

## PRACTICES OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT, WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

(Contribution of the Russian Federation to the Final Document  
of eighth special session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Forum in Jeju,  
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On the eve of the Johannesburg Summit on Sustainable Development a Coordination Committee was created in the Russian Federation to prepare the National Plan of Actions "Development of water resources in Russia (Water of Russia – XXI)". The main goal of the Programme was to elaborate a complex attitude to ensure a sustainable functioning of the country water management complex and to determine the necessary technical-material and human resources needed for this purposes. The Programme is operational up to 2015.

The main priorities of the Programme are the following:

- sustainable water supplies to the population and industry;
- prevention and liquidation of water floods aftermath and other water related disasters;
- safety of hydrotechnical structures;
- protection of water resources objects from pollution;
- development of water resources control and prognosis system as well as system of information support to the water management;
- upgrading of the existing system of state control over usage and protection of the water fund;
- legal and technical-scientific support.

The Programme is operational on three levels:

- territorial – separate territorial sub-programmes are elaborated in all 89 subjects of the Russian Federation;
- Basinal – in 19 major natural water basins of Russia: the Azov Sea, the Baltic Sea, Western part of the Caspian Sea, the North-East Seas, the Angara-Baikal and the Dvina-Pechora basins, basins of the Amur, Volga, Don, Kama, Kuban, Enisei, Lena, Ob, Oka, Tom and Ural rivers;
- Interbasinal – in the framework of the basinal agreements.

With an aim to ensure realization of the Programme "Russia Water Complex Development Priorities up to 2010" and the Plan of Actions Measures on their Implementation are presently in the final stage of preparation.





A special working group was established with the aim to elaborate the Federal Plan of Actions. The group includes representatives of the Gosstroy (State Construction Agency), Ministry of Agriculture of Russia, Ministry of Natural Resources of the Russian Federation, leading scientific and civil society organizations. Draft Plan of Actions is to be presented to the Government of the Russian Federation in the second quarter of 2004.

The Government of the Russian Federation has approved the new version of the Water Code of the Russian Federation which ensures the federal property on the water resources objects, basinal principal of the water resources and protection management as well as a mechanism for financing water usage and protection measures.

Great attention in Russia is attributed to usage of ecologically safe construction materials, contemporary technologies with introduction of alternative sources of energy. A number of international projects, currently under implementation on the territory of the Russian Federation in cooperation with UN-HABITAT, are instrumental in facilitating these activities based on the recommendations of the Johannesburg Actions Plan, Habitat Agenda as well as recommendations of the special session of the UN General Assembly "Istanbul+5".

Special Federal Programme for providing inhabitants of old and constructively unsafe houses (slams) with new homes is operational in Russia. It is aimed at improving the living standards of people and their access to clean fresh water. The Programme is operational up to 2015.

Great importance is attached in Russia to rationalisation of water resources usage, minimizing of losses through modernization of the existing infrastructure on the basis of progressive technologies and contemporary sanitary engineering equipment.

*For reference purposes:*

Systems of fresh water supply are operational in 1085 cities of Russia (99,3% of the total number), 1727 towns (92,3%) and about 43 thousand of villages. The total length of the water pipe line systems is 463 thousand kilometers. Capacity of the water pipe line systems is about 90 mlns.cubic meters per 24 hours. 22 billions cubic meters of fresh water was delivered in 2002. Average rate of consumption of fresh water per one person in Russia is 248 litters within 24 hours.