

# DRAFT CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ASIA-PACIFIC WATER SUMMIT

## Background on the Asia-Pacific Water Forum and the 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit

In the face of the region's pressing water problems, in March 2006 at the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Mexico, the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) was created to help address the challenges of the Asia-Pacific region. The APWF is an independent, not-for-profit, non-partisan, non-political network dedicated to solving water problems in the Asia-Pacific region. The APWF organized the 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit which was held in Beppu, Japan and focused on the theme "Water Security: Leadership and Commitment". The Summit endorsed the Message from Beppu and launched a series of concrete initiatives for regional water resolutions.

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit (2<sup>nd</sup> APWS)

More than three years have passed and Thailand has the privilege of hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Water Summit (2<sup>nd</sup> APWS) in collaboration with the APWF and supporting regional and international organizations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2012.

Water is not just the issue of one sector such as environment, agriculture, or industry. It is a fundamental resource and as such its sustainable management is at the heart of human security and the social and economic development of nations. To this end, strong leadership and commitment from national leaders is essential. The 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS will continue under the guiding theme of "**Water Security: Leadership and Commitment**" with three policy priority areas for commitment and change: *Development, Shocks and Resilience, and Well-being*.

Under the guiding theme of "Water Security: Leadership and Commitment," the Summit will focus on the six areas: Household Water Security, Economic, Food and Water Security, Urban Water Security, Environmental Water Security, Water Risks and Resilience, and IWRM Process for a Water Secure World. The first five were identified in the Asian Water Development Outlook 2011 to be published by the ADB and APWF.

For the focus area "Household Water Security," ....(approximately 150 words to be prepared by UNESCAP)

For the second focus area "Economic, Food and Water Security," ...(approximately 150 words to be prepared by FAO & UNESCAP)

For the third focus area "Urban Water Security," ...(approximately 150 words to be prepared by UNHABITAT & PUB Singapore)

For the fourth focus area "Environmental Water Security," ...(approximately 150 words to be prepared by IUCN)

For the fifth focus area "Water Risks and Resilience," ...(approximately 150 words to be prepared by ICHARM)

For the sixth focus area “IWRM Process for a Water Secure World,” ...(approximately 150 words to be prepared by UNESCO)

The Summit will showcase leadership in decision-making, excellence in practice and innovation, and concrete results that have had substantial impacts, spanning from policy to the grassroots. At the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> APWS a synthesis of key messages will be presented and commitment sought from heads of government from nations throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

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