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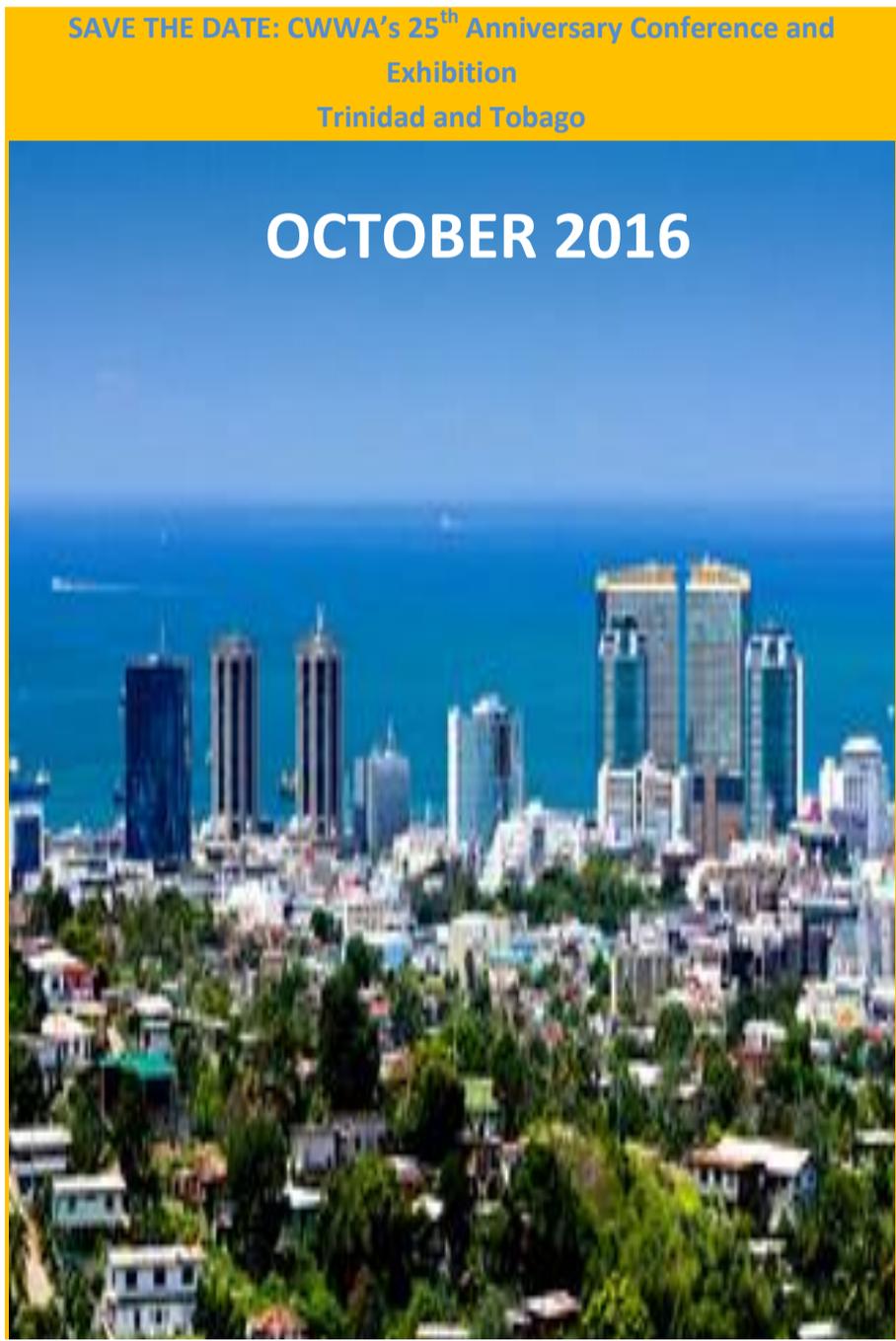
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Secretariat Update

The Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association CWWA wishes to take this opportunity to wish our valued members, partners, sister organizations and the entire water and wastewater community, a happy and holy holiday season. We are thankful for your support throughout the year and we look forward to it in 2016.

From all of us at CWWA, enjoy a safe and happy holiday season and a productive 2016.





Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP21)

The 21st United Nations Conference of the Parties, or COP21, which is underway in Paris, France, aims to unite around 150 nations for a single agreement on tackling climate change. The idea is to cap the rate of global warming at 2 degrees Celsius – compared to the current 2.5 to 3.76 degrees Celsius. This will be done by among other things, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and shifting towards cleaner energies such as wind or solar power.

Reasons for climate change:

- ✚ Global warming has started since the mid-19th Century, when industrial-scale emissions began.
- ✚ Now scientists say even a 2 degrees Celsius rise in global temperature will mean faster melting of glaciers and polar ice caps and a corresponding rise in sea level that will gobble up land. Droughts will be longer and more frequent, and shortage of drinking water will be acute.
- ✚ In July, an international team of scientists, analysts, financial and military risk experts, warned that the food and water shortages will boost conflict over resources, mass migration and state failure.
- ✚ Even sophisticated governments may be unable to deal with the fallouts, said the report -- titled "Climate Change, a Risk Assessment".
- ✚ Last year, the global carbon emissions were the highest ever. China is considered the biggest polluter, followed by the US, the European Union, India, Russia and Japan.
- ✚ In 1997, Kyoto Protocol -- a resolution formed after a climate conference in Japan -- set binding targets for carbon emission. In 2009, the COP15 in Copenhagen decided that up to \$100 billion will have to be given in aid to help developing countries to reach their emissions goals by 2020.

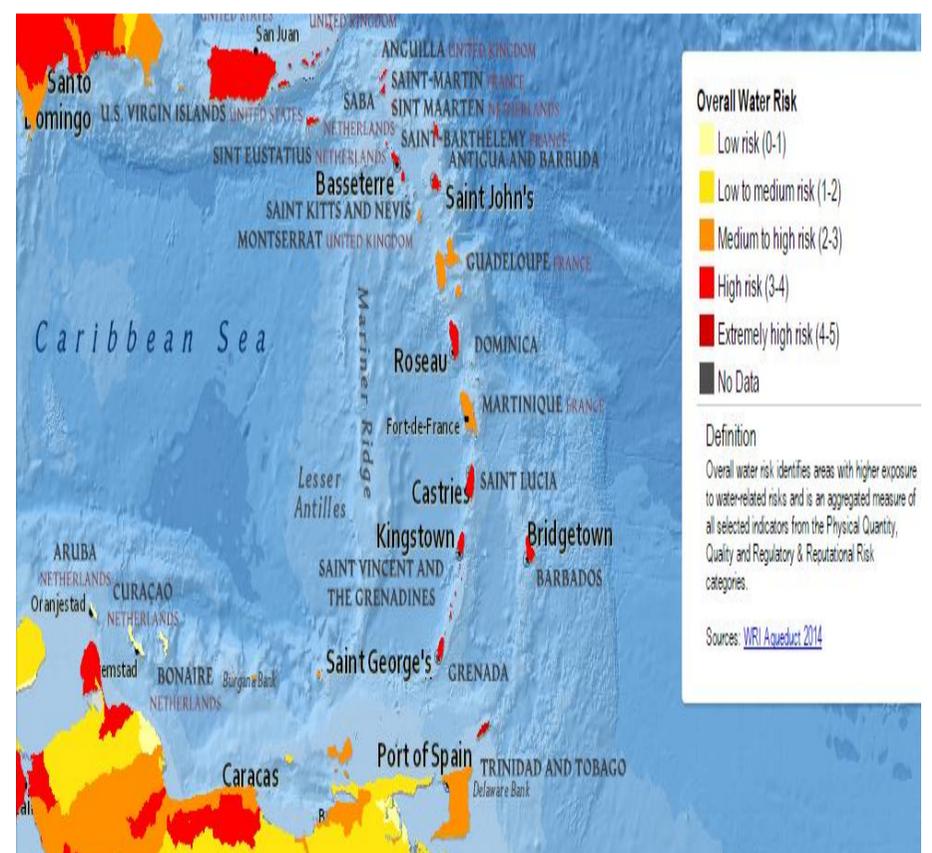
To read more visit: <http://www.ndtv.com/cheat-sheet/what-the-cop21-climate-summit-in-paris-is-all-about-1248961>

Belize Water Services Limited

Islands throughout the Caribbean have been making strides with various developments in the water sector and Belize is no exception. In Belize, the Caribbean Aqua – Terrestrial Solutions (CATS) Program is also engaged in the water sector in collaboration with the Belize Water Services Ltd. A financing agreement has recently been signed with the Government of Belize that is geared towards Phase II of the ‘Water Supply to Gardenia and Biscayne Villages’ north of Belize City.

