

WaterAid Analysis of Post 2015 Proposals

1. WHO/UNICEF JMP Framework

In May 2011 the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation convened an international stakeholder consultation in Berlin to identify priorities for global monitoring of WASH post-2015. Four Working Groups (water, sanitation, hygiene, equity and non-discrimination) comprising recognised international experts were then established to identify appropriate targets and indicators for monitoring progressive realization of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation globally. The resulting proposals were consolidated and presented at a second international stakeholder consultation in The Hague in December 2012.

The proposals reflect a broad consensus among sector professionals that global post-2015 development goals should aim to achieve universal access to water supply, sanitation and hygiene and that related targets and indicators should focus on the following priorities:

1. No one practices open defecation.
2. Everyone has water, sanitation and hygiene at home.
3. All schools and health centres have water, sanitation and hygiene.
4. Water, sanitation and hygiene are sustainable and inequalities in access have been progressively eliminated.

A summary of the consolidated technical proposal is enclosed and further information about the working group composition and consultation process is available on the JMP website (www.wssinfo.org/post-2015-monitoring/overview).

WaterAid were extensively engaged in this consultation process and fully support the JMP proposals.

2. The UN High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

WaterAid welcomes the HLP's ambition of ending extreme poverty by 2030 and the recognition of the central importance of access to water and sanitation in achieving this. We are encouraged that water and sanitation issues are prominent in the narrative text and that "Achieve Universal Access to Water and Sanitation" is one of the 12 illustrative goals considered critical to ending extreme poverty in all its forms in the context of sustainable development.

The MDG water and sanitation targets, that were set in 2000 and 2002, were given low priority under a much broader environmental goal and isolated from efforts to achieve goals on poverty, health, nutrition, education and gender equality. Sanitation has been particularly neglected. It is currently the most off track of all MDG targets undermining progress towards many other goals, particularly child health and nutrition. We believe that the inclusion of a dedicated goal on universal access to water and sanitation in the

HLP report is an appropriate reflection of the scale of the challenge and its central importance to ending poverty and hope that it can help reverse the widespread neglect of sanitation globally.

We are nevertheless disappointed that the importance of hygiene to progress on health, nutrition, education and gender equality is not reflected in either the narrative text or the targets. Water, sanitation and hygiene are important for health because they prevent the faecal-oral transmission of pathogens that cause diarrhoea and other major diseases. For example facial hygiene is a critical component of the SAFE Strategy (Surgery, Antibiotics, Facial cleanliness, and Environmental changes) to prevent trachoma. Poor personal hygiene, poverty and stigma are closely linked and combine to increase social isolation and poverty. The failure to tackle hygiene was a major weakness of the MDG water and sanitation targets and WaterAid supports the JMP working group recommendation that the post-2015 framework should include targets and indicators relating to hand washing and menstrual hygiene management.

Hand washing has a critical role to play in reducing the burden of diseases such as pneumonia and diarrhea and ending preventable child deaths. Additionally, hand hygiene in health facilities, especially hospitals, is vital for the prevention of cross-infection of hospital acquired infections. Menstrual hygiene management is an issue for almost half the world's population (adolescent girls and women), particularly in low and middle income countries. It is a cause of shame, social stigma and school absenteeism and there is evidence that it contributes to an increased risk of reproductive tract infections. Improved access to appropriate menstrual hygiene management facilities has a direct impact on girl's education and women's sexual and reproductive health and is an important first step towards gender equality and women's economic empowerment.

We support the commitment to finish the 'unfinished business' that was begun with the MDGs as a first priority. The water and sanitation targets aimed only to halve the proportion of people without access to water and sanitation. While the aggregate MDG target for drinking water has been met, significant disparities exist between and within countries, and 768m people still lack access to an improved water source. The world is currently on track to miss the MDG sanitation target by more than half a billion people, and 2.5 billion people currently do not use an improved sanitation facility. At current rates of progress the sanitation target will not be met until 2025. Tackling the 'unfinished business' of the MDG target for sanitation therefore needs to be a top priority within the emerging Post-2015 agenda.

