

Demonstration 10 December 2008 'European Parliament, don't sell water to the sharks'

Wednesday 10 December at 12.30 pm
Place du Luxembourg – Brussels
In front of European Parliament

10 December 2008

60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and still no recognition of the right to drinkable water... while there are 900 million people who have no access to drinking water, while there are 2,5 billion people who don't have access to hygienic sanitation and 30.000 people who die every day due to problems related to water.

For the right to water
Water for all, all for Water!

www.acme-eau.org
www.ierpe.eu

Water is of vital interest, not of business interest !

A European Parliament for the Human Right to Water

The most powerful countries in the world have pulled off their coup! They prevented that the competent bodies of the United Nations acknowledge the right to water as a Universal Human Right on the occasion of the 60th birthday of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, contrary to the successive resolutions adopted by the European Parliament.

This is unacceptable! It is a violation of human rights and of the universal right to live.

While the UN refused to acknowledge the right to water as a Human Right, it put in charge a group of directors (the CEO Water Mandate) of multinational companies that use a lot of water (Coca-Cola, Nestlé, Levy-strauss) of preparing a Global Plan for Water. This plan will be presented at the 5th World Water Forum in March 2009 in Istanbul.

The World Water Forum is organised by a private institution, the World Water Council, which was founded with the support of big private corporations active in the field of water and of the World Bank. In March 2006 the World Water Council completely disregarded the will of more than 500 million European citizens as expressed in a European Parliament resolution on the right to water and its public nature.

We ask the European Parliament...

- To explain to the European citizens which measures it will take, before the end of the legislature, to implement the adopted principles of the resolution of March 2006.
- That its actions will go beyond the simplistic scheme of private financing aimed at "large" technological solutions (desalination of seawater, large dams...).
- That it only authorises the European Commission to participate in the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul on the condition that
 - The right to water is included in its mandate
 - that it aims at transferring the World Water Forum to the public responsibility of the UN – Water (the 22 agencies of the United Nations working in the field of water)
 - and that this will become the public forum where global water policy is discussed and defined.

Did you know that:

The present chairman of the World Water Council is also the chairman of "Eaux de Marseilles", a branch of the two most important global private water companies, Veolia and Suez.