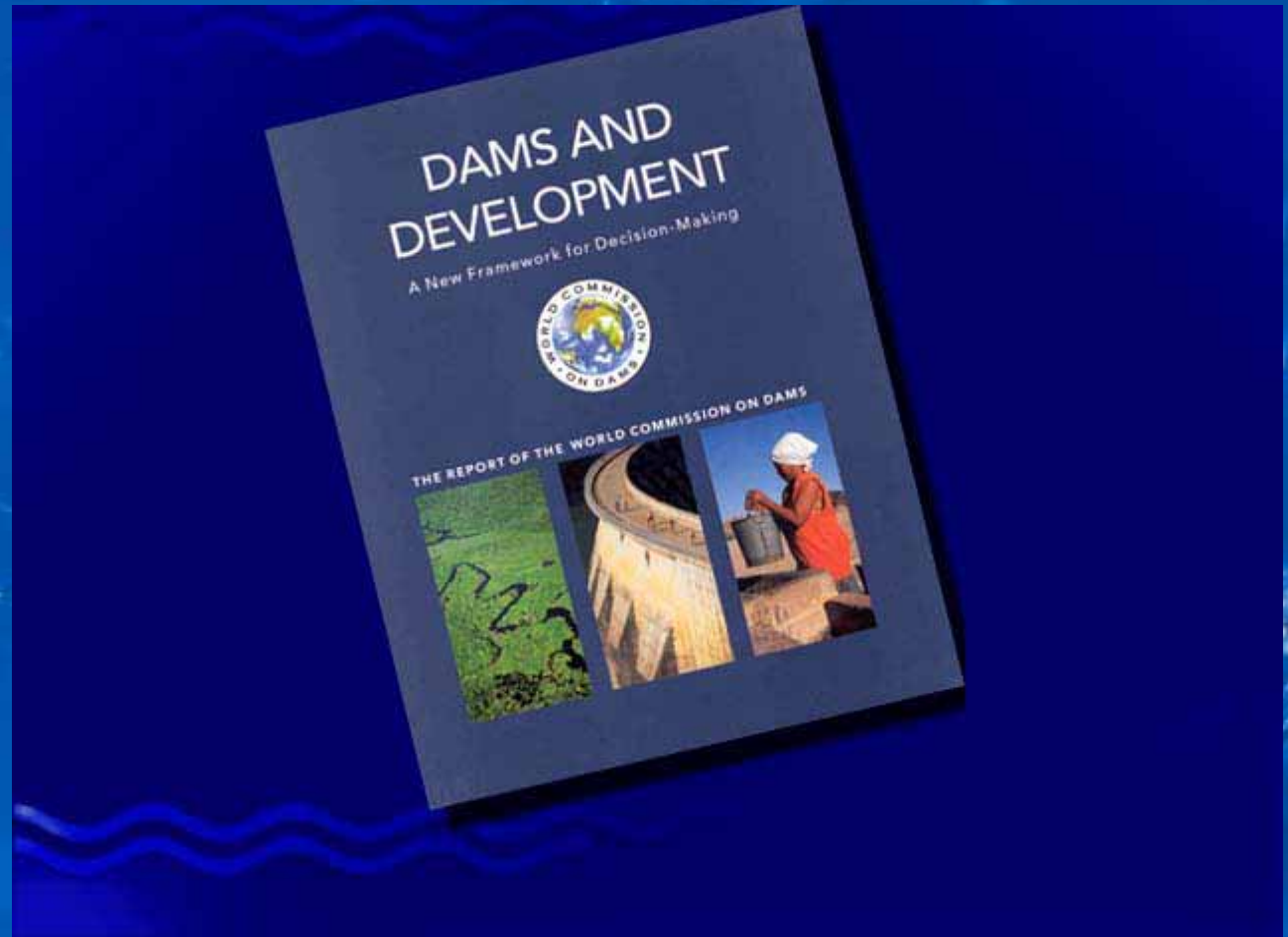


A stylized graphic of the South African flag, featuring a green triangle on the left with a yellow border and a black triangle inside, set against a red background. The graphic is composed of several overlapping geometric shapes in green, yellow, black, red, and white.