We support the HLP commitment to 'leave no one behind' (regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability or geography) and the statement that 'where a target applies to outcomes for individuals, it should only be deemed to be met if every group – defined by income quintile, gender, location, or otherwise – has met the target'. WaterAid believes that elimination of inequalities should be integral to the formulation of post-2015 WASH goals and supports the JMP Working Groups proposed approach to measuring progressive reduction of inequalities between rich and poor, urban and rural, slums and informal settlements, and disadvantaged groups and the general population.

We welcome the HLP recognition of the multi-dimensional nature of poverty and the inter-dependency of related human development outcomes in the narrative text. We also welcome the inclusion of ambitious goals aimed at improving health, nutrition, education and gender equality alongside achieving access to water and sanitation. WaterAid believes that the post-2015 framework should seek to promote better collaboration across sectors by highlighting the linkages between sub-goals and targets which contribute towards ending poverty. It should recognise that access to water, sanitation and hygiene is a key determinant of health and nutrition (see forthcoming Cochrane Review July 2013 on the effect of WASH on child nutrition) and ensure that targets aimed at improving health, eliminating preventable child and maternal deaths, and reducing the burden of stunting and major diseases are supported by universal access targets for WASH at home and in schools and health facilities. Access to WASH at home, in schools and workplaces also contributes directly towards efforts to reduce gender inequalities and improve social inclusion of disabled and older people.

We support the commitment to 'put sustainable development at the core' and encourage an integrated approach to social, economic and environmental issues. An integrated approach is essential if we are to succeed not only in extending access to those currently underserved but also in sustaining existing services. In countries approaching universal access the latter is likely to become an increasingly important focus post-2015.

We welcome the Post-2015 HLP calls for a new global partnership based on principles of universality, equity, sustainability, solidarity, human rights, the right to development and responsibilities shared in accordance with capabilities. Developing inclusive partnerships and new ways of working will be crucial if we are to succeed in ending poverty and achieving universal access to WASH. WaterAid believes that the recently established Sanitation and Water for All global partnership provides a valuable platform for bringing together governments, civil society and private sector to ensure effective resource mobilization and mutual accountability for progress towards universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Finally we strongly support the call for a 'data revolution'. Substantial investment in strengthening monitoring and evaluation is required at all levels to enable governments to track progress, inform decisions, improve accountability and ensure that no country or group is being left behind.

Summary feedback on proposed goals, targets and indicators

We welcome the inclusion of the illustrative goal to 'achieve universal access to water and sanitation' and the recognition of its central importance for both poverty eradication and sustainable development. WaterAid believes that the post-2015 framework should also explicitly recognize the Human Right to Water and Sanitation, reaffirmed by resolutions of the UN General Assembly and UN Human Rights Council in 2010 and in the Rio+20 Future We Want outcome document, which places legally binding obligations on all States to make provision for progressive realization. The targets outlined under goal #6 include many of the elements recommended by WaterAid and by the JMP Working Groups including addressing water and sanitation beyond the household, including a specific target to eliminate open defecation, addressing the wider

environmental impacts of sanitation, and including targets for balancing withdrawals and improving efficiency of water use.

Goal 6: Achieve Universal Access to Water and Sanitation

- 6a. Provide universal access to safe drinking water at home, and in schools, health centres, and refugee camps**
- 6b. End open defecation and ensure universal access to sanitation at school and work, and increase access to sanitation at home by x%**
- 6c. Bring freshwater withdrawals in line with supply and increase water efficiency in agriculture by x%, industry by y% and urban areas by z%**
- 6d. Recycle or treat all municipal and industrial wastewater prior to discharge**

We are encouraged by the ambition of the Post-2015 HLP and support the overall logic of a goal framework which is clearly focused on achieving measurable outcomes in a small number of areas which are universally important for poverty eradication and sustainable development. Achieving access to water and sanitation undoubtedly falls into this category and was routinely ranked among the top ten development priorities during recent national and global consultations. The illustrative targets provide a valuable starting point for continued deliberation and debate. Based on the work of the JMP Working Groups, there are a number of specific areas in which the targets could be improved and made more consistent:

- 1. Hygiene should be included in the targets.** Hygiene is overlooked in HLP Post-2015 targets. The JMP Working Groups proposed that handwashing facilities should be specifically mentioned for homes (everyone uses handwashing facilities when at home), and handwashing facilities and menstrual hygiene facilities for schools and health facilities (all schools and health centres provide all users with...handwashing facilities and menstrual hygiene facilities). Improving hand washing and menstrual hygiene facilities is directly relevant to the achievement of several other goals identified by the HLP Post-2015 including: Goal 2 Empower girls and women and achieving gender equality; Goal 3 Provide quality education and lifelong learning; and Goal 4 Ensure healthy lives.
- 2. Priority extra-household settings should be consistent for water, sanitation and hygiene.** The HLP Post-2015 targets for drinking water specify schools, health centres, and refugee camps but omit work places. The sanitation targets specify schools and workplaces but omit health centres and refugee camps. The targets should encourage an integrated approach to water, sanitation and hygiene in all priority extra-household settings. In all cases the accessibility and acceptability of WASH facilities for women, and girls, and for people with disabilities must be stipulated to ensure universal access.
- 3. The wastewater target should be more comprehensive and include faecal sludge.** If the intention is to encourage what the JMP Working Groups referred to as “full management” of waste, then faecal sludge management should be added. This would include safe treatment, disposal and or re-use of pit latrine and septic tank contents, and is particularly important as faecal sludge management is very relevant to the urban poor, who rely to a large extent on on-site sanitation. The term “municipal wastewater” is narrow and easily misunderstood (for instance, to include

only urban wastewater flows). The term “all wastewater and fecal sludge” is therefore preferable.

- 4. The targets should require progressive elimination of inequalities in access to services.** The HLP Post-2015 report narrative text recommends formulating “targets that deliberately build in efforts to tackle inequality and which can only be met with a specific focus on the most excluded and vulnerable groups. For example, we believe that many targets should be monitored using data broken down by income quintiles and other groups. Targets will only be considered achieved if they are met for all relevant income and social groups.” However the illustrative goals and targets do not specify how inequality should be addressed in practice.

WaterAid strongly supports the recommendation of the JMP Working Groups that targets and indicators should be crafted that specifically call for the reduction and ultimate elimination of inequalities through targeting of the “most disadvantaged groups” while retaining attention to improvements for the lowest quintile. It is proposed that States themselves identify the most disadvantaged group to be monitored on the global level through a participatory process. Without such a concrete commitment on operationalizing the elimination of inequalities, this objective will simply remain a “good intention” on paper. WASH indicators should therefore be disaggregated between rich and poor, urban and rural, slums and formal urban settlements, and disadvantaged groups (identified through participatory national processes) and the general population. Data should also identify intra-household inequalities associated with gender, disability and age that are common in all countries. The JMP Working Groups proposed a detailed methodology for measuring and monitoring progress in this area.

- 5. Detailed indicators and definitions need to be developed for each target.** The HLP applied the adjective “safe” for drinking water, but did not include any other parameters or adjectives. The JMP Working Groups defined “basic” and “intermediate” drinking water, “adequate” sanitation and “adequate” hygiene facilities. These detailed definitions and indicators specify the ambition of the targets, for instance, they specify the maximum time that should be spent collecting water from a source considered basic, and include a measure of water quality for intermediate supply. The sanitation definition specifies which types of sanitation are acceptable and how many people could share a sanitation facility. The hygiene definition specifies standards for hand washing and menstrual hygiene management facilities. Detailed definitions outline the minimum levels of service in schools and health centres based on existing WHO standards. These definitions could be adopted for future evolutions of the targets. If “refugee camps” are to be included, definitions of these settings and what constitutes an adequate level of service should be developed, preferably based on existing standards used by humanitarian agencies. What constitutes adequate water, sanitation and hygiene “at work” also has to be defined.
- 6. Greater coherence and consistency is required between zero target end dates.** The HLP report includes a series of ‘zero’ targets which contribute towards ending extreme poverty by 2030, including the elimination of open defecation and universal access to drinking water. The narrative text states that universal access to sanitation

