

**CSD-13 Interactive Discussion on Water**  
**Remarks by Aaron Salzberg, U.S. Department of State**  
**April 12, 2005**

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I would like to first thank the panelists. We were very pleased to hear a number of very good examples of partnerships/mechanisms/networks for advancing implementation of the policy options in the Matrix from the Intersessional Preparatory Meeting. AFRICASAN, AMIWASH, the GPA-Strategic Action Plan, White Water to Blue Water – these together are a perfect example of the growing network of mechanisms to deliver results.

The question you posed, Mr. Chairman, was what decisions can we take to support these efforts? I would like to offer a few thoughts. We could ask the CSD Secretariat to build a web-based mechanism for the exchange of best practices, lessons learned and perhaps, as suggested by our Australian friends earlier this morning, make the IPM Matrix a “living” resource. We could create linkages – virtual and real – to facilitate access to these initiatives by interested parties. And we could set aside time at both formal and informal processes, such as Stockholm Water Week and the Water Weeks of the regional development banks, to promote, expand and build upon these partnerships.

Mr. Chairman, a separate issue. A number of delegations have raised issues regarding the means of implementation. Mr. Chairman, these have been agreed to. Thus far, the Chairman has done an exceptional job of making CSD innovative and keeping it focused on practical – doable – results. The Chair’s Matrix from the Intersessional Meeting is a perfect example of this. The decision document should be no different. It too should be innovative in both form and substance. It too should be useful to implementers, in the region, on the ground. To implementers, words like “common but differentiated responsibilities” make no sense. This decision document must be different than what we have done in the past. Anything less, would be a step backwards. Thank you Mr. Chairman.