

# WORLD WATER FORUM

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NEWSPAPER WORKSHOP REALISED WITH THE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF THE NETWORK PROJECTION

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### > Water in numbers

- Freshwater accounts for **2,75%** of the total world water volume
- **74%** of freshwater is trapped in glaciers and ice in general
- **2,4 Billion** inhabitants do not have access to basic sanitation
- **4 Billion** inhabitants do not have collective sanitation
- **5000 cubic Km** of water needed until 2025
- Private water operators supply **13%** of world population. In 2025, they will be **21%**
- 2001-2011, the market share of the Big 5 is down to **50%** (Source pwc)

## Editorial

### Parliamentary Impulse

The 6th World Water Forum marks a major stage in the evolution of the parliamentary process: for the first time, we will sign a universal declaration incorporating every theme related to the urgency of universal water and sanitation access.

After Mexico and Istanbul, Marseille truly marks the beginning of a new generation for the Forum. Our moral commitment will not rest solely on words.

Within this context, the Forum will take official actions ensuring a future based on a green economy that respects cultural and natural heritage, in an effort to preserve and remediate them when under threat.

Parliamentarians are no different from the rest of the world. Beyond this global implication, the Marseille Forum also recognises the importance of decentralised co-operation, symbolised by the participation of NGOs, of regional and local authorities and of private industry. Each of these actors represents an operational instrument that provides innovative mechanisms. The European Parliament sets out to promote this comprehensive vision.

Regardless the means finally chosen to follow up the array of commitments, we will demonstrate, continuously, that we have not lied. ●



**André Flajolet.**

*Co-coordinator of Parliamentary Processes for the Political Commission of the 6th World Water Forum*



**"What if developing cities were taking on water?" : ending the legal vacuum around informal settlements**

On 14 March, the French think-tank (Re)sources organised a discussion forum, "What if developing countries were taking on water?", on the challenges and role of land security to ensure access to water in informal settlements.

The high-level invitees, Alioune Badiane, Project Office Director of UN-Habitat, Guy Carcassonne, Professor of law at Nanterre University, Pierre Victoria, Governor of the WorldWater Council and Michel Rocard, Former French Prime Minister, suggest two kinds of efforts : budgetary and financial on one hand, institutional and legal on the other hand. Reform of local land taxes, recognition of neighborhood committees and legislation to organise water and sanitation services for informal settlements with residents, recognition of contracts for essential services as proof of address are listed among the operational proposals of the think-tank.

**Brice Lalonde : "Rio+20 must be a summit for action"**

Executive Coordinator of Rio+20, Brice Lalonde stresses the idea that water is now understood as a nexus on the way towards the Earth Summit in Brazil this June. He warns: "On the road towards Rio+20, policy-makers must give a mandate to diplomats to commit to concrete actions." In the global economic crisis context, Mr Lalonde underlines that a transition to green economy can play a central role in the economic recovery. "In 1992, we have laid the foundation. Today we know the solutions and we have now to implement them", he concludes.

# Civil society at the heart of the "Butterfly effect"

**Many concrete solutions for access to water and sanitation were presented under the "Butterfly effect" header. From Africa to Asia, solutions have a common denominator: commitment from local communities.**

« **C**ivil society solutions: a conscious approach to Human Rights". From South America to South East Asia, solutions are presented through this prism. No matter the themes discussed (governance, food security, climate change, transboundary cooperation, etc.), humans are at the heart of solutions.

"Equipping" people, providing them with tools, involving them in decision-making processes; finding solutions together; disseminating and exchanging knowledge at the local level; improving awareness, education and training. All of these are key notions in the solutions put forward.