at home will be difficult to achieve by 2030 and the illustrative target simply aims to 'increase access to sanitation at home by x%'. WaterAid believes that **ending poverty by 2030 will depend on setting an equally ambitious target for achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene**. This is because access to water, and particularly sanitation and hygiene, is a key determinant of progress towards many other 2030 targets specified by the HLP. WaterAid fully supports the ambition of 'ending hunger', 'reducing stunting and wasting', 'ending preventable infant and under-5 deaths' and 'eliminating all forms of violence against girls and women' the evidence shows that each of these depends on also achieving universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

7. **Systems for monitoring and aggregating data at national and global levels need to be strengthened.** The HLP Post-2015 calls for a 'data revolution' and substantial investment in strengthening monitoring and evaluation at all levels in order to improve accountability for results achieved. It recommends establishing a Global Partnership on Development Data bringing together diverse stakeholders to fill critical gaps, expand data accessibility and establish a baseline for monitoring post-2015 targets. The JMP working groups recommended building on and enhancing existing monitoring systems and exploring how these might be combined with new emerging sources of data in future. For example, to measure the progressive elimination of inequalities, methodologies must be designed to assess inequalities in WASH access within households due to gender, age and disability. Methodologies are also needed to assess the accessibility and acceptability of WASH facilities outside the home for women (including for menstrual hygiene management), children and people with disabilities. During 2013 proposed indicators and their data sources will be further validated to ensure that the indicators robustly measure the proposed targets. The JMP will then collect information where data is available in order to establish a credible baseline for global monitoring of water, sanitation and hygiene post-2015.

3. UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

WaterAid welcomes the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) 2015 report which sets out a bold vision for ‘the next 15 years’. The SDSN Leadership Council should be applauded for devising a comprehensive approach which addresses all four aspects of sustainable development (social, economic, environmental, governance) in a balanced and highly focused manner (just 10 goals, with three targets each). WaterAid particularly welcomes the headline ambition of ‘ending extreme poverty in all its forms by 2030’ and the recognition of the multidimensional nature of poverty which comprises income, hunger, inequality, education, health and access to basic infrastructure services including water and sanitation.

The final report addresses many of the priority issues and concerns identified by WaterAid and its partners during post-2015 consultations to-date. The following comments and suggestions focus on how to maximise the relevance of the existing SDSN goal and target proposals for target populations in the 27 countries where WaterAid works.

Goal 1 aims to end extreme poverty ‘in all its forms’ including income, hunger, inequality, education, health and access to basic infrastructure services. However the current text and list of targets only addresses income and nutrition. Given the central importance of universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene to tackling poverty, hunger, health and (gender) inequality, WaterAid would like to see it explicitly referenced under the human development goal (**Goal 1**), as well as appearing in the rural and urban goals (**Goals 6 and 7**).

WaterAid welcomes the call for ‘bold and updated MDGs (2-7)’ and would like to draw the Leadership Council’s attention to the technical proposals already developed by expert working groups of the [WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme on drinking water and sanitation](#). These outline targets and indicators for monitoring progressive realisation of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation in all countries by extending access to those currently unserved, targeting first the most disadvantaged groups, and progressively improving existing service levels. There is now broad consensus among sector professionals that universal access targets for post-2015 should include the following:

1. **No one** practices open defecation
2. **Everyone** has safe water, sanitation and hygiene at home
3. **All schools and health centers** have water, sanitation and hygiene
4. Water, sanitation and hygiene are **sustainable** and **inequalities have been progressively eliminated**. (SDSN report emphasizes service sustainability but lacks explicit proposals for progressively reducing inequalities in service delivery)

Full details of the JMP technical proposals including draft targets and related indicators are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/post-2015-monitoring/overview/>. The WaterAid position and the Everyone Everywhere report fully endorses the JMP vision and summary targets and priorities identified for achieving universal access (without

exception) but is calling for increased political ambition in relation to sanitation (i.e. universal access by 2030).

