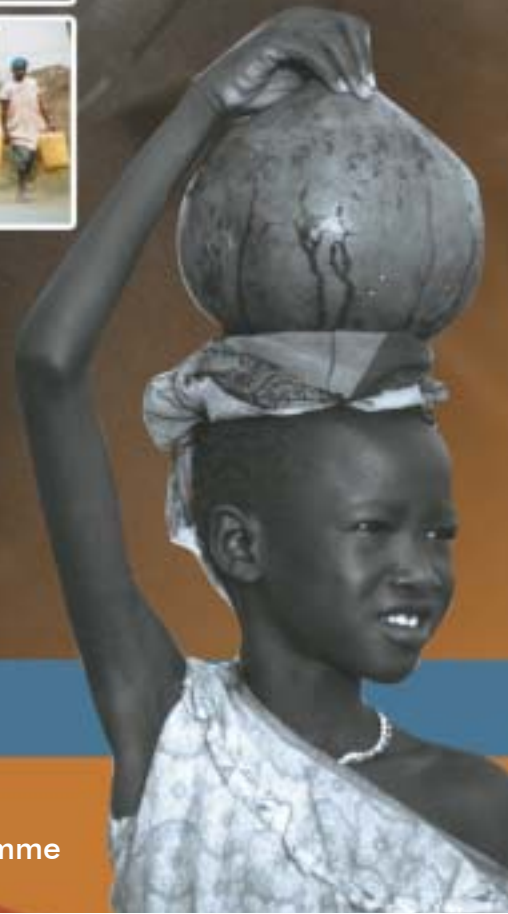
19:30 – 20:00 **Cultural Performance**

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Water & Cities

18-19TH MARCH • 2003 • OSAKA • JAPAN



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United Nations Human Settlements Programme