***Applying the WCD
Report in
South Africa***

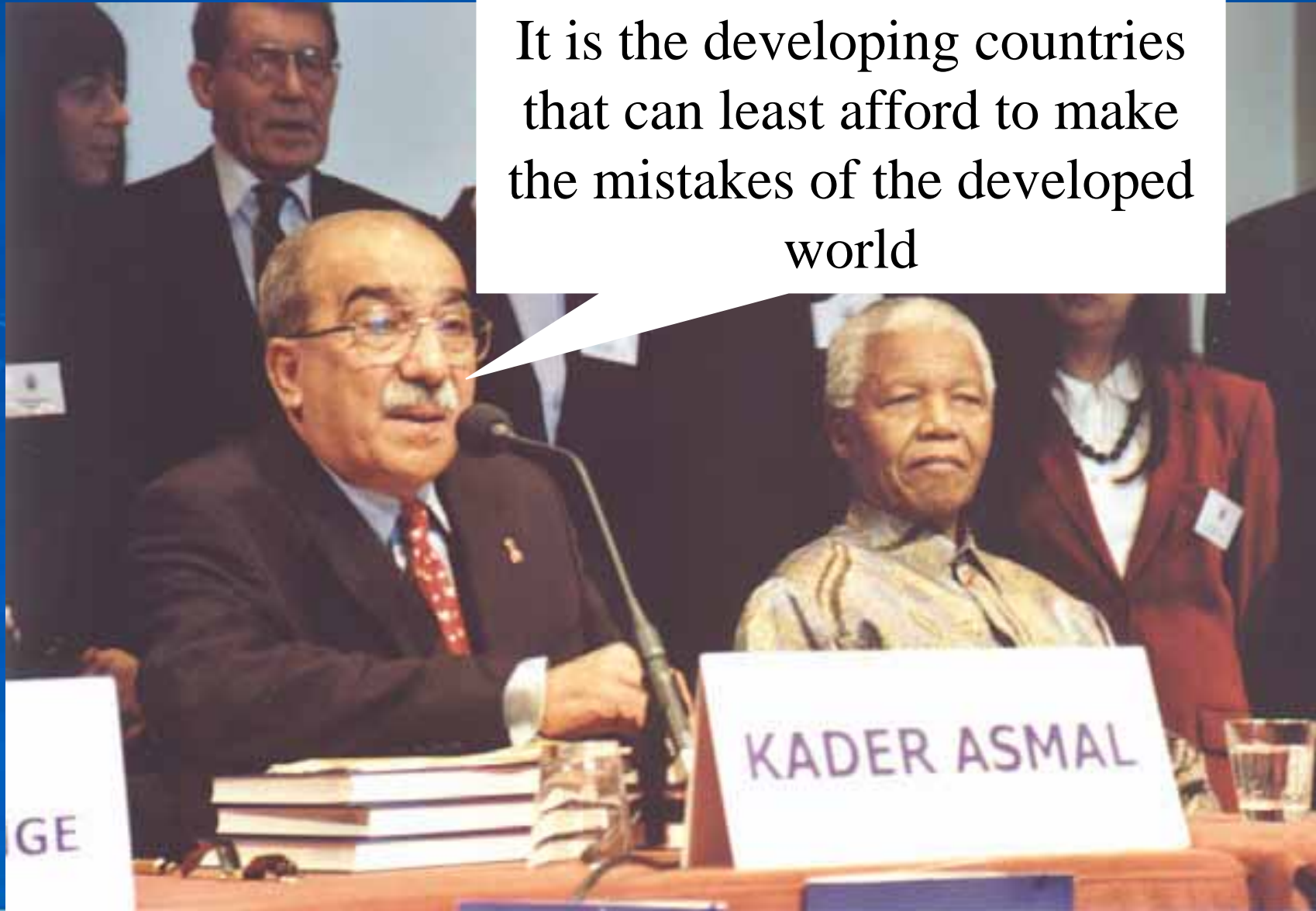
*Bryan Ashe
Mexico, March 2006*



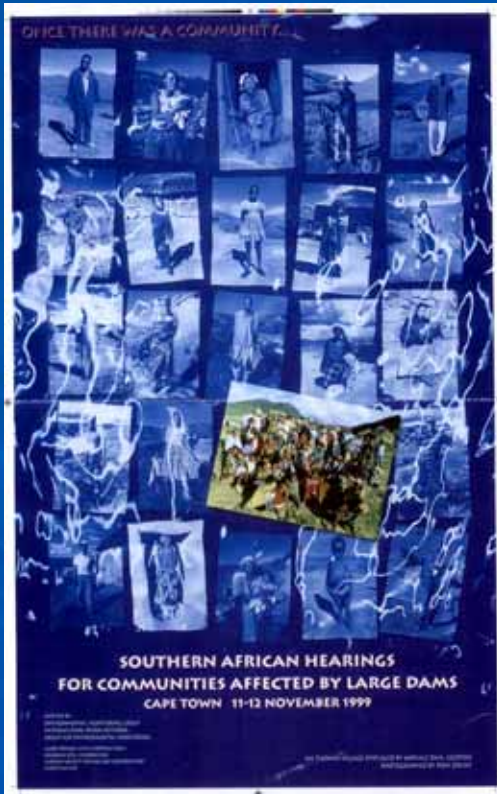
**When the WCD Report “*Dams and Development
A New Framework for Development*” was
launched in November 2000**

WHY A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER INITIATIVE IS IMPORTANT TO SOUTH AFRICA

It is the developing countries that can least afford to make the mistakes of the developed world



SA Characterised by Polarised Perspectives



Pretoria Launch of WCD
Civil Society Call for a
Moratorium on Large Dams
and a Statement of
Acceptance from DWAF



Key factors contributing to Multi-stakeholder ownership from the very beginning

