

AquaFed on Sanitation / Wastewater

2017

- **22 March - World Water Day – Wastewater**
 - AquaFed contributes and participates by invitation to UN General Assembly Water Dialogue on improving the integration and coordination of the work of the United Nations on the water-related goals and targets under its sustainable development pillar, with particular emphasis on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - Participates to the Watershed World Water Day event at the Vatican in Rome.
- **August - Stockholm World Water Week** - AquaFed is convener of the session: “Is wastewater a She? Linking SDG6.3 (wastewater) and SDG5 (gender) “

2016

- The **Post-2015 Sustainable Development Framework** enters into force.
- AquaFed contributed to the two questionnaires by the new Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation, Léo Heller: **on gender equality and on development cooperation**.
- The Federation also issued the publication "**Water & Jobs**" which highlights the importance of **wastewater management and services**.

2015

- At the United Nations, Member states agree on the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** including a dedicated **goal on water and sanitation (SDG 6)** that sets out to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.” With a dedicated **SDG Target 6.3 on pollution and wastewater**. SDG 6 expands the MDG focus on drinking water and sanitation to now cover the entire water cycle, including the management of water quality, wastewater and ecosystem resources. With water at the very core of sustainable development, SDG 6 has strong linkages to all of the other SDGs.
- The **Human Right to Sanitation** is recognized by the UN as a right in itself. This is done to place more emphasis on sanitation and wastewater management.

2014

- Official UN statements echo AquaFed’s warning that **1,8 billion people use faecally contaminated** water.
- AquaFed **contributes to** the work of the **European Union on water quality** and to the development of the Lisbon/IWA Charter on Regulation.
- During the President of the UN General Assembly’s water debates, AquaFed presents in a UN-Water side event and makes a statement in the full plenary.

2013 - Preparing the Post-2015 agenda. Aquafed

- co-organises the **UN global online public consultation on wastewater** with UN-Habitat
- is co-opted to the **UN-Water Task Forces on the Sustainable Development Goals and on wastewater**
- contributes actively to the work of the **UN Open Working on SDGs**
- spearheads the Major Group Business and Industry contributions to the UN debates related to water issues
- **calls** on World Water Day 2013 **for the inclusion of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation into the European constitution** and re-iterates a similar call on International Human Rights Day in December.

2012 - AquaFed

- contributes at the **Marseille World Water Forum** to a public debate on the role of the private sector in water and sanitation services provision.
- plays an important role in the **RIO+20 Conference on Sustainable Development**, advocating for a “whole water cycle” approach and for **greater visibility for water and sanitation services** in the Post-2015 agenda.
- collaborates with numerous other organisations from the business and industry major group, and also in close partnership with UN-Water. Over time, **this leads to a dedicated "water goal" in the SDG's**.

2010 - AquaFed

- celebrates two landmark resolutions from the UN General Assembly and from the UN Human Rights Council that establish formally the **Human Right to Water and Sanitation**, and explicitly recognize the valuable contributions that can be made by Non-State Actors to the realisation of these human rights.
- and is invited to give a **keynote speech at UN-Water's High-Level** launching event of the World Water Assessment Report 2010 "Water for People, Water for Life".

2009 - AquaFed

- **collaborates closely** with the UN OHCHR on a wide range of human rights issues, including with the mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur Mrs. de Albuquerque **on the right to sanitation**;
- co-organises at the **World Water Forum in Istanbul**, the "finance" workshops
- **The 3T** (taxes, tariffs & transfers) **concept is developed by the OECD** bringing greater clarity in discussions on financing water (services). The political declaration echoes AquaFed's call for **attention** to be paid **to wastewater management**.

2008 – International Year of Sanitation

- In the **International Year of Sanitation**, AquaFed is accepted as a Partner of UN-Water and participates in the water conferences of the Zaragoza World Exposition.
- The Federation contributes to the work of the **UNECE Water & Health Protocol**.
- In the preparations and during the UN-CSD16, **AquaFed promotes the right to water and sanitation** and points to the need for well-run **water and wastewater services** that go **beyond just "taps & toilets"**.
- In the review of country implementation of the MDGs, it is crucial to look at the quality of the services that people get, and not just "access". **AquaFed points out that progress on the MDG Target 7.C is lagging** "Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation". Urgent action to accelerate is required.

2007

- AquaFed releases its first publication on **gender and sanitation** on 8th of March, 2007: "[Water and Sanitation for Women. Private Operators Contribute](#)".
- The Federation releases its contribution to the OHCHR in consultations in a document titled "Practitioners' views on the right to water" **outlining private operators' support for the right to water and sanitation**. AquaFed makes a significant contribution on clarifying the components of sanitation.

2005-2006

- AquaFed is **created in April 2005** by Members responding to the call by Multilateral Organisations for the private water and wastewater services providers to speak with one voice. The Federation is born.
- **AquaFed has three missions:**
 - To provide a channel for communication between private water and wastewater service providers and key international stakeholders;
 - To contribute to solving the world's water problems by working with the international community and sharing the expertise of the private operators; and
 - To promote the option of private sector participation in water and wastewater management as a solution that public authorities can choose.