

# Clean Water for a Healthy World. The Effect of Water & Sanitation on Child Health





# Content

1.	Introduction	2
	1.1 UN 70 Anniversary	2
2.	The WHO work's	3
	2.1 Functions	4
3.	WHO in the Clean Water and Sanitation on Child Health	4
	3.1 Sanitation of drinking water	5
	3.2 Water sanitation to fight diseases	6
	3.3 Sanitation of water for personal hygiene	6
4.	SPECIFIC TOPIC	7
	4.1 Goal 4: Reduce child mortality	7
	4.2 Goal 5: Improve maternal health	8
	4.3 Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and the others diseases	9
5.	Items to be discussed during the simulation	9
	5.1 Items to be consider in order to propose possible solutions	10
	5.2 Useful tips for the debate	10
6.	Learn more about your topic	11
	6.1 Website	11
	6.2 Documents	11
	6.2 Pasalutions about tonic	12

#### 1. Introduction

The Model of United Nation is a simulation of the UN General Assembly, UN Security Council, or other multilateral body. You must learn how the international community acts on its concerns about the WHO's work (World Health Organization), in this case, you must work this topic: "Clean Water for a Healthy World. The Effect of Water & Sanitation on Child Health".

The preparation of the assigned subject involves a study of all matters related to the subject, in this case "Clean Water for a Healthy World".

The objective of this research process is that the delegate can identify the country's position on the issue representing, in order to build policies and workable solutions. To achieve this, the participant must study history and topicality, its legal framework (treaties, resolutions, agreements, etc.), positions and decisions that have arisen in favor or against this, groups or blocks that have been created, proposals and solutions that have been presented, among others. If the participant wishes to complete its preparation, you can write a position paper that describes the topic, it becomes known and the position taken and propose action to solve the problem is warranted.

You will discuss on this topic about the clean water and the child health, and its relation with children's health. You will discuss consequence and possible solutions, to get your proposals. You also must to take into account documents from other organizations that work in this topic, for example, UNICEF, WaterAid, etc.

In this dossier you will also find can the WHO (World Health Organization) work its functions, objectives, programmes, member states, etc and how this organization works on this issue: Water Sanitation and Health, drinking water quality, health and children as well as the important relation between drinking water, and achievement of the MDGs (Millennium development goals) 4,5 and 6.

And finally, what items you must discuss in the United Nations Model.

#### 1.1 UN 70 Anniversary

The year 2015 will be a very important date for the whole United Nations family. Not only the end of one of the most important initiatives that the UN has made since its creation, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), but also marks the commemoration of its 70th anniversary.

Under the slogan "Strong UN, better world", the United Nations wants to stress the importance of new opportunity and strong commitment for next generations that people and protection of the planet are a central part of the organization's work. Furthermore, ending poverty through new challenges as the Post 2015 Development Agenda and not leaving anyone behind and providing decent living standards, should also be a priority for our youth.

Achieving these ideals can only be done by a youth committed with dialogue and better mutual understanding. A social harmony enhanced by tools that strengthen their ability to manage, to understand, to choose and work with their emotions and the emotions of the others in an efficient way, will generate positive outcomes such as conflict resolution, decision making, empathy, encouragement of values or creativity. All of these goals are also main objectives of the Global Classrooms Cantabria.

#### 2. The WHO work's

The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights.

The Charter established six principal organs of the United Nations: the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the Secretariat. The United Nations family, however, is much larger, encompassing 15 agencies and several programmes and bodies.

Specialized Agencies, Related Organizations, Funds, and other U	N Entities
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	FAO
International Civil Aviation Organization	ICAO
International Fund for Agricultural Development	IFAD
International Labour Organization	ILO
International Maritime Organization	IMO
International Monetary Fund	IMF
International Telecommunication Union	ITU
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNESCO
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	UNIDO
Universal Postal Union	UPU
World Bank Group	
World Health Organization	WHO
World Intellectual Property Organization	WIPO
World Meteorological Organization	WMO
World Tourism Organization	UNWTO

WHO is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

The World Health Assembly (193 countries) is the supreme decision-making body for WHO. The Executive Board is composed of 34 members technically qualified in the field of health. The Secretariat of WHO is staffed by some 8000 health and other experts and support staff on fixed-term appointments, working at headquarters, in the six regional offices, and in countries.

