

9th High Level Forum of Ministers with Responsibility for Water
**“Water and Sanitation and the Post 2015 Development agenda: Facing
up to the Wastewater Policy and Finance Challenges in the Caribbean”**

10th – 11th October, 2013

Hilton Hotel, Bridgetown, Barbados

**Recommendations Arising from the 9th High Level Session Ministerial
Forum**

22nd Annual CWWA Conference

Cognisant of the importance of wastewater management in underpinning human health and dignity, protecting the provision of environmental goods and services, protecting water resources and near shore marine environments, and supporting social wellbeing and economic development,

Noting that wastewater management should be considered within the broader framework of Integrated Water Resources Management,

Recognising the vulnerabilities and special circumstances of Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean,

Further recognizing that climate change will pose additional challenges for wastewater management in Caribbean SIDS,

Affirming the need to ensure that the concerns of Caribbean SIDS are reflected in the formulation of the Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting the achievements made by the HLS in raising awareness of the important role of water resources management to socio-economic development,

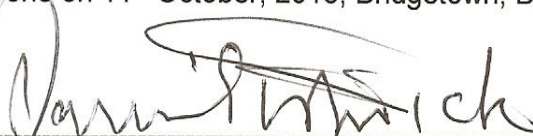
Recalling the commitment of the 8th HLS to support efforts to combat and eliminate the spread of cholera in Haiti through the work of the Coalition for the Elimination of Cholera on the island of Hispaniola,

With respect to wastewater policy, management and financing, the meeting recommends to:

1. Recognise wastewater's important cross-sectoral linkages with housing, health, tourism, agriculture, fisheries and industry and regard wastewater management as a supportive service that adds value not cost,

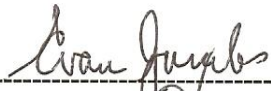
2. Prioritise programmes, actions and investments to those sectors where the most impact can be achieved, such as in urban areas and vulnerable communities,
3. Maximise the opportunities provided from participation in regional and international agreements, programmes and projects for strengthening wastewater management at the national level, and commits to sharing resources and expertise within the Caribbean Region,
4. Ensure that appropriate, context specific approaches to the management of wastewater, including the use of natural processes, are implemented,
5. Recognise that the health, societal and environmental benefits arising from better wastewater management go beyond direct service delivery and that cost-recovery mechanisms take cognizance of this,
6. Recognise that access to concessionary funds and grants are essential for establishment and upgrading of wastewater infrastructure,
7. Adopt holistic approaches that prioritise Integrated Urban Water Management such that used water is regarded as a resource and not a waste,
8. Ensure that there is continuity of information, information exchange and awareness of national commitments and obligations at times of structural and administrative changes at the national and donor agency level,
9. Recognise the need to mobilise and secure grassroots support and public awareness as a necessary condition for garnering political support for initiating wastewater policies and programmes,
10. Strengthen mechanisms for regional cooperation in water and wastewater and formalize the communication of the deliberations of the HLS to CARICOM and to COTED.

Done on 11th October, 2013, Bridgetown, Barbados.




 Dr. Honourable David Estwick, Barbados

Date: 11/10/13



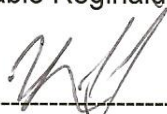
 Honourable Evan Gumbs, Anguilla

Date: 11/10/13



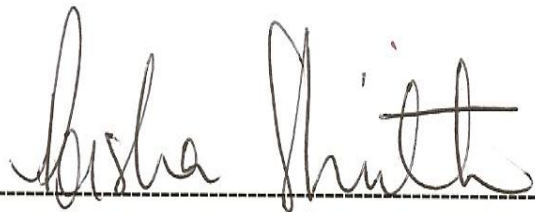
 Honourable Reginald Austrie, Dominica

Date: 11/10/13



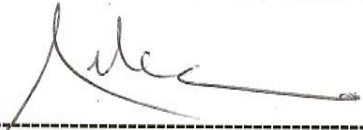
 Honourable Troy Liburd, Nevis

Date: 11/10/13



Honourable Porsha Stubbs-Smith, Turks and Caicos

Date: 11/10/13



Permanent Secretary Lenrick Lake, Saint Christopher

Date: 11/10/13

In attendance:



Mr. Martin Alegria, Belize

Date: 11/10/13



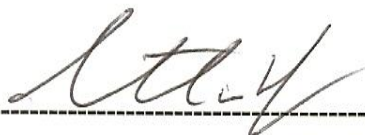
Mr. Ivan Rodriguez, Antigua and Barbuda

Date: 11/10/13



Mr. Amelius Hernandez, Guadeloupe

Date: 11/10/13



Mr. Christopher Husbands, Grenada

Date: 11/10/13