Summary feedback on proposed goals, targets and indicators

Goal 1 aims to end extreme poverty ‘in all its forms’ including income, hunger, inequality, education, health and access to basic infrastructure services. However the current text and list of targets only addresses income and nutrition. Given the central importance of universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene to tackling poverty, hunger, health and (gender) inequality, WaterAid would like to see it explicitly referenced under the human development goal (**Goal 1**), as well as appearing in the rural and urban goals (**Goals 6 and 7**).

An important criticism of MDGs was that vertical targets discouraged effective collaboration between sectors. The draft text should acknowledge this and place greater emphasis on the interdependency and indivisibility of sectoral target objectives relating to income and nutrition and those relating to gender, education, health and access to basic infrastructure services. For example, inadequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene is a key determinant of progress in other areas. Diarrhoea is a leading cause of death in children under-five globally and WHO estimates that 50% of malnutrition is associated with repeated diarrhoea or intestinal worm infections as a result of unsafe water, inadequate sanitation or insufficient hygiene. Improvements in education outcomes (particularly girls) are closely linked with improvements in water, sanitation and hygiene (including menstrual hygiene management).

WaterAid welcomes the call for ‘bold and updated MDGs (2-7)’ and would like to draw the Leadership Council’s attention to the technical proposals already developed by expert working groups of the [WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme on drinking water and sanitation](#). These outline targets and indicators for monitoring progressive realisation of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation in all countries by extending access to those currently unserved and progressively improving existing service levels. There is now broad consensus among sector professionals that universal access targets for post-2015 should include the following:

- a. **No one** practices open defecation (SDSN report does not mention OD)
- b. **Everyone** has safe water, sanitation and hygiene at home (SDSN report includes water and sanitation at home but omits hygiene)
- c. **All schools and health centers** have water, sanitation and hygiene (SDSN report omits extra-household settings)
- d. Water, sanitation and hygiene are **sustainable** and **inequalities have been progressively eliminated**. (SDSN report emphasizes service sustainability but lacks explicit proposals for progressively reducing inequalities in service delivery)

Full details of the JMP technical proposals including draft targets and related indicators are available at <http://www.wssinfo.org/post-2015-monitoring/overview/>. WaterAid fully endorses the JMP vision and summary targets and priorities identified for achieving universal access (without exception) but is calling for increased political ambition in relation to sanitation (i.e. universal access by 2030).

WaterAid welcomes the explicit focus on gender equality, social inclusion and human rights (**Goal 4**) which includes clear references to ending discrimination and inequalities in service delivery and reducing violence against women and children. We would like to draw the Leadership Council's attention to the close linkages between inadequate access to water, sanitation and hygiene and violence against women and girls who continue to shoulder two thirds of the burden of water collection globally. WaterAid's experience has shown that inadequate access to WASH continues to affect women disproportionately, due to both biological and cultural factors, and that menstrual hygiene management provides a powerful proxy indicator of gender equality. Social inclusion of people with disabilities is also dependent on their access to WASH services inside the home and at schools, work places, health facilities; and access to WASH has a close association with the social inclusion of stigmatized groups.

The text relating to **Goal 4** highlights the need to end discrimination and tackle inequalities in service delivery but lacks specific proposals. WaterAid has considerable experience in tackling inequalities in access to WASH between individuals or groups who face discrimination based on gender, age, disability, ethnicity or minority status. We would like to draw the Leadership Council's attention to the fact that the JMP technical proposals for post-2015 include concrete suggestions for measuring and monitoring the progressive elimination of inequalities between rich and poor, urban and rural, slums and formal urban settlements, and disadvantaged groups and the general population. We recommend including explicit reference to reducing inequalities and targeting disadvantaged groups alongside targets to achieve universal access, not only to WASH but also to other basic services.