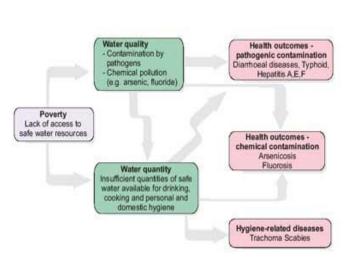
And the other hand, one study United Nations in World Water Day, demonstrates the necessity of bringing drinking water and sanitation to the forefront of the development agenda in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by the 2015 deadline. World Water Day was conceived at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. The Water for Life Decade 2005-2015 puts the spotlight on water-related programmes and the participation of women, and aims to boost efforts for achieving international water-related goals and the UN Millennium Declaration.

#### 2.1 Functions

The functions of the WHO are:

- Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge;
- Setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- Articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- Providing technical support, catalyzing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity; and
- Monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends.

#### 3. WHO in the Clean Water and Sanitation on Child Health<sup>1</sup>



Improving the health of children is one of the many responsibilities involved to fight against poverty.

UN Declares 2005-2015 "Water for Life" as the International Decade for Action and set's the world agenda on a greater focus on water-related issues, (is important focusing this in your speeches).

Water is essential for life. The amount of fresh water on earth is limited, and its quality is under

constant pressure. Preserving the quality of fresh water is important for the drinking-water supply, food production and recreational water use. Water quality can be compromised by the presence of infectious agents, toxic chemicals, and radiological hazards.

WHO's strategic focus contributing to the world efforts towards the achievement of the water and sanitation target deals with a range of interventions from promotion and advocacy at all levels to country operations targeting the poor and underserved based on a strong and authoritative set of norms and best-practice tools. WHO's programmatic areas of emphasis works with partners and include:

- Global monitoring of the water supply and sanitation sector through the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), which is the United Nations System instrument used to measure progress at country, regional and global levels in achieving the MDG water and sanitation target;
- Preparation, continuous updating and wide dissemination of the WHO's Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality and other norms which are fundamental to improve the quality of water and sanitation services;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Is important to revise documents in Water Sanitation and Health (WSH) in WHO, the documents of UNICEF. Check this link referent to water, children and sanitation. http://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/mdg1/en/

- Pioneering studies comparing the cost of providing or improving water and sanitation services and the health and non-health benefits of the different interventions;
- Strong support to the use of sound approaches towards improving sanitation coverage with technologies which are affordable, effective and environmentallyfriendly.

In the 2010 MDG Summit concluded with the adoption of a global action plan and the announcement of a number of initiatives against poverty, hunger and disease. In a major push to accelerate progress on women's and children's health, a number of Heads of State and Government from developed and developing countries, along with the private sector, foundations, international organizations, civil society and research organizations, pledged over \$40 billion in resources over the next five years.

Dr LEE Jong-wook, Director-General, World Health Organization said: "Water and Sanitation is one of the primary drivers of public health. I often refer to it as "Health 101", which means that once we can secure access to clean water and to adequate sanitation facilities for all people, irrespective of the difference in their living conditions, a huge battle against all kinds of diseases will be won".

#### 3.1 Sanitation of drinking water

WHO and UNICEF provide the UN system's monitoring of progress on MDG target 10:

- Drinking water is water used for domestic purposes, drinking, cooking and personal hygiene;
- Access to drinking water means that the source is less than 1 kilometer away from its place of use and that it is possible to reliably obtain at least 20 litres per member of a household per day;
- Safe drinking water is water with microbial, chemical and physical characteristics that meet WHO guidelines or national standards on drinking water quality;
- Access to safe drinking water is the proportion of people using improved drinking water sources: household connection; public standpipe; borehole; protected dug well; protected spring; rainwater.

