FRENCH WATER ACADEMY

The French Water Academy was created in 1993 by the Water Agencies and the French Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development.

Our objectives are as follows:

- **TO ENHANCE** the value of water heritage by facilitating information exchanges (technical, legal, scientific, cultural etc.) and thematic working groups.

- **TO CONTRIBUTE** to water management improvement, especially through initiating and supporting studies, organization of colloquiums, preparation of recommendations with regard to sustainable development.

- **TO DEVELOP** national and international relations between stakeholders involved in water management.

- **TO IMPROVE** public awareness as to water-related issues.

The French Water Academy is a non-profit association. Its first President was Professor DAUSSET, Nobel Laureate for Medicine. Its second President was Professor Marc GENTILINI, Former President of the French Red Cross and of the French Academy of Medicine. Its current President is Mr. Serge LEPELTIER, Former Minister of Ecology and Sustainable Development, Chairman of Loire-Bretagne Basin Committee, Former Mayor of Burges. Mr. Jean-Louis OLIVER and Mr. Marc-Antoine MARTIN are respectively Secretary General and Treasurer of the French Water Academy.

The French Water Academy has currently more than 150 members. These include both individuals and legal entities involved in diversified activities: life sciences, human biology, urban planning and water specialists from French and foreign public and private organizations. They combine their knowledge, expertise and experience to cover the water issues in all their complexity. The balanced nature of our membership (under 50% are water specialists, over 50% come from other disciplines) aims to facilitate cross-disciplinary thinking and objectivity on the consequences of climate change on the water policy.

The French Water Academy is a member of the Board of Governors of the World Water Council located in Marseilles (France).

From its creation, the French Water Academy has participated in the World Water Forum (WWF), held every three years:

- At the 2nd WWF in The Hague in 2000, we presented the Water Social Chart.

- At the 3rd WWF in Kyoto in 2003, we co-organized, along with UNESCO, a two-day symposium on water and cultural diversity. This event was illustrated by an exhibition jointly organized with the National Museum of Ethnology of Osaka and the Alliance Française.

- In 2006, at the 4th WWF in Mexico, the French Water Academy and the International Secretariat for Water organized the First International "Water and Film" event which was accompanied by several debates and a roundtable conference on the occasion of the World Water Day "Water and culture" (http://www.unesco.org/water/wwd2006/).

- At the 5th WWF in Istanbul in 2009, we held a high-level international roundtable entitled "Water Mediators" at the World Water Council Pavilion, and launched our thematic interactive website about interactions between water and cultural diversity www.eaudiversiteculturelle.org.

Within the framework of the 6th World Water Forum that was held in Marseilles in March 2012, the French Water Academy has been working on the following areas:

- The right to water, its implementation and the notion of sanitation;
- Water and health ;
- Water and climate change ;
- Water supply and sanitation access for populations in crisis situations: natural and technological disasters, fragile states and internal disturbances, armed conflicts …;
- Shared waters, especially transboundary aquifers;
- Cultural dimension of water management ;

For further information about our activities and publications, please visit our website: www.academie-eau.org