WaterAid welcomes the strong commitment to achieving development within planetary boundaries (**Goal 2** which includes explicit reference to improving the efficiency of energy, water and other resource uses) and to securing ecosystem services, biodiversity and good management of natural resources (**Goal 9**). WaterAid's experience has shown that achieving and sustaining universal access to WASH closely depends on managing water resources on a sustainable basis. However the main driver behind poor and marginalized groups lacking access is not so much a physical shortage of water resources but rather the lack of accountable systems for equitable allocation and management of available water resources. The post-2015 framework should acknowledge that good management of natural resources is not just a technical issue but a political issue that is closely linked to the governance goal (**Goal 10**).

Finally the Q&A in the Annex raise a number of interesting and important questions regarding the framing of proposed goals. The draft text suggests that 'all targets should be timebound through to 2030 or earlier'. WaterAid strongly supports the inclusion of ambitious 'zero targets' for the achievement of human development goals including universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene by 2030 at latest (**Goal 1**). Given the broad scope of some of the other goals we accept that it may not be possible to set zero

targets for all goals, or to quantify all targets at global level. However WaterAid believes that wherever possible targets should be quantified at the global level in order to ensure comparison and mutual accountability for progress at international level which was one of the key strengths of the MDG targets

4. UN Global Compact Report on Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda

WaterAid welcomes the UN Global Compact report on Corporate Sustainability and the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda. The Global Compact should be applauded for facilitating extensive consultations with businesses and investors on priority issues to be addressed within the Post-2015 agenda and on the contribution of business to addressing them. WaterAid believes that business has an important role to play alongside government and civil society in enabling and supporting poverty eradication and sustainable development post-2015. We welcome the holistic and integrated approach to sustainable development recommended by the GC and particularly the recognition of the central importance of water and sanitation for poverty eradication. We believe that corporate water stewardship needs to extend beyond managing resource scarcity to include an increased focus on access to water, and in particular the unfinished business of sanitation as a shared risk to society. WaterAid therefore support the GC's call for responsible business engagement in supporting governments to deliver universal sustainable access to WASH as a Human Right.

WaterAid welcomes the holistic approach to sustainable development proposed by the UNGC. We particularly welcome the headline focus on 'ending extreme poverty' and the UNGC recommendation that this should be the 'apex' issue to which all other post-2015 goals and targets contribute. We are encouraged that water and sanitation issues are prominent in the narrative text and that "Water and Sanitation for All" is one of the 10 proposed sustainable development goals.

The MDG water and sanitation targets were given low priority under a much broader environmental goal and isolated from efforts to achieve goals on poverty, health, nutrition, education and gender equality. Sanitation has been particularly neglected. It is currently the most off track of all MDG targets undermining progress towards many other goals, particularly child health and nutrition. We believe that the inclusion of a dedicated goal on water and sanitation as proposed in the GC report is an appropriate reflection of the scale of the challenge and its central importance to ending poverty and hope that it can help reverse the widespread neglect of sanitation globally.

We are nevertheless disappointed that the importance of hygiene to progress on health, nutrition, education and gender equality is not reflected in either the narrative text or the targets. The failure to tackle hygiene was a major weakness of the MDG water and sanitation targets and WaterAid believes that the post-2015 framework should include targets and indicators relating to hand washing and menstrual hygiene management. Hand washing has a critical role to play in reducing the burden of diseases such as pneumonia and diarrhea and ending preventable child deaths. Menstrual hygiene management has a direct impact on women's sexual and reproductive health and is an important first step towards gender equality and women's economic empowerment.

We welcome the emphasis on human needs and capacities and commitment to addressing unmet challenges remaining in the core MDG areas post-2015. While the UNGC report rightly identifies education, health and gender equality as major areas of unfinished business it overlooks water and sanitation. The MDG water and sanitation

targets aimed only to halve the proportion of people without access to water and sanitation. While the aggregate MDG target for drinking water has been met, significant disparities exist between and within countries, and 768m people still lack access to an improved water source. The world is currently on track to miss the MDG sanitation target by more than half a billion people, and 2.5 billion people currently do not use an improved sanitation facility. At current rates of progress the sanitation target will not be met until 2025. Tackling the 'unfinished business' of the MDG target for sanitation therefore needs to be a top priority within the emerging Post-2015 agenda.