Once again, the CATS Programme is keen to add to this village water supply project a development partnership with the private sector, ideally the provision of energy-efficient pumps. BWS advised to have this checked out for their water treatment plant at *Double Run*, also north of Belize City.

Long-term water security in the Caribbean requires action!



Source: **Horst Michael Vogel Ph.D.**
 Head of Programme (PGL)
Caribbean Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions (CATS)



Caribbean Development Bank assists St. Lucia



CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Friday November 27, 2015 – Officials from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) this week launched two milestone projects that will improve water access for more than 100,000 residents who live in some of the most underserved areas of the country. The launch of the John Compton Dam Rehabilitation and Vieux Fort Water Supply Redevelopment projects will help end acute water shortages that have threatened the livelihoods of residents and stymied the growth of businesses in the north and south of St Lucia. The projects aim to provide an efficient, reliable, climate-resilient water supply to the two areas.

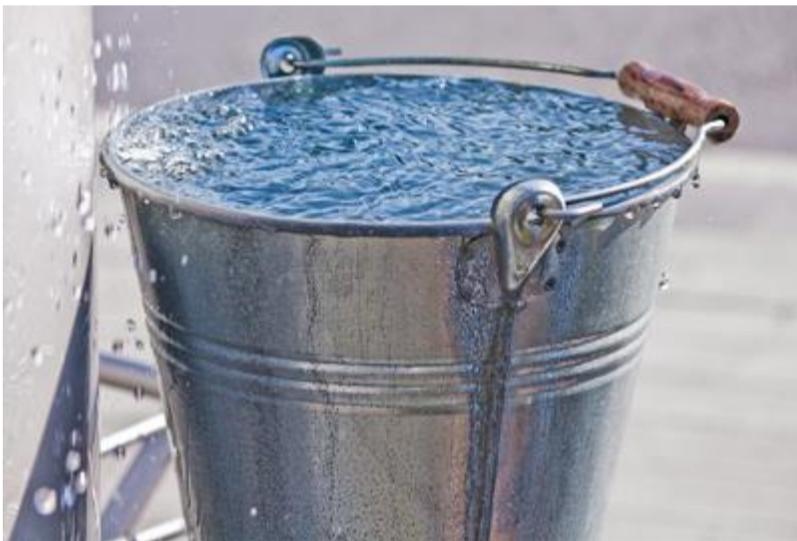
“We are pleased to support these two projects, which, when completed, will improve water access for the people who need it most and stimulate economic growth and social development in St Lucia,” said Andrew Dupigny, Division Chief, Economic Infrastructure Division at the CDB. The John Compton Dam Rehabilitation Project aims to improve the reliability of water supply during the dry season for 93,000 residents in the northern districts of Castries, Gros Islet and part of Anse La Raye. Over time and after periods of heavy rainfall, silt has accumulated in the Dam, causing it to operate below capacity.

Fixing the dam will ease the social and economic disruption by contributing to: better public health and quality of life for residents; reduced disruption and losses to businesses and schools due to water outages; and improved resiliency to severe rainfall events. The John Compton Dam Rehabilitation Project is supported by funding of US\$14.8 million provided by CDB, the Inter-American Development Bank and the European Investment Bank (EIB).

Read more: <http://www.caribbean360.com/news/projects-launched-to-ease-water-shortage-in-st-lucia#ixzz3t0C8tGRF>



DOWASCO in the news



Dominicans has been urged to store water for the eventuality of an interruption in supply as the island continues to be affected by a trough system. That advice is coming from the Dominica Water and Sewage Company (DOWASCO).

“DOWASCO urges its customers and members of the general public to keep water in storage in the event of interruption in the water supply,” DOWASCO’s Public Relations Officer Edward Registe said. He noted that the passage of Tropical Storm Erika had severely affected the company’s operations and restoration works have been only temporary.

