

## **Report-back on Africa Component discussions**

After a slow start, progress is being made in both EU and AMCOW in creating the international dialogue.

Questions remain on the resources required to support the international dialogue. There are practical issues on time and financial resources for travel, discussion and contribution to papers. Some questions were raised about potential limitation of linking only into AMCOW schedules and timetables since these were often determined by political processes.

The need for involvement of civil society into AMCOW processes has been acknowledged and is on the agenda of future AWCOW meetings.

Other initiatives that build on concepts of partnership launched at WSSD are happening, including the Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor with support of industry and NGOs. Many of the stakeholders are involved in these partnerships but they do not form part of the formal EU Water Initiative.

Progress is being made in establishing country dialogues, with the completion of a review of Zambia supported by GTZ. There is interested in hearing how the country dialogue process will be advanced. Questions raised include:

- What are the findings from the Zambia review? How will barriers to achieving MDGs in Zambia be resolved? If financial resources are required, will these be given priority within the ACP-EU Water Facility?
- What country-level processes already exist to identify MDG needs? How can the EUWI country dialogues build on these existing processes?
- How will the country dialogues that cover water supply and sanitation include water resource management issues?
- What is the timetable for completion of the first 10 pilot country dialogues?
- What guarantees are there that the ACP-EU Water Facility will be used as additional funding rather than replace existing EU financing streams?