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Francesco Rampa
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13th March 2009

Dear Mr Rampa,

We are writing as members and supporters of End Water Poverty, an international coalition of civil society organisations campaigning for access to safe sanitation and clean water for all, to encourage you to demonstrate positive leadership during your country's Presidency of the G8 in 2009. In the last 2 years this campaign has been supported by almost 1 million people.

We are pleased that sanitation and water has been placed as a key priority for the G8 Summit this year, and we urge you to capitalise on this opportunity to deliver real and lasting change for the 2.5 billion people around the world who do not have access to safe sanitation, and the 900 million people who do not have access to clean water.

As you know, it really pays to invest in sanitation and water. Not only is it necessary to drive progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals for child mortality, primary education, gender equality and poverty reduction, there are few more cost-effective ways to improve public health. On average, for every \$1 invested in sanitation and water, an economy gains an extra \$8 through better health, education and productivity.

Yet international efforts to date have been lacking in ambition, focus, coordination and effectiveness, resulting in the deaths of 5,000 children every day from water-related diseases. 2009 presents an opportunity for your Government to lead the G8 in efforts to change this, by establishing a *Global Framework for Action* for water and sanitation. Such a framework would build on existing initiatives to forge an agreement with developing countries in which:

- ✎ **Developing country governments** develop credible national plans to provide sanitation and water for all, and invest more in their implementation.
- ✎ **Donor governments** support the development of these plans, and ensure that *no credible national plan fails for lack of finance*
- ✎ **International systems** are developed to monitor and drive progress in the sector, including specifically a *global task force*, an *annual review* and an *annual global high-level meeting*.

Such a framework would help to enhance aid effectiveness, drive progress in the sector and help ensure countries could fulfil the rights of their citizens. Crucially, not only is this framework supported by a number of key multilateral institutions, donor countries, and a broad range of civil society organisations, it is strongly backed by African Water Ministers themselves, through the African Ministerial Council on Water, ensuring a genuine partnership with developing countries is possible.

Now this Global Framework needs the support of the G8 to ensure it is effective in delivering real progress towards sanitation and water for all, and we look to your leadership in the G8 to achieve that. We thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Steve Cockburn
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(International coalition of over 140 NGOs in 44 countries)

Global Call to Action Poverty (GCAP) Italy
(National coalition of over 72 Italian NGOs – members listed at end of letter)

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GCAP Italy Membership (steering committee members in bold):

Acli, **Action Aid**, Agesci, Aifo, Amici dei popoli, Amref, ARCI-ARCS, Associazione Italiana Donne per lo Sviluppo – AIDOS, **Associazione Ong Italiane**, Associazione Ricerca e Cooperazione, Azione per la salute globale Italia, **Campagna delle Nazioni Unite per gli Obiettivi del Millennio**, Campagna Riforma Banca Mondiale, CBM Italia, CCS, Centri per la pace Cesena e Forlì, Cestas, Cesvi, CGIL, Cilap Eapn Italia, CINI, Cipsi, CISL, Cisiv, Cittadinanza Attiva, Civitas, CNCA, CND, Coalizione Italiana della Campagna Globale per l'Educazione, Coopi, Coordinamento Nazionale Enti Locali per la Pace e i Diritti Umani, CTM Altromercato, DPI-Italia, F.I.S.H, FEDERHAND ONLUS, Fivol, Fondazione Banca Etica, Fondazione Colombia te quiere ver, Forum del Terzo Settore, ICS, Intervita Onlus, Ipsia, Istituto Oikos Onlus, Istituto di Cooperazione Internazionale Progetto Sud, La Gabbianella, **Legambiente**, Link 2007-Cooperazione in Rete, LVIA – Focsiv, Mani Tese, Masci, Medici con l'Africa-CUAMM, Movimondo, OIRD-CICS, Osservatorio Italiano sull'Azione Globale contro l'AIDS, **Oxfam International e Ucodep**, PeaceWaves Onlus, Progetto Mondo-MLAL, Retedonesenzadominio, **Save the Children Italia**, Sdebitarsi, Segreteria Provinciale del Sindacato FILCA-CISL di Bergamo, Social Watch Italia, Tavola della Pace, Tavola della Riconciliazione e Pace di Benevento, Telefono Azzurro, Terre des Hommes Italia, Transnational Organisation for Development, Employment, Social and Youth (T.O.D.E.S.Y.), UIL, Unicef Italia, Unimondo, Vides Internazionale, Vis, **Volontari nel mondo- Focsiv**, World Vision Italia Onlus, **WWF Italia**