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## World Water talks issue 'Stockholm Statement' on Rio+20



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THE 2011 World Water Week in Stockholm closed last week with assembled participants supporting a "Stockholm Statement to the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro (Rio+20 Summit)".

The 'Stockholm Statement' calls on leadership at all levels of government that will participate at the Rio+20 Summit (4-6 June 2012) to commit to achieving "universal provisioning of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and modern

energy services by the year 2030" and to adopt intervening targets to increase efficiency in the management of water, energy and food.

The targets included to be achieved by the year 2020, 20 per cent increase in total food supply-chain efficiency, increase in water efficiency in agriculture, increase in water use efficiency in energy production, increase in the quantity of water reused and decrease in water pollution.

The 'Stockholm Statement' has been supported by UN-Water, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and endorsed by a number of international organisations, including Conservation International, [International Water Management Institute](#), IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre, Stakeholder Forum, Stockholm International Water Institute, Water Aid and Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), among others.

Chair of UN-Water, Mr. Adeel Zafar said: "The Rio+20 Summit is a great opportunity to review how water, energy and food are perceived and managed by the human society. UN-Water, through its members and partners, has identified ways in which the global water, energy and food security challenges can be addressed – leading to a climate resilient and robust green economy. A key target we would like to see taken up is the provisioning of safe water, adequate sanitation and modern energy services to everyone on the planet by 2030, prioritising solutions for the 'bottom billion' who currently lack access to these basic services."

According to SIWI Executive Director, Mr. Anders Berntell: "If we do not take dramatic, immediate strides to create more resource-efficient societies, then water shortages will constrain economic growth and inhibit food and energy production in many regions. There are tremendous opportunities to save water and stimulate development by cutting water losses in energy production, by generating energy from water reuse and by reducing the losses and waste of food from the field on its way to the consumer. Achieving the goals and targets put forth by the participants at the 2011 World Water Week in Stockholm will help ensure that conclusions of the Rio+20 has a real impact on human well-being across the world."

Director, Freshwater, WWF, Dr. Li Lifeng said:



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