“The restoration works are still very temporary and the system remains vulnerable and could be impacted by heavy rains, landslides, flooding’s and rivers and streams,” Registe noted. “Over the past few days Dominica has been experiencing more than average rainfall and it is expected that this weather system could continue for the next few days.”

He remarked that the company will continue to ensure that potable water is supplied to its customers where the supply has been interrupted and will continue working towards the restoration of water to all communities where the supply has not yet been restored. The authorities are warning people in flood-prone, mudslide and rock fall areas to be on the look out.

To read more visit:

<http://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/general/dowasco-urges-dominicans-to-store-water/>



Dominica’s Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit

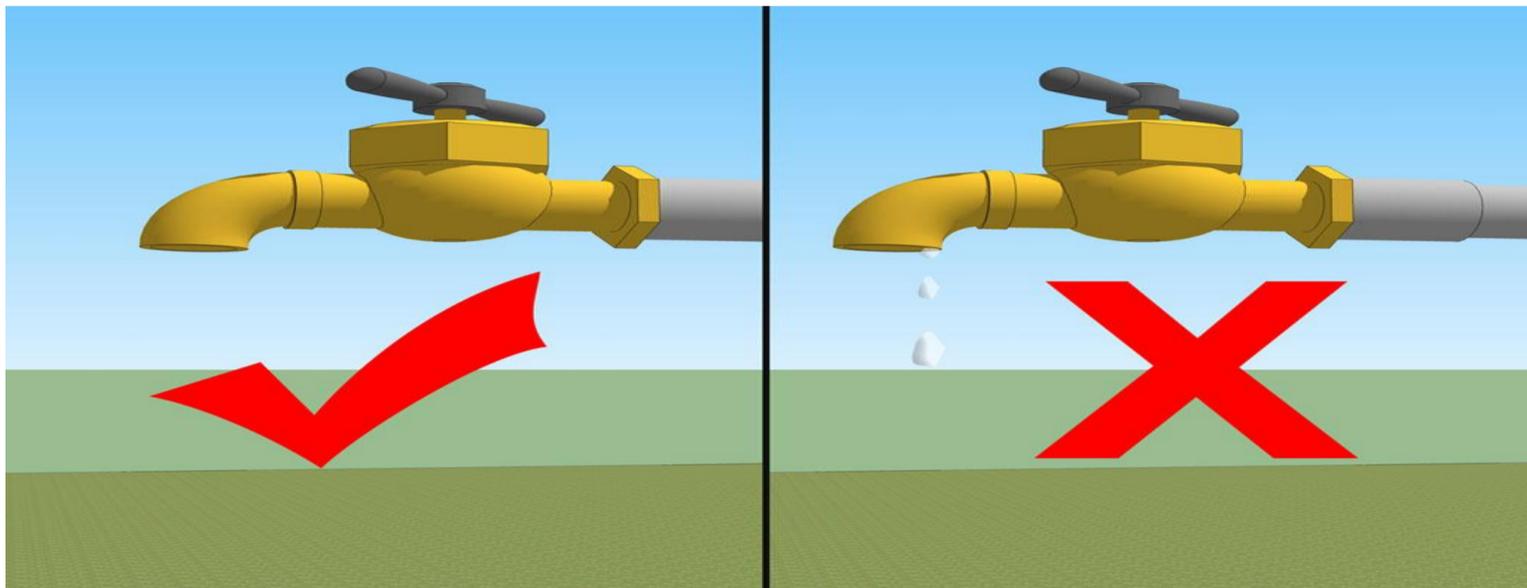
“This was the unkindest cut of all”, was the Shakespearean quote used by Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit to compare the extent of damages caused to the water supply in Dominica, after the passage of tropical storm Erika. The Prime Minister said Dominica, is known for having quality drinking water in abundance throughout the island suffered major damage.

Skerrit explained that “all 44 systems for potable water and three centralized sewage systems, were impacted by the storm. The damages of varying degrees can be summarized as follows, one: the blockage at intakes with large boulders and high levels of silt from land slippage; two: concrete infrastructure of intakes destroyed; three: many pipes were broken and several lengths of various sizes completely destroyed across the island; four: access roads to intake and storage facilities, as well as pipe routes, were completely washed away”. He added pipelines were exposed and undermined on the newly completed West Coast road as well as the ongoing Belles, Penrice, Sylvania and Layou Park projects.

