

# The UN-Water Seminar: Preparing a Final Action Plan for the International Year of Sanitation (IYS)

World Water Week, Wednesday, 15 August 2007, Stockholm

Convenors: UN-Water and United Nations Secretary General Advisory Board on Water Supply and Sanitation (UNSGAB)

The UN General Assembly has declared 2008 the International Year of Sanitation (IYS2008). This decision wants to call attention to the estimated 2.6 billion people who continue to lack access to adequate sanitation globally, and to a less than satisfactory trend in the efforts towards achieving the MDG target for sanitation. This seminar will update a broad audience with the latest information on sanitation coverage and its links to poverty, under-development and ill-health. It will present a plan of action for the IYS2008 for sharing, debating and setting up collaborative efforts by all interested parties: governmental institutions, organisations belonging to the UN-system, national and international NGOs, and bilateral and multilateral support agencies. Dates for key events, including the launch of the IYS2008 will be announced.

## Programme

Moderator: Clarissa Brocklehurst (UNICEF), Chair, Sanitation Task Force of UN-Water

9:00 – 9:15 “Progress in the UN-Water Partnership Programme” - Pasquale Steduto (FAO), Chair UN Water

9:15 – 9:30 Address by HRH Willem-Alexander, Prince of Orange, Chair of the United Nations Secretary General Advisory Board on Water Supply and Sanitation (UNSGAB)

9:30 – 9:45 “The UN Response to IYS”, KENZA Robinson, (UNDESA)

9:45 – 10:00 “The Annual Report on Water Supply and Sanitation” – James K. Bartram (WHO), Member of the Sanitation Task Force of UN-Water

10:00–10:15 Questions and answers

10:15–10:45 Moderated discussion of themes of IYS and activities of other agencies

10:45–11:15 Moderated discussions of activities of other agencies during IYS (compilation by rapporteur)

11:15 –11:45 Summing up of Action Plan by Rapporteur and Closure

11:45 –12:00 Special Event: Signing of MOU with Gov't of Singapore; Statement by the Minister of Environment, Singapore, and the Assistant Director General, WHO on collaboration in water and sanitation