

Interventions made by Mr. Muhammad Hassan, Delegate of Pakistan to the CSD-12 On
Implementation of JPOI Decisions regarding Water, sanitation and Human Settlement
and Partnerships
(21 April 2004)

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to align itself with the statement made by Qatar, on behalf of G-77 and China. We would like to thank the Secretary General for the comprehensive reports on the three thematic issues of water, sanitation and human settlements.

Mr. Chairman,

The Agenda 21, Millennium Declaration and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) provides sufficient mandate for this Commission to initiate a road-map that could ensure the realization of the objective of the sustainable development of all and the achievement of the targets set out by the Millennium Declaration and JPOI with regard to the provision of safe drinking water, shelter and sanitation by 2015.

For Pakistan and its economy, water is of utmost importance. More than 70% of our population and 25% of our GDP depends on agriculture, which is mainly fed by irrigated water. Irrigated water also fulfills 90% of our food and fiber requirements. In addition, we also need to provide safe drinking water to our more than 140 million of population, which is one of the priorities of the present Government. At present, around 7% of the available water resources in Pakistan are being used for supplies to urban and rural population and industry. The remaining 93% of the water is utilized for agriculture. However, with the increase in Pakistan's population, the percentage of water requirement, particularly for urban water supply, is also increasing dramatically.

Pakistan is also aware of the linkages between water, sanitation and human settlements as well as the need to adopt an integrated approach to address the issues related to these areas. Improving the provision of safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to poorest segment of our society, especially to the slums dwellers, is therefore, one of the primary objectives of Pakistan's poverty alleviation programme. With the completion of Pakistan's ambitious plan "Vision 2025" we envisage to have adequate water available, through proper conservation and development.
