

Annex V

STATEMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

1. The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) is the international environmental agency for local governments.
2. Founded in 1990, ICLEI's mission is to build and serve a worldwide movement of local governments to achieve tangible improvements in global environmental and sustainable development conditions through cumulative local actions.
3. More than 400 cities, towns, counties, and their associations worldwide, comprise ICLEI's membership. They, and hundreds of other local governments, are engaged in ICLEI's international campaigns and regional projects. Through its campaigns, ICLEI helps local government generate political awareness of key issues, build capacity through technical assistance and training and evaluate local and cumulative progress toward sustainable development.
4. ICLEI serves as an information clearinghouse on sustainable development by providing policy guidance, training and technical assistance and consultancy services to increase local governments' capacity to address global challenges.
5. ICLEI, a democratic association of local governments, serves as an advocate for local government before national and international bodies in order to increase understanding and support for local environmental protection and sustainable development activities. ICLEI maintains a formal association with the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA) and has official consultative status with the United Nations, through which it advocates the interests of local government before international bodies.
6. ICLEI supports the efforts of the UNEP Global Programme of Action and we therefore declare our continued support of the memorandum of understanding that was agreed to between ICLEI and UNEP in June 2000.
7. ICLEI affirms its ongoing willingness to assist the Global Programme of Action in implementing strategic action on municipal wastewater by working with local governments.
8. ICLEI will contribute to the implementation of the Global Programme of Action work programme through the provision of targeted capacity-building and information sharing activities. ICLEI will form a network of coastal cities based on the Global Programme of Action regional seas programmes to support local authorities in improving integrated coastal zone management in their communities and will pay particular attention to the focal area of the Global Programme of Action, such as municipal sanitation.
9. As part of the Global Programme of Action, ICLEI will implement the Coastal Cities Network (CCN), a five-year project designed to use

decentralized cooperation to increase the environmental planning and management capacity of local governments in the area of integrated coastal zone and water resources management. The main outcome of this programme will be the establishment of a network of cities working together to implement integrated coastal zone and water resources management. The long-term impact of the Coastal Cities Network includes improved quality of marine and freshwater environments and improved public health.

10. In recognition of the need for local action and locally integrated water resources management planning ICLEI has created the Water Campaign, launched in June 2000. This campaign seeks to build a worldwide movement of local governments and their stakeholders who together are committed to achieving tangible improvements in the sustainable use of freshwater resources by protecting and enhancing local watersheds, reducing water pollution, improving the availability and efficiency of water and environmental sanitation services and improving public health.
11. ICLEI's Water Campaign is an Associated Programme of the Global Water Partnership (GWP).

ICLEI recognizes that the Local Government Water Code (The Lisbon Principles) plays a significant role in the Water Campaign by emphasizing the moral and ethical components of local water management. The Local Government Water Code was approved by ICLEI in June 2000. ICLEI encourages local councils around the world to adopt the Local Government Water Code.