

## EU measures implementing the Regional Priority Goals of the WHO Children's Environment and Health Action Plan for Europe (CEHAPE)<sup>1</sup>

| <b>Regional Priority Goal I</b>   |   |  |
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| We aim to prevent and significantly reduce the morbidity and mortality arising from gastrointestinal disorders and other health effects, by ensuring that adequate measures are taken to improve access to safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation for all children.  |   |  |
| <b>Sub-goals</b>  | <b>Community action</b>   | <b>Work with WHO members not in EU</b>   |
| We aim to achieve this goal in accordance with the commitments made in the Millennium Development Goals and the WSSD Plan of Implementation by:   |   |  |
| (a) ensuring that all child care institutions and schools are provided with adequate safe water and basic sanitation, ensuring safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation infrastructure and service development and better implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health to the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes; | <p><b><i>EU legislation</i></b></p> <p>Safe water is covered in the Drinking Water Directive 98/83/EC, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC requires that collection systems be in place for all agglomerations of over 2000 population equivalent by 2005, which effectively ensures complete sanitation. Finally, the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC puts a sustainable management in place to complement the above-mentioned directives, protect and restore the water resources to a good quality and introduce water pricing policies which ensure the implementation of the polluters-pays principle. Together these provisions will ensure the achievement of the safe drinking water and sanitation targets across the EU in a sustainable manner.</p> <p><b><i>Protocol on Water and Health</i></b><br/>The Protocol does not create new legal obligations</p> | <p><b><i>EU Water Initiative</i></b></p> <p>The EU Water Initiative (EUWI) is our contribution towards meeting the WSSD goals on improving access to clean water and sanitation, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reinforcing political commitment to action</li> <li>• Promoting better water governance arrangements</li> <li>• Improving co-ordination and co-operation in the way that water-related interventions are developed and implemented.</li> <li>• Encouraging regional and sub-regional co-operation on water management issues, using the integrated water resources management approach on a basin scale, and</li> <li>• Catalysing additional funding, through the development of new, flexible and innovative funding mechanisms to attract new partners, and through supporting the establishment of the enabling environment for increased</li> </ul> |
| (b) implementing national plans to increase the proportion of households with access to safe and affordable water and adequate sanitation, thereby ensuring that all children have access to clean water and sanitation by 2015;  |   |  |

<sup>1</sup> These tables concentrate on policy measures, but there is also a great deal of work on each of the topics in the context of the Research Framework Programme.

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|   | <p>for the Community in the field of water policy. Its scope in relation to water is identical to that of the Parent Convention, ratified by the Community in 1995, and fully compatible with existing Community legislation. A few elements of the Parent Convention not already covered by Community legislation have been addressed through the directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy (2000/60/EC).</p> <p>Moreover, existing Community water legislation goes considerably beyond the water related obligations of the Protocol and the Parent Convention, in particular in relation to groundwater, drinking water, urban waste water treatment, nitrates from agriculture, discharge of dangerous substances to the aquatic environment, bathing water and shellfish water.</p> <p>The Commission proposed to ratify the Protocol with its Proposal in 2001 (COM(2001) 483 final) and the European Parliament approved the ratification without amendment. However, the Council has not yet adopted the instrument for procedural reasons.</p> <p>[Action to be discussed, we have only little influence to change the priority setting in the Council]</p> | <p>investment.</p> <p>The EUWI has an Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia component (EECCA) which will make an important contribution to the achievement of the water-related MDGs in the region, and hence to the regional priority goal.</p> <p>The Commission is a major donor in the region with the earmarking of 35M€ as part of the TACIS Regional Programmes 2004-2006 to support the Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Supply and Sanitation pillars of the EUWI-EECCA Partnership; and the envisaged establishment of an additional TACIS Water Investment Support Facility of 3M€ aimed at leveraging money from additional sources.</p> <p>In this context, the approach and methodology of the EU Water Framework Directive, which are an example of best practice in water management, could usefully be transferred to countries in the region.</p> <p><b><i>Danube Protection Convention</i></b></p> <p>In addition, in transboundary river basin districts, Member States are required to cooperate with non-EU-countries in the implementation of the WFD. An example is the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) where water and sanitation issues are addressed amongst the 13 contracting parties. For more detail <a href="http://www.icpdr.org">www.icpdr.org</a>.</p> |
| (c) raising awareness among the population, |  |  |

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| particularly caregivers, and ensuring the provision of education on basic hygiene. |  |  |
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