WaterAid welcomes the priority given to water and sanitation alongside food and agriculture and energy and climate. The UNGC rightly notes that water and sanitation is not only essential for human development but also for the economy and for the environment. WaterAid's experience has shown that achieving and sustaining universal access to WASH closely depends on managing water resources on a sustainable basis. However the main driver behind poor and marginalized groups lacking access is not so much a physical shortage of water resources but rather the lack of accountable systems for equitable allocation and management of available water resources. The post-2015 framework should acknowledge that good management of natural resources is not just a technical issue but a political issue that is closely linked to improved governance. It should also explicitly recognize the Human Right to Water and Sanitation, reaffirmed by resolutions of the UN General Assembly and UN Human Rights Council in 2010 and in the Rio+20 Future We Want outcome document, which places legally binding obligations on all States to make provision for progressive realization.

WaterAid welcomes the UNGC recommendations for engaging business and investors towards sustainable development goals. In particular we welcome the commitment to developing universal principles and accountability measures building on the ten principles of the Global Compact on human rights, labour standards, the environment and anti-corruption which set minimum standards that companies should respect. WaterAid believes that business needs to work with government and civil society to adapt and apply these generic principles in practice in specific sectors such as water, sanitation and hygiene. We also welcome the commitment to develop 'accountable corporate commitments aligned with global development goals'. WaterAid believes that the contribution of business towards achieving universal access to water and sanitation could be greatly enhanced through closer alignment with global goals and targets and national development strategies and plans.

WaterAid welcomes the commitment to support 'global issue platforms' and 'implementation mechanisms and networks that facilitate partnerships and collective action'. We believe that the recently established Sanitation and Water for All global partnership provides a valuable platform for bringing together governments, civil society and private sector to ensure effective resource mobilization and mutual accountability for progress towards universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Summary feedback on proposed goals, targets and indicators

We welcome the inclusion of the illustrative goal to achieve 'Water and sanitation for all' and the recognition of its central importance for both poverty eradication and

sustainable development. The targets outlined under goal #6 include a number of the elements recommended by WaterAid including universal access to water and sanitation by 2030, bringing water use in line with supply and addressing the wider environmental impacts of sanitation.

Goal 6: Water and sanitation for all

6a. Universal access to affordable fresh water

6b. Universal access to basic sanitation facilities by 2020 and improved sanitation facilities by 2030

6c. Freshwater use brought in line with supply

6d. Ensure establishment and full implementation of national water effluent standards

We are encouraged by the ambition of the GC and support the overall logic of a goal framework which is clearly focused on achieving measurable outcomes in a small number of areas which are universally important for poverty eradication and sustainable development. Achieving access to water and sanitation undoubtedly falls into this category and was routinely ranked among the top ten development priorities during recent national and global consultations. The illustrative targets provide a valuable starting point for continued deliberation and debate. Based on the work of the JMP Working Groups, there are a number of specific areas in which the targets could be improved and made more consistent:

8. **Hygiene should be included in the targets.** Hygiene is overlooked in GC targets. The JMP Working Groups proposed that handwashing facilities should be specifically mentioned for homes (everyone uses handwashing facilities when at home), and handwashing facilities and menstrual hygiene facilities for schools and health facilities (all schools and health centres provide all users with...handwashing facilities and menstrual hygiene facilities). Improving hand washing and menstrual hygiene facilities is directly relevant to the achievement of several other goals identified by the GC including: Goal 2 Quality Education for All; Goal 3 Achieve women and girls' empowerment; Goal 4 Universal Health Coverage; and Goal 5 Good nutrition for all.
9. **Priority extra-household settings should be explicitly included in the water, sanitation and hygiene targets.** The GC targets for water and sanitation do not specify priority extra-household settings such as schools, health facilities and work places where people spend a large part of their daily lives. WaterAid believes that post-2015 targets should look beyond the household and encourage an integrated approach to water, sanitation and hygiene in all priority extra-household settings. In all cases the accessibility and acceptability of WASH facilities for women, and girls, and for people with disabilities must be stipulated to ensure universal access.
10. **The wastewater target should be more comprehensive and include faecal sludge.** WaterAid believes that management of water effluent and in particular faecal sludge will be a major challenge post-2015, particularly in urban areas. The narrative text of the GC report highlights the growing problem of 'waste matter leaching into groundwater, compromising water supplies, bringing disease and polluting farmlands'. If the intention of the GC target on water effluent is to

