

**Uruguay says YES to water: Water referendum in Uruguay supported by  
more than 100 organizations from all over the world**

**Tuesday, October 26, 2004**

During the last hours, an international declaration of solidarity and support to the Uruguayan people was made public, facing next October 31st when the water constitutional reform proposal will be submitted to the decision of the citizenship. Over 100 organizations and hundreds of individual signatures from 36 countries announced their support to the initiative, which is "a fundamental precedent in the defense of water, through its inclusion in a country's constitution by means of direct

The signing organizations belong to countries as Germany, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Chipre, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, United States, Philippines, France, Haití, Netherlands, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, United Kingdom, Sri-Lanka, Switzerland and Venezuela.

See the declaration and the signer organizations below:

**Solidarity in the defense of water**

International expectations regarding the sovereign decision of the Uruguayan people over their hydro resources

During the last years, the defense of hydro resources has become a cause which joins diverse social movements: consumers, users, workers, neighbors, students and environmentalists, among others. The process originated in Uruguay by the National Commission in Defense of Water and Life is placed within this kind of movements.

The possibility of including a constitutional law that defends hydro resources from corporate interests and ensures the access to water as a fundamental human right by means of direct democracy, sets a historic precedent for movements and organizations which struggle for the same cause all over the world.

Today, the world is looking at Uruguay. Today, and until next October 31st, we are

all

Uruguayans.

For these reasons, we express our support to the Constitutional Reform promoted by the National Commission in Defense of Water and Life in Uruguay, which will be voted along with next October 31st national elections because:

- 1) It considers the access to water and sanitation as a fundamental human right
- 2) It foresees mechanisms which ensure a public, participative and sustainable management of hydro resources in Uruguay.
- 3) It sets a fundamental precedent in the defense of water through its inclusion in a country's constitution by means of direct democracy.
- 4) It ensures the defense of sovereignty over a natural resource facing transnational corporations, by surpassing national limits and leaving a strong political mark in the Guarani Aquifer's region.

**Signers:**

- Acción Ecológica, Ecuador
- Academia Mexicana de Derechos Humanos, México
- ADEUEM, Asociación de Especialistas Universitarias en Estudios de la Mujer, Argentina
- ADULP, Asociación de Docentes de Universidad de La Plata, Argentina
- Aeronavegantes, Argentina
- Alianza Cívica Coahuila, México
- Amigos de la Tierra España
- Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team, India/Estados Unidos
- Asamblea Popular Mercedes, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Asociación Baires Popular, Argentina
- Asociación Cirujas de La Matanza, Argentina
- Asociación Internacional de Derecho Constitucional, Argentina
- Asociación Judicial Bonaerense-CTA, Argentina
- Asociación Nacional de Regantes y Sistemas de Agua Potable, Bolivia

- ATALC, Amigos de la Tierra de América Latina y el Caribe
- Attac Madrid, España
- ATTAC, Argentina
- AUAS, Asociación de Usuarios del Agua de Saltillo, México
- BanglaPraxis, Bangladesh
- BaSo (Basis Initiative Solidarität), Alemania
- Blue Planet Project, Internacional
- Both Ends, Holanda
- BUND-Koblenz (Amigos de la Tierra-Koblenz), Alemania
- Casa de Derechos Humanos-Curuzú Cuatiá, Argentina
- CEDEM-Centro de la Mujer, Argentina
- CEE Bankwatch Network, Central and Eastern Europe, Holanda
- CEFID-AR, Centro de Economía y Finanzas para el Desarrollo de la Argentina
- CEIA, Centro de Estadística e Infomática Aplicada, Argentina
- CENSAT-Agua Viva, Amigos de la Tierra Colombia
- Centre for Environmental Information and Education, Bulgaria
- Centre for Environmental Justice/Sri Lanka Working Group on Trade and IFIs, Sri Lanka
- Centro Cultural de la Cooperación, Argentina
- Centro Cultural MACA, Argentina
- Centro de Análisis Social, Información y Formación Popular, México
- Centro de Documentacion e Informacion Bolivia
- Centro Nueva Tierra, Argentina
- CESU (Centro de Estudios Superiores), Cochabamba, Bolivia
- CNBB, Conferencia Nacional dos Bispos do Brasil, Defensoria de Agua, Brasil
- COECOCEIBA, Amigos de la Tierra Costa Rica
- Comisión de Usuarios y Consumidores de 9 de Julio, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Comitato Italiano-Onlus, Italia
- Comité Buenos Aires del Foro Social Mundial
- Comitè Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora, Mexico
- Committee against impunity and for democracy in Latin America, Bélgica
- Corporate Europe Observatory, Holanda
- Defensoría del Pueblo de la Nación, Argentina
- Development and Peace, Peterborough, Canada
- Dialogo 2000-Jubileo Sur/Américas, Argentina

