

Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote

Seminar: Water security

Timing: Morning, 2nd November 2010

Venue: Sixty One Whitehall, London SW1A 2ET

Agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Roger Harrabin, Environment Analyst, BBC
- 9.05 - 9.20 **Water security: setting the context**
Professor Peter Guthrie, Head, Centre for Sustainable Development, Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge
- 9.20 - 9.30 **Water security: the global challenge**
How great is the challenge posed by water scarcity and stress, and how does this differ across the world? How is global environmental change, as well as population and economic growth, likely to affect stress on water resources?
Dr Mark Zeitoun, Senior Lecturer, School of International Development and Water Security Research Centre, University of East Anglia
- 9.30 - 9.40 **Water security in low-income countries and communities**
Defining water security in low-income countries. What are the consequences of water insecurity for health and livelihoods? What should be the priorities for reducing water poverty and insecurity? International collaboration to achieve water security.
Professor Richard Carter, Head of Technical Support, WaterAid
- 9.40 - 9.50 **The impact of 'virtual' or embedded water on water security**
What is virtual water? How does the concept of virtual water contribute to the understanding of how water is used to produce different goods and services? How might the virtual water concept be used to inform the development of more socially and environmentally sustainable trade in goods containing embedded water?
Professor Tony Allan, Founder and Supervisor, Water Research Group, King's College London and SOAS
- 9.50 - 10.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 - 11.05 **Water security: the UK perspective**
What is the current status of supply and demand for water in the UK, at a national and subnational level? How are levels of demand for water likely to change in the future in the context of changing demographics and a changing climate? What will be the likely effects of water scarcity in other parts of the world on the UK? Will water supply match demand? How might water security be enhanced by conservation measures, greater co-operation and technological developments? Could water storage be expanded to help conserve water supplies, both in industry and at home? Where does water security fit into the wider food and energy security agenda? Are water users, both in industry and as private consumers, effectively incentivised to use water more sustainably?
Jacob Tompkins, Managing Director, Waterwise
Dr Ashok Chapagain, Senior Water Advisor, WWF-UK
Yvette de Garis, Head of Environment and Quality Strategy, Thames Water
Nina Bhatia, Managing Director, Electrical & Dyno Services, British Gas
Dr Mike Keil, Head of Climate Change Policy, Ofwat
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.05 - 11.10 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Roger Harrabin, Environment Analyst, BBC
- 11.10 - 11.30 Coffee
- 11.30 - 11.35 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Earl of Selborne, Secretary, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Water
- 11.35 - 11.55 **Water security: an engineering perspective**
How can engineers and engineering contribute to solving water scarcity problems and improving water security? Do engineering and other water professionals have a platform from which to influence policy-makers, and if not, why not?
Michael Norton, Managing Director, Water and Power, Halcrow Group
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.35 **Water security, sustainability of supply and resilience: the challenge for the UK food chain**
What should be the role of farming and the wider food and drink industry in combating potential water scarcity? How much do consumers know about water use in the food chain, and embedded water in food? Do consumers have a responsibility to use water more sustainably? What progress has been made through the Federation House Commitment, and what more could be done to engage a wider group of stakeholders and conserve more water?
David Bellamy, Environment Policy Manager, Food and Drink Federation
Jenny Bashford, Water Policy Adviser, NFU
Simon Barnes, Senior Sustainability Analyst, IGD
Andy Wales, Global Head of Sustainable Development, SABMiller
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **Water security - a UK policy perspective**
John Bourne, Food and Farming Group, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's closing remarks and Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum closing remarks**
Earl of Selborne, Secretary, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Water
Michael Ryan, Senior Producer, Westminster Food & Nutrition Forum