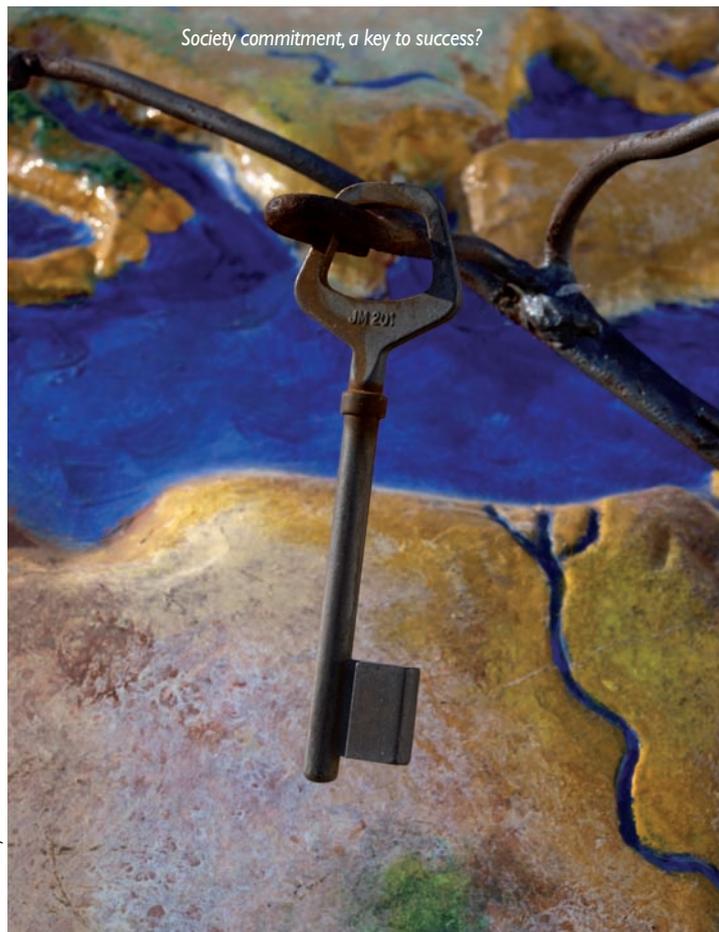
The mountainous Oaxaca region of Mexico has already seen these ideas in action. Thanks to the cooperation of more than 2000 students and professors from 17 schools, the region now boasts sustainable water supply and sanitation facilities that are, most importantly, adapted to the region's needs.

## A call for political commitment

"Agree to share your influence with us, the citizens", said Laurent Chabert d'Hier, Eau Vive Director, to local and political authorities. The objective: improve cooperation and dialogue between all stakeholders and political authorities.

The national-level implementation of strategic action plans on the right to water and

*Society commitment, a key to success?*



©Photo Audrey de Bonneville

sanitation is highly anticipated. By creating forums for dialogue and exchange, as do associations like the guatemalan "Alianza por el Agua" (Water Alliance), coordination between authorities and civil society can be achieved.

The 6th WorldWater Forum was innovative in that, specific "NGO" sessions were given a place within the World Water Forum's programme. "The Butterfly Effect" is an NGO composed of more than 80 non-governmental organisations, networks and women's associations. ●

# Water and food security: Feeding 9 Billion people

**Agriculture uses 70% of world's freshwater resources, but leaves 900 Million hungry. To feed 9 Billion people in 2050, we will need to produce more and better while consuming less. Ten decision-makers brings solutions at the World Water Forum.**

« Without water, no food", warns Bruno Le Maire, the French Minister for Agriculture and host of the discussion. Today, feeding one person for one day requires between 3000 to 5000 liters of water. From 2050 onwards, 9 billion people will need food, requiring an increase of 70% of the world food production. Under current conditions, we will lack more and more water and "Africa, with its demographic boom, is on the front line" stresses the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The challenge is huge, solutions are many. "It is necessary to invest in the development of more efficient irrigation systems" says Bruno Le Maire. Drip watering systems are a key feature of the Green Plan launched in Morocco in 2008. "In Brazil", declares Katia Abreu, Brazilian Senator in charge of agriculture, "farmers have the legal duty to preserve water resources." Farmers represent the core of the solution and have to be involved in water governance, recalls Xavier Beulin from the French Federation of Farming Unions.

## Global Challenges, Local Solutions

In the age of climate change, the development of seeds resistant to water stress that are also accessible to producers from developing countries turns crucial. The President of the World Food Security Council, Olaniran Yaya insists: "Let's pool the solutions and include indigenous knowledge!". The priority lies now in supporting local and small-scale production in order to strengthen the resilience of food systems. To this extent, Alexander Müller from FAO underlines the potential of organic farming in increasing production while diversifying output and preserving ecosystems. "It is urgent to invest on research on this topic", he follows.