- Joint planning
 - Symposium provided equal space for different perspectives
 - Neutral facilitator
 - Ensured delegates from all stakeholder groups
 - MS workshops to plan the way forward after the Symposium

First Multi-stakeholder Symposium

June 2001 Resolutions

- Broad support for strategic priorities
- Need to contextualise to Southern Africa
- Elected Steering Committee
- Need to take WCD recommendations into SADC

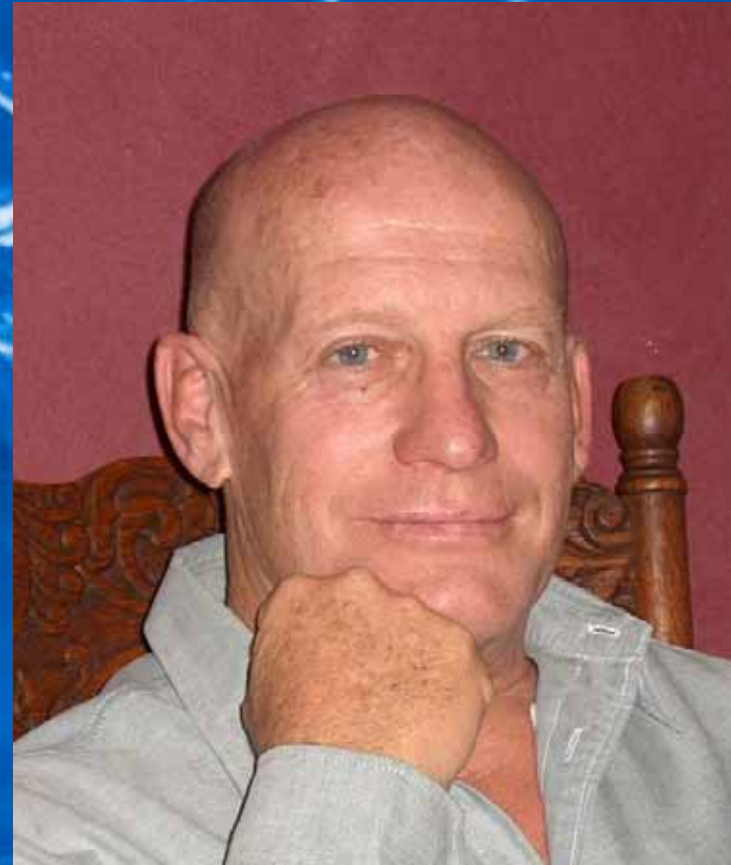
Election of Multi-stakeholder Committee

- Government
 - Utilities
 - Eskom
 - Dept Water Affairs
 - Dept Agriculture
- NGOs
- Dam Affected
- Private Sector
- Finance Org (DBSA)
- Research Org (WRC)



