



**RESEAU INTERNATIONAL DES ORGANISMES DE BASSIN
INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BASIN ORGANIZATIONS
RED INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANISMOS DE CUENCA**

**IN 2005, INBO IS MOBILIZING
TO PREPARE THE 4th WORLD FORUM OF MEXICO**

The **4th WORLD WATER FORUM** will take place in Mexico City FD. - BANAMEX Congress Center (Mexico) - from 16 to 22 March 2006 and will be, as for the previous events of Marrakech (1997), the Hague (2000) or Kyoto (2003), the meeting place for all the stakeholders of the water sector of the whole world.

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), which now gathers 153 permanent members or observers from 52 countries, as well as the majority of the International Commissions or transboundary basin organizations, will be a dynamic partner in this event and in its preparation phase in 2005.

Of course, it is on the topic of integrated water resource management (IWRM) on the scale of the basins of rivers, lakes and aquifers, that INBO can share the practical experience acquired by its members in the field.

The specificity of the Network is indeed to gather the governmental and basin organizations, which are really in charge of defining and implementing water policy in their respective countries: far from academic speeches, INBO members are directly responsible for water management and have to face the daily realities that it implies and the preparation of the future.

Better than anybody else, they know the stakes and the problems to be solved locally in each basin and commit themselves to carry out the actions they deem necessary, either for applying the regulations, or for mobilizing financial resources, implementing projects or for dialogue and the involvement of users and of all the citizens concerned.

For more than 10 years, they have carried out exchanges between them within INBO to identify and disseminate the most useful and effective approaches, but also to raise the decision-makers' awareness on the encountered difficulties.

Within the Network, the partners have organized themselves at the regional level, either African, American, Asian, European or Mediterranean, in order to strengthen neighborhood relations and to take into account all the diversities of local and regional situations.

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In Europe, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) is obviously the big endeavor that mobilizes the INBO partners of the 25 Member States of the European Union and of the Candidates or associated countries, as it includes the main management principles that have been formalized by our Network for a decade.

INBO proposed to the Mexican Authorities and to the World Water Council to organize a session on the participation of the public and water users in basin management, on 18 March 2006 in Mexico City, within the « IWRM » topic of the 6th World Forum.

In order to prepare this session and to mobilize its members, **INBO plans for three large regional preparatory meetings in 2005:**

❶ from 23 to 25 May in Marrakech (Morocco) for the Mediterranean basin: MENBO General Assembly,

❷ from 29 September to 1 October in Namur (Walloon region - Belgium), with the 3rd Assembly of the Group of European basin organizations for the implementation of the Framework Directive,

❸ in November in Niamey (Niger) for the 2nd General Assembly of the African Network of Basin Organizations.

In addition, INBO will participate in the International Conference on Water in Central Asia on 30 and 31 May 2005 in Dushanbe (Tajikistan).

Contacts are ongoing with our Japanese colleagues for the consolidation of the Asian Network of Basin Organizations.

In liaison with the Council of Europe, the International Secretariat for Water and Solidarity-Water-Europe, INBO will also be a partner in the week devoted to the citizen's approach to water management, in Strasbourg (France), from 17 to 21 October 2005.

Our ideas are progressing, let's get mobilized to make our results known in Mexico City!