encourage “full management” of wastewater, then fecal sludge management should be explicitly added. This would include safe treatment, disposal and or re-use of pit latrine and septic tank contents, and is particularly important as fecal sludge management is very relevant to the urban poor, who rely to a large extent on on-site sanitation. The meaning of the term “water effluent” is open to different interpretations. The term “all wastewater and fecal sludge” is therefore preferable.

- 11. The targets should require progressive elimination of inequalities in access to services.** The GC report narrative text recommends that targets should be formulated based on established principles regarding human rights, labour standards and the environment. Progressive realization of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation implies tackling existing inequalities with a specific focus on the most excluded and vulnerable groups. However the goals and targets outlined in the GC report do not specify how inequality should be addressed in practice.

WaterAid strongly supports the recommendation of the JMP Working Groups that targets and indicators should be crafted that specifically call for the reduction and ultimate elimination of inequalities through targeting of the “most disadvantaged groups” while retaining attention to improvements for the lowest quintile. It is proposed that States themselves identify the most disadvantaged group to be monitored on the global level through a participatory process. Without such a concrete commitment on operationalizing the elimination of inequalities, this objective will simply remain a “good intention” on paper. WASH indicators should therefore be disaggregated between rich and poor, urban and rural, slums and formal urban settlements, and disadvantaged groups (identified through participatory national processes) and the general population. Data should also identify intra-household inequalities associated with gender, disability and age that are common in all countries. The JMP Working Groups proposed a detailed methodology for measuring and monitoring progress in this area.

- 12. Detailed indicators and definitions need to be developed for each target.** The GC report applies the adjective “affordable” in relation to fresh water, and “basic” and “improved” in relation to sanitation but does not include any other parameters or adjectives. The JMP Working Groups defined “basic” and “intermediate” drinking water, “adequate” sanitation and “adequate” hygiene facilities. These detailed definitions and indicators specify the ambition of the targets, for instance, they specify the maximum time that should be spent collecting water from a source considered basic, and include a measure of water quality for intermediate supply. The sanitation definition specifies which types of sanitation are acceptable and how many people could share a sanitation facility. The hygiene definition specifies standards for hand washing and menstrual hygiene management facilities. Detailed definitions outline the minimum levels of service in schools and health centres based on existing WHO standards. These definitions could be adopted for future evolutions of the targets.

- 13. Systems for monitoring and aggregating data at national and global levels need to be strengthened.** The GC report calls for goals and targets which are global in scope, taking into account differences in the level of development, and SMART with check points every five years and benchmarked to 2010. This will

require diverse stakeholders including government, business and civil society to come together to fill critical gaps, expand data accessibility and establish a baseline for monitoring post-2015 targets. The JMP working groups recommended building on and enhancing existing monitoring systems and exploring how these might be combined with new emerging sources of data in future. For example, to measure the progressive elimination of inequalities, methodologies must be designed to assess inequalities in WASH access within households due to gender, age and disability. Methodologies are also needed to assess the accessibility and acceptability of WASH facilities outside the home for women (including for menstrual hygiene management), children and people with disabilities. During 2013 proposed indicators and their data sources will be further validated to ensure that the indicators robustly measure the proposed targets. The JMP will then collect information where data is available in order to establish a credible baseline for global monitoring of water, sanitation and hygiene post-2015.