



Singapore International Water Week launches Blue Paper and Solutions

Launched at the IDA World Congress 2011, this strategic resource for global water leaders outlines imperatives including the need to price water to reflect its scarcity while ensuring its affordability, and the need to adopt an integrated approach to water planning and management to reap greater efficiencies.



Singapore, 5 September 2011: Key ideas from the Water Leaders Summit 2011 and a recap of the activities at Singapore International Water Week 2011 have been captured in the latest Water Week 2011 publications, *Blue Paper* and *Solutions*, respectively. The publications were launched by Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources at the International Desalination Association (IDA) World Congress on Desalination & Water Reuse in Perth, Western Australia today.

The Blue Paper serves as a strategic resource for global water leaders in the development of sustainable solutions in their own cities. It documents, amongst others, key discussions from the Water Leaders Summit including the inaugural Water Conversation with Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Water Ministers Plenary, and Water Leaders Roundtable.

Salient takeaways from these dialogues outlines imperatives such as the need to price water not just to reflect the cost of production and delivery but also its scarcity value while ensuring that water was affordable; the need to harness desalination and water reuse technologies to overcome long-term water challenges; recognising correlation between food security and water security; and the need for governments to address the water-energy nexus by adopting an integrated approach for water-energy planning and management to reap greater efficiencies. The full excerpt of salient points captured in the Blue Paper can be found in the Annex.

Themed "Desalination: Sustainable Solutions for a Thirsty Planet", the IDA World Congress 2011 is expected to draw over 1,200 industry professionals and leaders from over 40 countries. One of the key events on the global water calendar, it brings together the desalination industry's greatest thinkers and achievers, from leading scientists and researchers, to end-users, suppliers and manufacturers. The theme of this year's congress underscores the increasing importance of desalination in addressing challenges in the security of water supply, and the impact that climate change has on water resources planning.

Singapore's participation and launch of *Blue Paper* and *Solutions* at the IDA World Congress cements the strong and synergistic partnership between Singapore and IDA in developing sustainable water solutions. In 2005, PUB played host to the World Congress, with a record of over 850 attendees from 47 countries. Both organisations then moved on to organise the Singapore Desalination and Water Reuse Summit in 2007. That set the stage for closer collaboration between IDA and PUB on the Singapore International Water Week, Water Leaders Summit, research and development, and the IDA Fellowship Award programme.

More significantly, Singapore shares IDA's commitment towards desalination and water reuse as two sustainable sources of water. Recycled water, branded NEWater in Singapore, and desalinated water are part of PUB's Four National Taps, a long term water supply strategy to ensure a robust and sustainable water supply for Singapore.

Singapore's commitment towards pursuing innovation in desalination saw PUB embarking on a partnership with Hyflux in April this year to develop Singapore's second and largest desalination plant – Tuaspring Desalination Plant, with a long term goal for desalination to meet 30% of Singapore's water demand. PUB is also engaged in various R&D collaborations to chart new milestones in desalination, with projects aimed at reducing the energy consumption by over 50%, and using biomimicry to mimic natural desalination systems such as mangrove plants and saltwater fishes to further improve the energy efficiency of desalination processes.

Read the full press release [here](#).

A copy of the *Blue Paper* and *Solutions* can be downloaded at <http://www.siww.com.sg/>.

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