Key elements of the 3-year process 2001 - 2004

- MS Committee
- Good Chair – DBSA
- Analytical Approach
- Annual Forums
- Scoping Report
- Substantive Report
- Neutral Author



Analytical Approaches of 7 Strategic Priorities

- Check relevance to SA
- Check against existing policy, regulation and legislation
- Make Recommendations re
 - Gaps, inadequacies, implementation
 - specific institutions and stakeholder groups
- Identify research needs
- Use illustrative SA examples

Annual Multi- Stakeholder Forums

- Provide mandate & legitimacy
- Review work of Committee
- Debate issues



- Agree way forward
- Elect new committee
- Approve Substantive Report

Scoping Report

- Very useful tool for resolving conflict
- Get all the differing viewpoints from all stakeholders
 - ~ People feel they have been heard
- Contextualised for South Africa
- Comments and inputs from Forum delegates
- Defines boundaries for substantive issues

Substantive Report

- Using Scoping Report as base
- Each WCD Strategic Priority in turn
- Consensus seeking
- Focus on recommendations and research needs for all stakeholders
- Forum and committee inputs
- Neutral author

Presented to Oct 2004 Forum

Substantive Report Approved by October 2004 Forum Published in March 2005

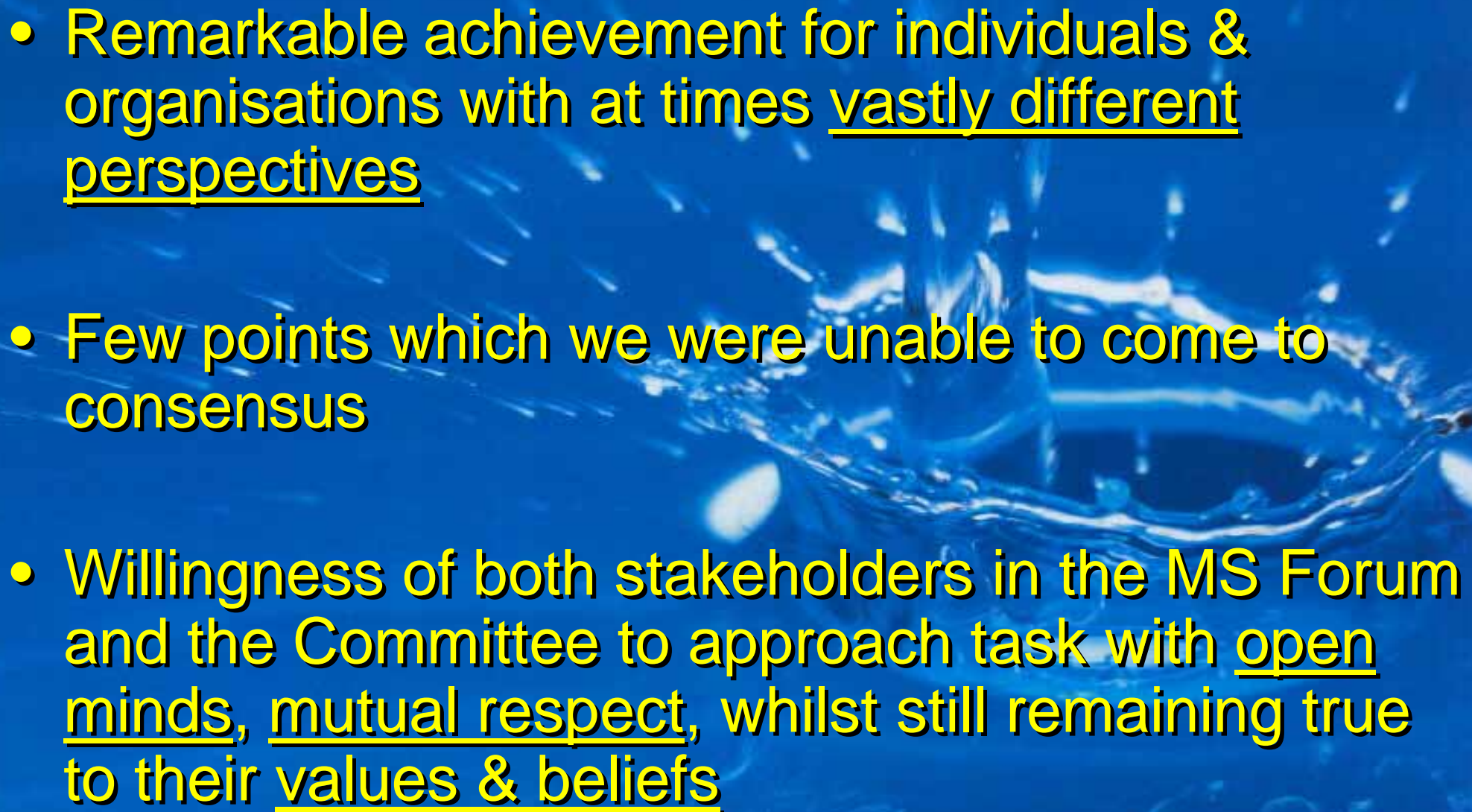
- Presented to Minister of Water Affairs, Water Week 2005
- Look at incorporating Recommendations into SA Decision making Processes