To read more visit: <http://www.cbn4.com/2015/09/30/dowasco-needs-50-million-to-restore-operations/>



TIPS ON WATER CONSERVATION FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON



Many Areas of Trinidad and Tobago have been placed on scheduled water supply since the beginning of the season. Shut down of the Point Lisas desalination plant and temporary closure of the Caroni Water Treatment Plant earlier this month have contributed to the water shortage woes affecting the country. Tobago, too, is said to be experiencing service interruptions because of low reservoirs.

Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA) shared the following tips:

- ✚ Don't leave the tap running while washing dishes; fill your kitchen sink instead.
- ✚ Use a broom instead of the hose to clean your driveway.
- ✚ Don't defrost foods with running water. Place frozen items in the refrigerator overnight or use the defrost setting on the microwave.
- ✚ Shorten your showers to between 3 to 5 minutes.
- ✚ Turn off the water while you brush your teeth.
- ✚ Use less soap when washing and cleaning, since more soap requires more water to rinse.
- ✚ Fix leaking faucets and plumbing. A small drip from a faucet can waste as much as 20 gallons of water a day.
- ✚ When using your washing machine, wash only full loads.
- ✚ Use laundry rinse water to wet plants.
- ✚ Use a bucket instead of a hose to wash your car.
- ✚ Repair leaking toilets. Add some food colouring to the water in the tank; if colour appears in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.
- ✚ Water plants during early morning hours or at night, when temperatures are cooler. This reduces evaporation.
- ✚ Install float valves in your water tanks or ensure that existing valves are working properly. Float valves shut off the water supply to the tank when it is full, preventing wastage.

These tips are applicable to all.



President Obama unveils \$30. million for climate risk insurance

PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11



The United States will contribute \$30 million to climate risk insurance schemes in the Pacific, Central America and Africa, President Barack Obama announced at a meeting with leaders of small island nations in Paris on Tuesday. The US Department of State said the money was part of a broader set of actions to help vulnerable people become more resilient to climate change. They include providing climate data, tools and services, and incorporating climate change considerations into development assistance, it added. The funding will increase insurance coverage to help people cope with severe climate-related problems, Washington said. Those range from intensifying droughts, floods and storms to melting glaciers and rising seas. Amjad Abdulla of the Maldives and chief negotiator for the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) - whose members are already suffering from storm surges, higher tides and erosion of their shores - said the new money was “a sign of progress” at the UN climate summit in Paris this week and next. “We now encourage our partners to recognize the full scale of the challenge we face and help us tackle it together,” he added in a statement. The US assistance is a step towards the goal G7 leaders set this summer to increase by up to 400 million by 2020 the number of people in the most vulnerable developing countries with access to insurance to help them deal with climate risks. The new money will support the Pacific Catastrophic Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative and the African Risk Capacity programme, and expand the Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility to cover Central American countries.

G7 governments, led by Germany, are set to provide more details of how they will meet their climate insurance goal later this week. In June, Germany said it would provide 150 million euros (\$170 million) to kick-start the initiative and motivate involvement by the private sector. Saleemul Huq, director of the Dhaka-based International Centre for Climate Change and Development, welcomed the U.S. contribution. “It is also important to note that it is an implicit acceptance of the notion of paying for loss and damage because that is what climate insurance is,” he said.

That concept is a controversial one at the U.N talks tasked with agreeing a new global deal to tackle climate change. A UN body on loss and damage is due to start working out how to combat the effects of climate change that are almost impossible to adjust to, such as rising seas and creeping deserts. It will explore solutions such as insurance. Some 134 developing countries want an international mechanism for loss and damage to be part of a binding Paris deal. But that is opposed by some industrialized countries, including the United States. They fear it could be used as a way of holding them financially liable for climate change impacts. The insurance announcement comes on the heels of a US contribution of around \$51 million to an international fund for adaptation to climate change in the least developed countries, announced on Monday. Before the Paris summit, the fund had 35 projects backed up in the pipeline, waiting for about \$255 million worth of resources to be made available. New contributions from 11 donor governments this week have more or less covered that amount. But the negotiating group of 48 least developed countries (LDCs) at the UN climate talks said there were urgent adaptation needs in their countries that were yet to be met. “There are outstanding questions around how the LDCs will finance the emergency climate adaption work between now and 2020, as well as securing the next phase of action currently under discussion (in Paris) which covers the period from 2020 to 2030,” said Giza Gaspar-Martins of Angola, the group’s chair.