In this case, we must discuss 4 main topics:

- 1. Water Sanitation and Health
- 2. Clean water in health from children
- 3. Water negative effects in the spread of diseases
- 4. Water sanitation to achieve the millennium development goals (4-5-6)

Point 4	Point 5	Point 6
Reduce child	Improve maternal health	Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and
mortality		the others diseases

Is important also the **Goal 7 Ensure environmental sustainability**:

#### Target 10

- Halve by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.
- Integrate sanitation into water resources management strategies.

You must be discussed those 3 main goals, we must work consequence and solutions.

#### 3.2 Water sanitation to fight diseases

Some 300 million Africans lack access to safe drinking water and at least fourteen countries on the continent suffer a permanent water deficit. Of the 55 countries whose consumption of potable water per person per day is below the minimum of fifty liters established by the WHO, 35 of them are in Africa.

According to WHO, at any one time, two out of every thousand people -three quarters of them under five years- will suffer some kind of disease related to the consumption of contaminated water or poor quality.

- *Diarrhea* is a consequence of unsafe drinking water, this problem is a major cause of infant mortality because cause dehydration and accentuate the effects of chronic malnutrition.2
- Malaria: 1.2 million people die of malaria each year, 90% of whom are children under 5. There are 396 million episodes of malaria every year; most of the disease burden is in Africa south of the Sahara.
  - Intensified irrigation, dams and other water related projects contribute importantly to this disease burden.
- **Schistosomiasis:** The disease causes tens of thousands of deaths every year, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa.
  - It is strongly related to unsanitary excreta disposal and absence of nearby sources of safe water.
- *Hepatitis A*: There are 1.5 million cases of clinical hepatitis A every year.

And the other hand, in most developed countries, such as South Africa, pollution from industrial and agricultural wastes such as metals, pesticides or fertilizers is common; but the main problem is the lack of treatment of urban wastewater in characterized by chaotic development of the slums of the big cities. The resulting problem, such as outbreaks of cholera and typhus and endemic gastroenteritis is a major cause of infant mortality in the most populated areas of the continent.

WHO, published a roadmap to guide and coordinate the international response to the outbreak of Ebola virus disease in West Africa.

The 2014 Ebola Virus Disease (EVD, or "Ebola") outbreak continues to evolve in alarming ways, with the severely affected countries, Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone, struggling to control the escalating outbreak against a backdrop of severely compromised health systems, significant deficits in capacity, and rampant fear.

National authorities in the affected countries have been working with WHO and partners to scale up control measures.

It is important to work on the issue of drinking water and sanitation water to contain the spread of the virus in Africa zone.

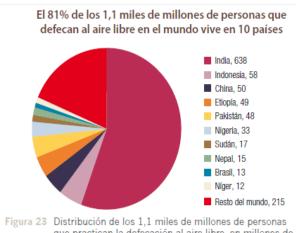
#### 3.3 Sanitation of water for personal hygiene

Among the main problems which are responsible for this situation are: lack of priority given to the sector, lack of financial resources, lack of sustainability of water supply and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> You can see statistics with specific countries in Africa: http://www.unicef.org/spanish/infobycountry/ethiopia statistics.html#115

sanitation services, poor hygiene behaviors, and inadequate sanitation in public places including hospitals, health centers and schools. Providing access to sufficient quantities of safe water, the provision of facilities for a sanitary disposal of excreta, and introducing sound hygiene behaviors are of capital importance to reduce the burden of disease caused by these risk factors.

More than half of the world's population lives in villages and rural areas and most of those without access to safe water sources or basic sanitation are rural dwellers.



que practican la defecación al aire libre, en millones de personas, según datos de 2008

Because of the rapid growth of urban population, more and more people defecate in the open in urban areas.3 In densely populated urban areas often there is not enough space to build private sanitation facilities, so people use shared public facilities; this is a very big problem.