- Ecologistas en Acción, España
- El Grito de los Excluidos, Argentina
- Environmental Foundation Ltd/ FOE Sri Lanka
- Escuela de Ciudadanía Jorge Novak, Argentina
- Familiares de los Jóvenes Asesinados en la Comisaría 25, Pueblo Nuevo, Villa Gobernador Galves, Argentina
- FDCL (Centro de Documentación e Investigación Chile-América Latina), Alemania
- FEDECOR (Federación Departamental de Regantes de Cochabamba), Bolivia
- Federación de Trabajadores Fabriles de Cochabamba, Bolivia
- FELCA, Foro Entrerriano de Lucha Contra el Alca, Paraná, Argentina
- FLACSO, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Argentina-México
- Foro de Justicia, Afirmación por una República Igualitaria (ARI) Argentina
- Foro Ecologista de Paraná, Argentina
- Foro Permanente: Soberanía y Ecología Política, Ecuador
- Frente para el Cambio, Argentina
- Friends of the Bagmati, Nepal
- Friends of the Earth Australia
- Friends of the Earth Chipre
- Friends of the Earth Haiti
- FoEI-Friends of the Earth International
- Friends of the Earth, Canadá
- Fundación Cristiana ADSIS, Internacional Fundación La Salle, Argentina
- Fundación Pasos, Argentina Fundación Solón,. Bolivia
- Habitat International Coalition, Chile
- IATP, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Estados Unidos
- IBAPE - Instituto Buenos Aires Plan Estratégico, Argentina
- IDICSO - Instituto de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales, Argentina
- ILA (Informationsstelle Lateinamerika), Alemania
- India Resource Center, India
- Initiative Colibri, Alemania
- Instituto Nacional Sindical, Colombia
- International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development, Indonesia
- ISNRSI (Internationalen Solidaritätsnetzwerkes), Alemania

- ISP, Internacional de Servicios Públicos Jubilee Kyushu on World Debt and Poverty , Japón
- Kawarthas Ploughshares, Canadá
- MEDH, Movimiento EcuMénico por los Derechos Humanos, Argentina
- Movimiento de Trabajadores Democráta Crsitianos, Argentina
- Movimiento Madre Tierra-Amigos de la Tierra Honduras
- Navdanya, India
- Novib/Oxfam Netherlands, Holanda
- Nucleo Amigos da Terra, Brasil
- Observation Transnacional, España
- Oro Verde, Entre Ríos, Argentina
- Pan African Vision For The Environment, Nigeria
- Peterborough and Kawarthas Chapter, The Council of Canadians, Canadá
- Peterborough Health Coalition, Canadá
- Philippine Water Vigilance Network, Filipinas
- Polaris Institute, Canada
- Protect the Future!, Hungría
- Public Citizen, Estados Unidos
- Red Argentina de Monitoreo de Políticas de Género, Argentina
- Red de Centros Laicos Cono Sur, Argentina
- Red VIDA, Vigilancia Interamericana para la Defensa y Derecho al Agua
- Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, India
- Revista América XXI, Argentina
- Revista Historias de la Ciudad, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Samajwadijanparishad, India
- SARP (South Asian Solidarity for Rivers and Peoples)
- Servicio por la Verdad y la Justicia, Formosa, Argentina
- Sobrevivencia, Amigos de la Tierra Paraguay
- Swiss Coalition of Development Organizations, Suiza
- Taller Ecologista Rosario, Argentina
- The Corner House, Reino Unido
- The Council of Canadians, Canadá
- Transnational Institute, Holanda
- ULD Studenti di Sinistra Universita' Catholica di Milano, Italia
- Unser-Wasser-Hamburg, Alemania

- Vannbevegelsen/Water Movement, Noruega
- Visions, Pakistán
- WAFED (Water and Energy Users' Federation), Nepal
- Wasser In Buergerhand, Alemania
- WEDO, Women's Environment & Development Organization, Estados Unidos
- WEED (World Economy, Ecology and Development), Alemania
- Western Mass Global Action Coalition, Estados Unidos
- Western Massachusetts Committee on Corporations and Democracy, Estados Unidos
- World Bank Boycott/Centre for Economic Justice, Estados Unidos
- World Christian Life Community, Internacional