

I would first of all like to extend my thanks to Monsieur le ministre and Monsieur le Maire for their honourable presence. To the World Water Council President and Governors, the members of the French National Committee, to the esteemed participants who have come to Paris from throughout the world, we would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to all of you for having contributed to your time, energy and expertise to making this meeting a great success. And also to the facilitation and moderating teams and the IFC and WWC Secretariats for making it come together.

Let us take a few moments to consider what we have accomplished over these very full and productive two days, which, as we were reminded by the facilitation team, represented thousands of accumulated working hours.

We have thought together about innovative products that the Forum will offer and ways to create better connections between processes. We have created a set of 144 targets across a wide range of issues and we have sought to formulate them in such a way as to be more than empty promises, but true goals to be achieved in the coming

years. As just a few examples, let's dare to imagine that by March 2012, the Right to Sanitation will be fully understood and internationally recognized through your efforts, as a means to further encourage human dignity where it is most needed. Or that a certain percentage of countries will have created and implemented water-related disaster preparedness plans to protect its populations.

We have discussed how targets at the regional level can be a means of involving a wider palette of stakeholders in generating solutions and of adapting global solutions to local contexts and specificities. For, as many of us recall, the overarching theme of the 4th World Water Forum of Mexico was "Local Actions for a Global Challenge."

We have examined how tools developed in the past, most recently in Istanbul, such as the Istanbul Water Consensus and Parliamentary Help Desk, can build solutions for the future, and we considered together how to make those tools as effective as possible. We heard that the Political Processes will strive to concentrate on targets that mobilize the greatest amount of enthusiasm and will endeavour to bring those towards other global platforms, such as Rio+20. In this

way we have conjugated our verbs in the past, the present and the future.

We have learned how, for the first time, citizen's engagement is being given specific attention in this Forum. It will aim to adapt its messages accordingly to explain exactly what is at stake within the complexities of water issues in both developed and developing countries. We have investigated how to mobilize a wider range of stakeholders, such as NGOs or youth and how events can create a dynamic for greater momentum, in addition to the Fair and the Expo.

We have shared, we have laughed, we have argued, and most importantly, we have resolved to move ahead. We have now committed ourselves to transition from targets to solutions.

Solutions for efficiency and cooperation

Solutions for serving the unserved

Solutions for ensuring food provision and improving health

Solutions for reducing the impacts of disasters on populations

Solutions for protecting the environment

Solutions for encouraging sustainable development

Solutions for sound decision-making

Solutions for improving financial flows, as well as knowledge flows.

All of your proposals from this meeting will be made available very soon on a new 6th World Water Forum website and will be closely studied in order to streamline our objectives in the most coherent way possible. They are the seeds from which the Forum will grow. The organisers commit themselves to proposing methods and tools that will help cultivate that seedling, nourished by the contributions and energy that you will bring to it. We are still in the process of defining the shape of the fruits that that tree will produce: session formats and quantities, distinct linkages between processes, succession of days...But be assured that we will do our utmost to provide you with the necessary information and the greatest clarity in a timely manner.

Further progress on targets will be organised in the coming months through smaller-scale meetings and encounters, sometimes in conjunction with other major international events, such as the World Water Day events in Cape Town, the Singapore International Water

Week, the Stockholm International Water Week, and many other opportunities to exchange formally or informally. We look forward to seeing you all again, for meeting again after days or after lifetimes is certain for those who are friends.

In the words of Gandhi, “We must be the change we wish to see in the world.”

Let change for better water futures begin with each of us here, through our example.

Let that change begin now.

It is time for solutions.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have the honour of presenting you with the 6th World Water Forum logo and slogan.