The goal of hygiene promotion is to help people to understand and develop good hygiene practices, so as to prevent disease and promote positive attitudes towards cleanliness. Several community development activities can be used to

achieve this goal, including education and learning programmes, encouraging community management of environmental health facilities, and social mobilization and organization. Hygiene promotion is not simply a matter of providing information. It is more a dialogue with communities about hygiene and related health problems, to encourage improved hygiene practices.

# 4. Specific Topic

You must explain and remark to another delegates the importance and need of clean water, especially for the most vulnerable sector of the world population like children's in order to prevent and control the transmission of diseases.

Water and sanitation are also, integral aspects of ensuring environmental sustainability, as per Millennium Development Goal.

#### 4.1 Goal 4: Reduce child mortality

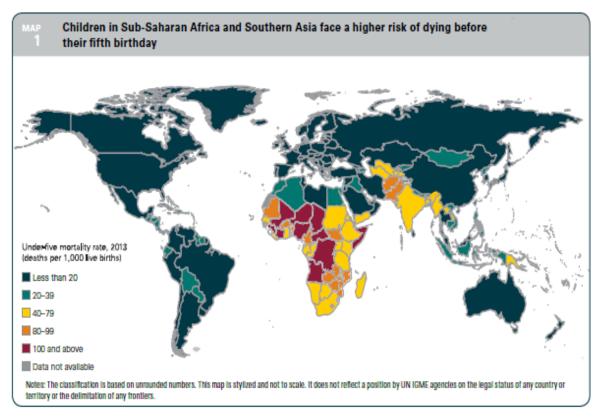
The problems of water management are particularly acute in Africa. The lack of drinking water is responsible for serious health problems in the general population and main direct cause of high infant mortality in the region.

Almost 90 per cent of child deaths from diarrheal diseases are directly linked to contaminated water, lack of sanitation, or inadequate hygiene. Despite a burgeoning global population, these deaths have come down significantly over the last decade, from 1.2 million per year in 2000 to about 760,000 a year in 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> You can see the percentage of country open defecation

Millennium Development Goal 4 (MDG 4) calls for reducing the under-five mortality rate by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015. The child survival remains an urgent concern. The toll of under-five deaths over the past two decades is staggering: between 1990 and 2013, 223 million children worldwide died before their fifth birthday.

Of the 783 million people worldwide without improved drinking water, there are 119 million in China; 97 million in India; 66 million in Nigeria; 36 million in DRC; and 15 million in Pakistan.



Source: UNICEF

#### Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate

- Despite population growth, the number of deaths in children under five worldwide declined from 12.6 million in 1990 to 6.6 million in 2012, which translates into about 17,000 fewer children dying each day.
- Since 2000, measles vaccines have averted over 14 million deaths.
- Despite determined global progress in reducing child deaths, an increasing proportion of child deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia. Four out of every five deaths of children under age five occur in these regions.
- As the rate of under-five deaths overall declines, the proportion that occurs during the first month after birth is increasing.

#### 4.2 Goal 5: Improve maternal health

### Reduce by three quarters, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality ratio

• The maternal mortality ratio dropped by 45 per cent between 1990 and 2013, from 380 to 210 deaths per 100,000 live births.

• The proportion of deliveries in developing regions attended by skilled health personnel rose from 56 in 1990 to 68 per cent in 2012.

#### 4.3 Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS malaria and the others diseases

Children are the most vulnerable to water-related diseases. Diarrhoea, caused by unclean water, is a leading cause of child mortality. Although diarrhoea mortality has declined in recent years, it remains the second leading cause of death for children under five (after pneumonia), accounting for one-fifth of child deaths. This death toll is greater than that caused by AIDS, malaria and measles combined.

#### Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

- New HIV infections continue to decline in most regions.
- The number of new HIV infections per 100 adults (aged 15 to 49) declined by 44 per cent between 2001 and 2012.
- An estimated 2.3 million cases of people of all ages are newly infected and 1.6 million people died from AID-related causes.

#### Have halted by 2015 and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

- Between 2000 and 2012, the substantial expansion of malaria interventions led to a 42 per cent decline in malaria mortality rates globally.
- In the decade since 2000, 3.3 million deaths from malaria were averted, and the lives of three million young children were saved.
- Thanks to increased funding, more children are sleeping under insecticide-treated bed nets in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Treatment for tuberculosis has saved some 22 million lives between 1995 and 2012.

# 5. Items to be discussed during the simulation

#### Key questions to answer:

- What is the source of the problem? What have been your developments? What is the current state of affairs?
- How you tried to solve the problem? What have been the consequences of these actions? What has been the country's position on these measures?
- How have the states involved in the problem? Who are the most important in the discussion? What are their positions?
- What international organizations have been involved in resolving the issue?
- What are the resolutions, treaties, conventions, agreements, etc., governing this matter? Which nations are partakers of these? How were the ratings? Who were those for and against?
- What has been the historical position of the country? What are the agreements, treaties or agreements signed and ratified deal with the issue? What country has supported resolutions? Why?
- What measures proposed to the country deal with the issue? (particularly review the speeches of the representatives of the state)
- What is the position of the country today?

#### 5.1 Items to be considered in order to propose possible solutions

- To promote poor people's rights, to be aware of their rights. The access to safe water is a right, and the improved hygiene and sanitation also.
- To support governments and service providers in developing their capacity to deliver safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation.
- To advocate for the essential role of safe water, improved hygiene and sanitation in human development.
- To further develop as an effective global organization recognized as a leader in our field and for living our values.

#### 5.2 Useful tips for the debate

In order to have a fruitful debate, it is recommended that the delegates take into account the following recommendations to lead the discussions:

- ✓ At the beginning of the debate, make a general statement regarding the topic (the general statement can be a summary of your country's position paper)
- ✓ Address the related topics through different perspectives: social, economic, educational, environmental,...
- ✓ Take a look and comment the progress and failures of resolutions approved in the
- ✓ Propose new ideas and objectives (common and individual) for new resolutions
- ✓ Find out who are the key players on the international and regional level
- ✓ Find alliances between the present members (make agreements with States that have a similar position to yours) – this will help you to cooperate
- ✓ Find out which ideas your country is able to support and on which you will disagree
- ✓ Contemplate the possible road blocks of the objectives to prevent failure
- ✓ Present (written) ideas for a draft resolution
- ✓ Share why the country you represent supports or is against the draft resolution(s)
- ✓ Vote on proposed draft resolution(s)

Delegates should also take into consideration the following measures to take their decisions during the debate:

- ✓ Is important that the measures that you propose to delegates into the debate, will be to achieve the Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6
- ✓ Establish a program to clean water
- ✓ Coordinate with principally Africans countries, also with called countries of "first world" and with other delegates, measures to improve session in hygiene and health. Coordinate with UNICEF, and another international organization, for example UNDP, Population Fund, etc... to reduce mortality children.
- ✓ Reduce child mortality in vulnerable countries, and propose a study each year about the measures and results of the programs established in this Model.
- ✓ To establish a multidisciplinary approach based on prevention, preparedness and response, along with an efficient surveillance system, as a key for mitigating diseases outbreaks, in endemic areas and reducing deaths.
- ✓ Don't forget goals Millennium Development Goals.