Food security will be on the agenda of the G20 meetings in April and May, chaired by Mexico. The country Ambassador, Carlos de Icaza, concludes: "Water needs to be considered as a strategic resource." Less than 100 days before the Earth Summit in Rio, water and food security draws international attention. ●

## Drawing as a Practical Solution to Difficult Problems

The Visual Thinking Workshop, located in the Village of Solutions, promotes finding solutions by creating drawings of ideas and problems. "Drawing activates the brain's creativity", said Mr. Raj Rana, Facilitator of Bright Green Learning. In order for organisations to stop and think about their problems, it is necessary for them to "change the way [employees] think. Drawing allows them to fix problems."

## Niger Basin, Some actions

From its source in Guinea to its mouth in Nigeria, water flow sustainability of the Niger River is vital for the 130 million people living in the basin area. The nine member countries of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) undertake different actions materialised in their legislations. Examples of these initiatives include investing in climate change policies, combating the silting of the Niger River, the "Inversion of land and water degradation trends" (ITDTE/BN) project, and a capacity building programme (PRC/CIDA). During the 6th World Water Forum, the NBA will sign the World Pact for Better Basin Management.

Water is the main element of every food production.



# Portfolio

©Photo Forum Mondial de l'Eau\_ Christophe Taamourre



Dominique Monchamp and his Water Hero, from which the internet users may improve fresh water delivery around the world.

©Photo Forum Mondial de l'Eau\_ Christophe Taamourre



Serge Lepeltier, Muchayedi Masunda, Eugène Caselli and Jean-Claude Gaudin launched the local and regional water authorities international conference.



©Photo World-Water-Forum-6\_ Claire Vige-Hélie

Rush for the senegalese concert gave at the slum area.



Colored tubes at the french pavilion

©Photo World-Water-Forum-6\_ Kim Ji-Hyun



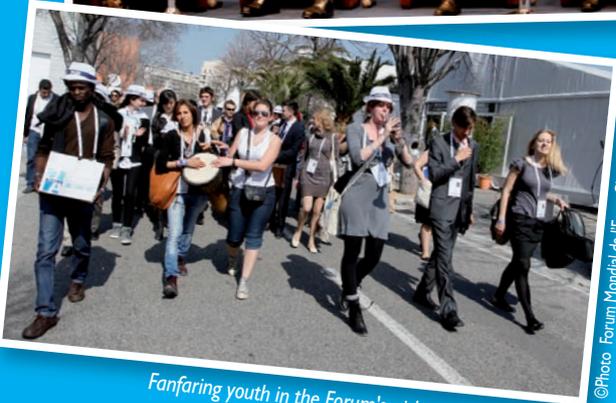
©Photo Forum Mondial de l'Eau\_ Christophe Taamourre

The Pavilion France host of a debate with the Alternative Forum, including the participation of Emmanuel Poilâne, director of France Libertés, André Flajolet, French deputy, Jean-Paul Lecompte, Laurent Chabert d'Hières and Henri Bégorre, respectively managing director, director and president of the French Water partnership.



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Hanna Johde assess her water footprint at the Finland pavilion.



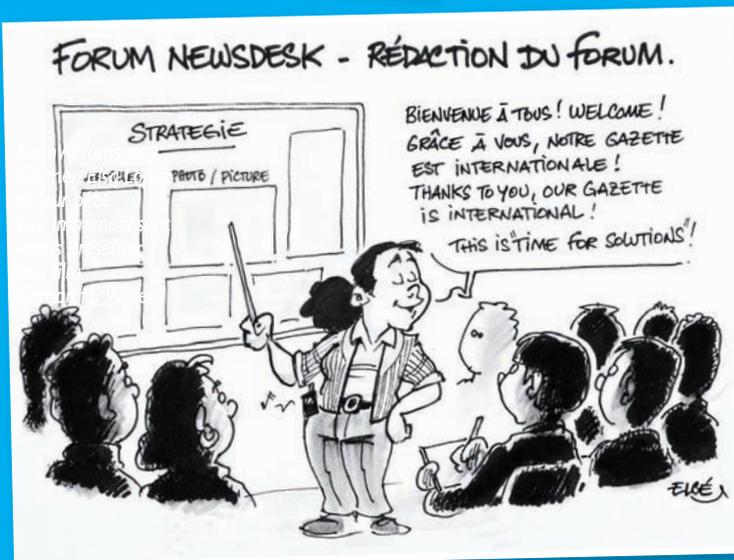
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Fanfaring youth in the Forum's aisles.



