

HWS1: Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Monitoring in the Post-MDG Development Period

Session Organised by WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme

Meeting room # D5 Kran-kraw, 17 May 2013 at 09:00-12:00 hrs

In 2 years, 2015, the Millennium Development Goal period will close. Starting in Rio de Janeiro at the Earth Summit in June 2012, Member States and development partners are now intensively discussing the development framework that will replace the MDGs after 2015. The WHO / UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme, which is responsible for monitoring the MDG Target 7c on drinking water and sanitation, initiated a global consultative process in May 2011 which has led to a robust proposal for global targets and indicators on drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The proposal includes a call for a global commitment to universal access to basic WASH services at the household as well as institutional levels; increased coverage of higher level WASH services such as piped household water and full management of human excreta; and progressive reduction in inequalities in meeting these targets. Aspects of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation need to be monitored such as safety, affordability, availability, accessibility, acceptability and non-discrimination. The session concluded that these global proposals are relevant for Asian countries. The Asian Development Bank (one of the session speakers) considers it crucial to explicitly recognise these principles and objectives in countries' own targets in order to ensure they are reflected consistently in policies and programming. Participants at the session emphasized that commitment by Member States to targets includes tangible commitments to *meeting* the targets: hence the institutional and political leadership, sufficient sector financing, private sector development and community empowerment need to be strengthened to meet and sustain the targets.

Prepared by Dr Guy Hutton, WHO / UNICEF JMP Consultant, and Organizer of the Post-MDG Session at the 2APWS, Thailand.