



ANNOUNCEMENT

Unique opportunity for journalists to win a free trip to attend the 4th World Water Forum in Mexico

December 1, 2005 - Within the framework of their Water Media Programme, the World Water Council and the Secretariat of the 4th World Water Forum are launching a contest for journalists to win a free trip to attend the upcoming World Water Forum on March 16-22, 2006, in Mexico City. The World Water Forum is the world's largest multi-stakeholder platform in the water sector, where thousands of water experts, decision-makers, government officials and civil society representatives meet, debate and develop solutions to address the growing water crisis.

The objective of the Water Media Program is to foster coverage of water issues while improving transparency of policies and reforms and increasing public awareness. The program features training activities and field visits with the objective of building journalist capacities to report accurately on water-related issues.

Winners of this contest will receive an all-expense-paid trip to Mexico including airfare, accommodations and daily per diem. During an entire week, they will enjoy the benefits of working in a highly promoted international event, where they will be given extensive exposure and the opportunity to exchange with peers.

The contest is open to journalists from the following types of media :

- **Print and Internet:** Reporters must submit an article published in a newspaper, magazine or on an Internet site;
- **Radio Programs:** Journalists must submit a recording of a radio program, including news, features or drama programming;
- **TV News / Features:** Journalists must submit a 5- to 60-minute feature or news story, either on tape, or in script format.

Winners will be selected based on various criteria, including accuracy, initiative, originality, clarity of interpretation and value in fostering an improved understanding of policy issues, as well as an increased awareness of water-related challenges encountered at the local level.

Stories should correspond to the main theme of the 4th World Water Forum: “Local actions for a global challenge” and relate to one or several sub-themes and/or cross-cutting perspectives of the Forum, as described on the following website: <http://www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx>

Journalistic material must have been made public between December 1, 2004 and December 30, 2005. Entries will be judged by a panel consisting of journalists and water experts, according to a pre-established quota. **The deadline for application is December 30, 2005.** No late entries will be accepted. Stories may only be submitted/or accompanied by a translation in English, French or Spanish.

Winners will be announced by February 15, 2006. To participate, please send your material accompanied by the duly completed *Water Media Programme – Journalist contest to attend the 4th World Water Forum - Entry Form* to the address below. For more information, please visit the Water Media Programme website at <http://www.worldwatercouncil.org>. You can also contact Stephanie Porro or Mélanie Giard in France at +33 (0)4 91 99 41 00 or through medianetwork@worldwatercouncil.org