Our Analytical approach compared SA Policy and Practice against the WCD and found large overlap



Main challenge that of IMPLEMENTATION

- 
- A dynamic background image showing a splash of water against a deep blue background. The water droplets and splashes are captured in motion, creating a sense of energy and movement. The lighting highlights the texture and clarity of the water.
- Remarkable achievement for individuals & organisations with at times vastly different perspectives
 - Few points which we were unable to come to consensus
 - Willingness of both stakeholders in the MS Forum and the Committee to approach task with open minds, mutual respect, whilst still remaining true to their values & beliefs

October 2004

Participatory Process to Determine Priorities for Implementation

- Forum 2004
participatory process
to determine
priorities for
implementation out
of many
recommendations



FIRST PRIORITY:

Addressing social impacts

- Addressing unresolved social issues of existing dams
- Explore and implement mechanisms for recognizing entitlements and sharing benefits for new dams
- Development of 2 new policies:
 - Compensation policy for new dams
 - Policy for outstanding social issues

Addressing unresolved social issues of existing dams continued

- Multi-stakeholder Reparations Committee
- Working together with DWAF on Social Audit of existing dams, which is new territory.....



SECOND PRIORITY:

Enhancing governance of water and energy resources development

- Macro level planning
- Public participation and developing the process of gaining public acceptance
- Build capacity and allocate finances to facilitate empowerment
- Promote water demand management through comprehensive options assessment
- Monitoring and evaluation systems

THIRD PRIORITY:

Promoting river health & sustainable livelihoods

- Prioritize resources needed to sustain rivers and livelihoods
- Maintain existing pristine rivers (very few left)
- Monitor implementing of ecological and basic needs reserve
- Agree on methodologies to determine environmental water requirements on a regional scale

ADDITIONAL PRIORITY FOR ACTION

Promoting Regional Good Governance

- Promoting the uptake of WCD principles in NEPAD and other African Initiatives
outcomes of the recent hydro power conference
- As well as in the actions of South African Institutions operating throughout Africa
- We would be happy to share our experiences of the SA Initiative with neighboring countries & throughout Africa... encourage AMCOW MS dialogue

Way Forward

- New Committee with renewed commitment and energy elected at October 2004 Forum
- To publicize and disseminate our report
- To encourage the adoption of the recommendations
- We need all players to become involved in the implementation and monitoring of the recommendations

We acknowledge the ongoing support from the DDP which made our process possible

- Financial contributions
- Attending and presenting at annual forums
- Advice

Complemented by support from SSNC, DBSA, DWAF & Rand Water



Klaus Toepfer

Klaus Toepfer
UN Under-Secretary General

Executive Director United Nations Environment Programme



In the tradition of our political transformation the South African Initiative, including members of my Department, has worked tirelessly over the last 3 years to build consensus on how we should respond to the WCD Report and how here in SA we can improve our decision-making on dams - the ultimate purpose of the whole process.



Minister Sonjica
2005



Thank you

Bryan Ashe
Earthlife Africa eThekweni/
South African Water Caucus