## 6. Learn more about your topic

In order to help you in finding out more information about your country's position and to learn more about mentioned organisms and conferences to help you with taking decisions, please go through the following information:

#### 6.1 Website

- http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/publications/factsfigures04/en/
- http://biodiversity-l.iisd.org/news/fao-documents-wildlife-extinction-risks-from-climatechange/
- <a href="http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/childhealth.shtml">http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/childhealth.shtml</a>
- http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/waterforlife.pdf
- http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/mdg1/en/
- http://unu.edu/publications/articles/quantifying-water-supply-sanitation-and-themdgs.html
- http://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/monitoring/jmpfinal.pdf
- http://www.unicef.org/media/media\_68359.html
- http://www.who.int/ceh/risks/cehwater2/en/
- http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/children-and-water-sanitation-and-hygiene-evidence
- http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/unicef.pdf
- http://www.wateraid.org/what-we-do/the-crisis/statistics
- http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241548014\_eng.pdf
- http://www.zaragoza.es/contenidos/medioambiente/onu/625-spa-ed2010.pdf
- http://www2.uah.es/rosal/News/N002.htm
- http://www.un.org/spanish/waterforlifedecade/.
- http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/131596/1/EbolaResponseRoadmap.pdf?ua=1&u
- http://www.fundacionbotin.org/aguas-subterraneas resultados-biblioteca-botin -177581372657.htm

#### 6.2 Documents

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Links to Health FACTS AND FIGURES http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/publications/factsfigures04/en/
- Levels & Trends in child Mortality http://www.childmortality.org/files v17/download/UNICEF%202014%20IGME%20 child%20mortality%20Report Final.pdf
- Toxic cyanobacteria in water, "A guide to their public health consequences, monitoring and management".
  - http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/resourcesquality/toxicyanbact/en/
- Drinking-water quality, <a href="http://www.who.int/water sanitation">http://www.who.int/water sanitation</a> health/dwg/en/
- Water supply, sanitation and hygiene development http://www.who.int/water sanitation health/hygiene/en/
- Global costs and benefits of drinking-water supply and sanitation interventions to reach the MDG target and universal coverage http://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/publications/2012/global\_costs/en/
- Global costs and benefits of drinking-water supply and sanitation interventions to reach the MDG target and universal coverage http://www.who.int/water\_sanitation\_health/publications/2012/global\_costs/en/

- International Decade for Action "WATER FOR LIFE" <a href="http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/index.shtml">http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/index.shtml</a>
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations University (UNU), UN-Water Decade Programme on Advocacy and Communication (UNW-DPAC). August 2014
  - http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer Onu?id=997
- Water Safety in Distribution Systems http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer Onu?id=1027
- UNESCO-International Hydrological Programme (IHP). June 2014, http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer\_Onu?id=980
- Water in the post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals. Discussion Paper
  - http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer Onu?id=1023
- Ending Preventable Child Deaths from Pneumonia and Diarrhoea by 2025. The integrated Global Action Plan for Pneumonia and Diarrhoea (GAPPD) <a href="http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer Onu?id=720">http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/medioambiente/onu/en/detallePer Onu?id=720</a>
- The Human Right to Water and Sanitation
  <a href="http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/pdf/human right to water and sanitation miles tones.pdf">http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/pdf/human right to water and sanitation miles tones.pdf</a>
  - 6.3 Resolutions about topic
- International Conference on Water and Sustainable Development. Dublin Conference www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrp/documents/english/icwedece.html
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Rio Summit www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/
- United Nations International Conference on Population and Development www.un.org/popin/icpd2.htm
- UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/54/175 "The Right to Development" <a href="http://www.worldlii.org/int/other/UNGARsn/1999/261.pdf">http://www.worldlii.org/int/other/UNGARsn/1999/261.pdf</a>
- General Comments No. 15. The right to water http://www.unhcr.org/49d095742.html
- Draft Guidelines for the Realization of the Right to Drinking Water and Sanitation.
  E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/25
- UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/292 http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/64/292

# This dossier has been made by the United Nations Association of Spain with the collaboration of Ana Lucía Olivos

**DISCLAIMER:** This dossier is a mere compilation of data to serve Global Classroom Cantabria for your Committee debate purposes and must not be cited as reference in academic research. For citable sources, please refer to the endnotes