©Photo World-Water-Forum-6\_ Kim Ji-Hyun

Young Japanese people during a water conference organised by the Korean Forum.



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©Photo World-Water-Forum-6\_ Kim Ji-Hyun

A bit of music at the Korean pavilion

©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC



Water carriers of Marseille, a fresh initiative!

©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC



Relaxing break after a bustling activity!



©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC

Taïbi Rachid, General Manager of the National Agency of Water Resources, Algerian Ministry of Water Resources, presents the security systems of water resources in Algeria.

©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC



Dr Thomas Chiramba, Chief Freshwater Ecosystems Unit at UNEP presenting United Nations strategy for drinking water.

©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC



Prof. Kulwant Singh, Advisor in India on water issues in South Asia and Pakistan, seeking partners to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

©Photo 6th World Water Forum/ NBC



Kanakko Mizuno and Junpei Taniguchi, representing the Japanese company Nippon Poly-Glu-Co Ltd, specialised in designing new components for water treatment.

©Photo Photo 6th World Water Forum/ T.Takeda



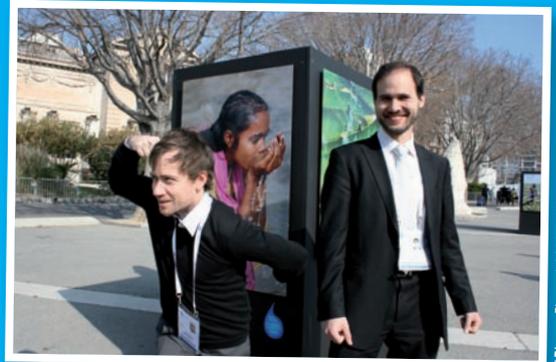
Photographer Muriel Despiau with her work "Nature in its privacy".

©Photo Photo 6th World Water Forum/ T.Takeda

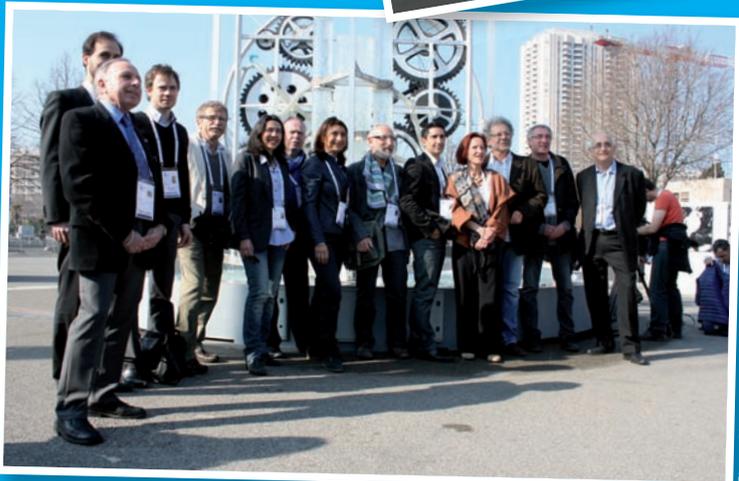


Photographer Anne Heurtematte with her work "the Portrait of Water" ».

©Photo Photo 6th World Water Forum/ T.Takeda



Photographers Gwenaél Prié and Lionel Goujon, "Water passengers".



Photographers posing at the "Palais des Evénements".

©Photo Photo 6th World Water Forum/ T.Takeda

©Photo S. Nguyen-Khoa



Martine Vassal, City of Marseille, Nathalie Berthelot, IFC and Jean-Marc Lacave, IFC wish a happy birthday to Yann Arthus Bertrand at the end of the world prime time movie projection "A thirsty world".

## Examples of Transboundary River Cooperation

Best practices and lessons learnt from transboundary river basin cooperation were presented aiming to improve water management. Presentations included legal and institutional issues, joint monitoring and assessment, balancing different interests, integrated approach and the application of European directives, flood and climate change management. The case studies referred to Central Asia (Syr Darya River), Eastern, Central and Northern Europe (Rivers Tisza, Drin, Dnister, Vuoksi) and in the area of the Dutch river basins on the North Sea side. The already achieved progress requires continuous involvement.

