



Resolution on the efficient use of water in green economies

Adopted at the YEPP seminar in Tirana on 9.2.2013

Recognizing:

- The Commissions Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water Resources - a strategy for ensuring that enough good quality water is available to meet the needs of people, the economy and the environment
- That in December 2010, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2013 as the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation (Resolution A/RES/65/154)
- UN-Water Annual Conference in Zaragoza – “Water Cooperation, Making it Happen” in Zaragoza, Spain
- 15th meeting of the EP Water group, 4th September 2012 “INNOVATIONS IN DEALING WITH WATER CHALLENGES” and the European Innovation Partnership on Water Efficiency
- The flagship initiative for a resource-efficient Europe under the Europe 2020 strategy
- The Statement by UN-Water for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio+20 Summit)
- The YEPP Resolution: “Europe and renewable energy”
Adopted at the YEPP Seminar in Budapest, Hungary on February 25 2012

Acknowledging:

- Water is essential for human life, nature and the economy. It's a limited and vulnerable resource. It is permanently renewed but it is also finite and cannot be made or replaced with other resources
- Water is of prime importance for the industrial sector, as it is used in a variety of ways for transport, cooling and heating, cleaning, washing and also as raw material. Water is an essential factor in the production of any good
- Over 70% of freshwater resources on the planet are utilized for agricultural production
- Water scarcity is spreading in Europe. Large areas, particularly in the south of Europe, are affected by water scarcity, while competing uses are increasing demand across the continent

- Competing demands for scarce water resources are estimated to lead to a 40% global water supply shortage by 2030
- Population growth, expanding cities and accelerating economic activity increase the demand for water resources as well as the supporting ecosystems
- Success of green economy depends on sustainable, integrated and resource-efficient management of water resources and on safe and sustainable provisioning of water supply and adequate sanitation services.
- Effective management of water variability, ecosystem changes and the resulting impacts on livelihoods in a changing climate scenario, is central to a climate-resilient and robust green economy
- Only a wisely way to manage the supply and disposal of water can ensure that clean water continues to be available to us and future generations, and at an affordable cost

YEPP calls on:

- The EU and its member states to use water resources in a sustainable way and increase water efficiency
- The EU and its member states to provide incentives for efficient water-use decisions and extensively inform consumers and producers about the linkages between water and goods and services.
- The EU and its member states to promote innovation and market driven solutions to develop new technologies in the European water sector, to increase the efficiency in water management
- The EU to help farmers to increase water efficiency in agriculture, by giving infrastructural and technological support, within the existing CAP budget, for innovation and new technologies
- The EU and its member states to identify barriers to innovation all along the chain and identify ways to remove them at the European, national and regional levels
- The EU and its member states to make water recycling to an integral part of sustainable management of resources