SECTOR NEWS



The CWWA family is pleased to share with you an article written about our Past President and former Director, Mr. Cyprian Gibson. We take this opportunity to offer him our sincerest congratulations on his recent promotion.

Nassau, Bahamas- Earlier this year the Water and Sewerage Corporation promoted Senior Engineer Cyprian Gibson to Assistant General Manager in charge of the Family Island Division. “This promotion could not have come at a more opportune time” said Glen Laville, WSC General Manager. “When Hurricane Joaquin hit our islands-Cyprian was more than ready to take care of this situation. He has shown us very quickly why we made this call.” Gibson a professional civil/environmental engineer has 25 years of expert technical and senior managerial experience in the water and waste water sector. He has been involved with initiatives of all size and scope, primarily as a senior public water sector engineer, regulator, designer, administrator and project manager, as well as senior technical advisor. “I’m excited about joining the Island Family team at WSC,” said Gibson. “We have a diverse team of water professionals throughout our islands and cays, and I am excited for the opportunity to work with the team to improve our water systems and services throughout the Bahamas”.

Currently, Gibson is preparing for a \$25 million multi-island project, which will be funded by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to help provide access to potable water in The Bahamas. He was also pivotal in the procurement of the \$81 million IDB loan, which has helped WSC to make vast improvements in Nassau with increased flow of water and significant decrease in non-revenue loss. He also starred this year in the company’s first hurricane ad, which promoted that residents of New Providence consider switching from well to secure potable water from WSC. As the WSC NEMA representative, he was well versed to explain the issues of contamination during flooding. Gibson previously served on several industry-related committees in The Bahamas: The Private Roads and Subdivisions Coordinating Committee, the National Emergency Management Committee, and the National Energy Commission. He proudly served as a Director of the Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD), the Airport Authority, and the Professional Engineer’s Board and in 2008; he served as President of The Bahamas Society of Engineers. Internationally, Gibson has served as President of the Caribbean Water and Waste Water Association, and currently serves as their representative in The Bahamas and for the Caribbean Water Operator Partnership, a programme of the Global Water Operator Partnership Alliance of the UN.

Gibson assumed his new role in the summer of 2015 and has since been busy managing the rebuilding of the southern islands of the Bahamas.



Are you a member of the CWWA?

If not, come join us

Please visit us at:

www.cwwa.net

email: cwwattsecretariat@gmail.com

Facebook: **Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We are pleased to list below the cost of membership in the CWWA. If you are unsure of your current membership status feel free to contact us at your soonest; to receive an update.

Membership in CWWA is open to individuals, companies and utilities operating in the Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste sectors under the following categories of membership:

MEMBER: Reg. fee: US\$40.00 + Admin fee: US\$20.00

A Member shall, at the time of their application, hold a Degree in engineering or science approved by the Board, although in exceptional circumstances the Board may accept the alternative qualification and experience in responsible posts in water, waste and any environmental field.

STUDENT: Reg. fee: US\$20.00 + Admin fee: US\$15.00

A Student shall be at the time working towards a degree in engineering or science and is enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program at university.

ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATION: Reg. fee: US\$875.00 + Admin fee: US\$25.00

This can include any non-corporate company/non-corporate utility, organization/project in related field of water, waste and environmental management.

CORPORATE COMPANY: Reg. fee: US\$175.00 + Admin fee: US\$25.00

National, regional and international "COMPANIES" working in the field of water supply, wastewater or solid waste disposal, such as consultants, contractors, manufacturers of plant and equipment.

CORPORATE UTILITY: Reg. fee: US\$1,750.00 + Admin fee: US\$25.00

National or regional 'UTILITIES' operating in the field of water supply, wastewater or solid waste disposal and providing services as a public or private sector utility.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT FOR THE CWWA InfoStructure

✚ Share your experiences; your individual contributions are welcomed and appreciated;

✚ Take this opportunity to place your company in the news;

✚ Share your photographs with us;

✚ Send us your articles at :cwwasecretariat@gmail.com