## Look at the Future

“We don’t live in the same world ... Everyday we are changing the face of our planet”, pronounced W.J. Cosgrove, UNESCO, WWAP during the “Water and the Future of Humankind” focus session. Speakers from the Gulbenkian Think Tank offered solutions that, if implemented, would improve water production, food sustainability, helping ensure a positive future. The key challenge is to learn from the future: reflect on desired outcomes and improve innovation, social reactivity and water production management accordingly. Similarly, as water, energy and food are linked, a further reflection is needed on how to ensure there is enough water to meet a projected 40-50% increase in energy demand by 2035, as well as long-term food abundance through 2050. More food for thought...

# Financing adaptation to climate change

**The National Water Commission of Mexico (CONAGUA) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) sign in Marseille a cooperation agreement including 38 project proposals to foster Mexico’s 2030 Water Agenda.**



Left to right: Mexican Ambassador to France, Carlos de Icaza; José Luis Luege, General Director of CONAGUA; José Angel Gurría, OECD’s General-Secretary; and Joaquín Oliveiram Chief of the Public Governance and Environmental Development Division

©Photo Kim Ji-Hyun

The agreement aims to implement benchmarks, information and activity exchanges to optimize the development of the water sector in Mexico. The effects of climate change to which Mexico is exposed include decreasing water availability and growing vulnerability toward risks of drought and flooding. The main sectors benefiting from the agreement comprise public urban use, industry and agriculture. The single chance of success lies in an efficient use of water, stresses José Luis Luege, General Director of CONAGUA.

### “Water issues are critical for Green Growth,” OECD’s General-Secretary

The projects funded by OECD to support Mexico in achieving its 20-year water objectives (Mexico’s 2030 Water Agenda) deal with stopping basin, river and lake degradation; returning them into equilibrium and flooding issues. José Angel Gurría, OECD’s General-Secretary, underlined the crucial symbiosis between strong, clean and fair

economic and water management processes. Addressing climate change, biodiversity, health and water issues are critical for Green Growth. Moreover, they are one of the most important inter-generational projects of our time.

In a festive atmosphere, full of applause and laughter, the cooperation agreement was signed by Luege and Gurría before participants of the 6th Water World Forum, Mexican and OECD officials, representatives, the Mexican ambassador to France, Carlos de Icaza.

The instrument denotes long-term political compromise beyond administrations and at all levels of the Mexican Government. It focuses on achieving management efficiency, governance and political reforms, and relies on water management projects fully embracing private sector initiatives, mainly through financing. It intends to foster consensus, development and solutions within Mexico, through a follow-up regulatory framework, sound expertise and best practices. ●

# Leads for new governance

**A panel of experts makes recommendations for the construction of global governance on water for future discussions of Rio + 20.**



Vicente Andreu talked about Bresil water gouvernance.

« All international documents on water management have limitations. Rio + 20 will allow revising them" says Vicente Andreu, President of the National Water Agency of Brazil. A panel of experts met 13 March to discuss ways to build a global water governance to better identify and address the challenges of climate change and water resources issues.

Commissioner of the Delta of the Netherlands, Wim Kuijken appealed on history to discuss the evolution of water management in the Netherlands. Over time, the approach has become globalised in the interests of efficiency. It is henceforth a national policy, but a new law on the Delta soon will change this mode to further enhance the quality of its governance.

In Brazil, Vicente Andreu explained that water management is not of economics but of politics. With other panel members, he pointed to some weaknesses of international governance, under the water convention of

the United Nations of 1997. According to them, the major difficulties come from the absolute national sovereignty of states, regional and international dimensions, the non-ratification of the Convention by some countries or the obligations of conventions towards the countries.

## Suggestions for improvement

To improve global governance, participants suggested creating an international panel on water management. Francisco Nunes Correia, Portuguese President of the Partnership for Water, proposes the implementation of a global agenda to move progressively to its introduction. Vicente Andreu supports the proposal to strengthen the Council of Sustainable Development, referred to by the French Prime Minister at the opening ceremony of the forum. For his part, Wim Kuijken rather prefers a horizontal organisation of water management as well as a greater harmonisation of different levels of governance within states. ●

## Splash of colors illustrates carbon finance solution

Short film "Carbon for Water", award-winning package of resolution to halt downward spiral between water use and overexploitation of firewood

Taking you into the heart of Western Province, Kenya, the story starts with how necessity to boil water was leading to deforestation, in turn causing a decrease in rainfall. The smooth narrative with striking camerawork and music takes you on to showcase the Carbon for Water program, an initiative by a private company utilising the carbon financing model. Carbon for Water screens at Hall 3 Stand 124 in the Citizens' House for Water on Thursday 15 March at 11:30AM.

## Water Management Master Plan

« Addressing water needs while keeping upstream and downstream water balanced" that is in a nutshell the words of Hans Guttman, Director of Mekong River Commission concerning the integrated water management's stakes at watershed scale, especially concerning transboundary issues.

During the meeting held 14 March, led by "Office International de l'Eau (OIEau)", the global watershed management master plan at different scale, either regional or transboundary, has been unanimously appreciated.

Beyond political collaboration or decision making, that is the local stakeholders and population involvement in the process that would permit the implementation of this water master plan on the field.

## Launching of Handbook II on Transboundary Basin Management

International Network of Basin Organisations (INBO), GWP, UNESCO, UNECE, French Development Agency (AFD) and GEF signified the birth of a new handbook on Transboundary Basin Management. This book results from the participation of several water professionals from all over the world and aims at providing with practical advice in order to improve Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in transboundary basins. More than 60 concrete examples are presented.

The handbook targets a wide range of actors implicated in Transboundary Basin Resources Management, from national governments to regional organisations, managers and users from the field. The book complements the first edition about Integrated Basin Water Management, published in March 2009 during the 5th World Water Forum, that took place in Istanbul.

English and french versions can be downloaded on the RIOB and GWP websites.

## "A Thirsty World"

"A Thirsty World" by Yann Arthus-Bertrand was presented for the first time at the Forum on 13 March 2012. With the support from the French Development Agency, the International Forum Committee and the group France Televisions, the film was directed by Thierry Piantanida and Baptiste Rouget-Luchaire. The documentary "Hope Production" offers a humanistic, peaceful and colorful world tour of all the Solutions implemented in the field of water. Discussions followed the screening of the movie and the Forum celebrated the birthday of the photographer!

# From Marseille to Rio+20: Water at the Earth Summit

**In Marseille's Forum, 100 days before Rio+20, Izabella Teixeira, Environment Minister of Brazil, calls for a true political consensus. Around 50,000 participants and 80 country and government leaders are expected at a summit where water crystallises attention as a cross-cutting issue.**

From 20 to 22 June, the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development, Rio+20 takes place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It is organised around the two themes of institutional framework and green economy. Seven key issues, including water, are being discussed ahead of the summit. For many, the water nexus is garnering support.

"It is time for action; the time for speeches is over", urges Izabella Teixeira, Environment Minister of Brazil. She adds: "consensus is the only way". To this extent, she insists on the absolute need to involve civil society in the discussions. Brazil, which came to Marseille with the largest delegation, aims at making Rio+20 the stepping stone for the new paradigm for sustainable development.

## Heading Towards an Institutional Evolution?

The Brazilian Minister underlines "the necessity to put into place a process that better coordinates the different activities of the United Nations around water [...] and takes into account the initiatives not linked to the UN, such as the World Water Forum". The reform of the institutional framework is nevertheless left to the will of parties. To this extent, Brice Lalonde, Executive Coordinator of Rio+20 process leads "a campaign of commitments". Thus, he insists on the importance that political decision-makers give a true mandate to



Izabella Teixeira, Minister for the environment of Brazil.

©Photo A. Labaey

diplomats to negotiate on the road to the conference. "Solutions have been known since 1992", he says, "it is time now to implement them".

For the International Union for Conservation of Nature, environmental protection asks the question of how to preserve nature as a basic infrastructure to human activities. However, according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the current context of budgetary restrictions seriously constrains governmental action and threatens sustainability negotiations. Jean Leonetti, French Minister for European Affairs concludes, "Rio+20 triggers both hopes and fears".

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