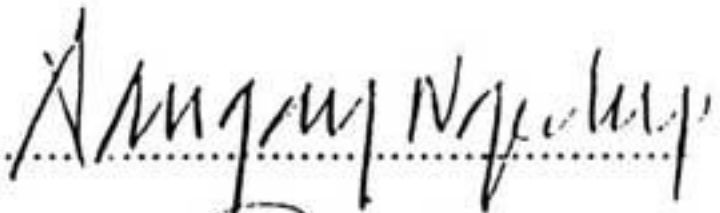
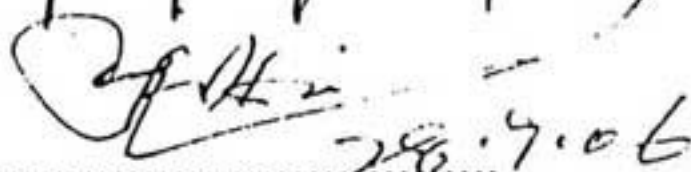


## JOINT DECLARATION

BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTERS attended the International workshop on rainwater harvesting held in Kandy, Srilanka, 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September 2006.


We the representatives of the governments of the SAARC region hereby declare that our governments will exchange our experiences, knowledge and knowhow and will embark on joint action of making use of every possible method for rainwater harvesting, in order to make a considerable contribution in solving poverty and water needs of human kind, other living beings, and the environment.

Hon. Lyonpo Sangay Ngedup  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Government of Bhutan

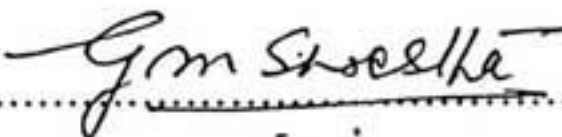
  
.....  
  
..... 28.9.06

Hon Prof. Saifuddin Soz  
Minister for Water resources  
Government of India

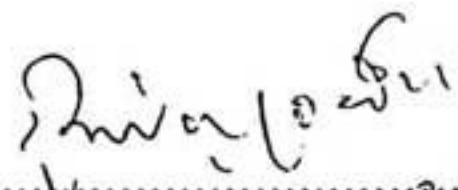
Hon Abdul Razzak Idris,  
Dy. Minister for Environment  
Energy and Power  
Government of Maldives

  
.....

Hon Gopal Man Shrestha  
Minister of Physical Planning & Works  
Government of Nepal

  
.....

Hon Dinesh Gunawardana  
Minister of Urban Development &  
Water Supply  
Government of Sri Lanka

  
..... 28.9.06

Annexure to this declaration is supplemented signed on this day 28<sup>th</sup>  
September 2006 in Kandy Sri Lanka.

# ANNEXURE TO THE MINISTERIAL DECLARATION OF KANDY, SRI LANKA

SEPTEMBER 2006

We the representatives of the Governments of Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal & Sri Lanka, SAARC Region having recognized that in the field of water supply to the people that much attention is yet being paid to conventional, centralized and costly approaches, at the expense of more sustainable, less costly alternatives, declare the following that ;

Bold policies for active human intervention by Government, Non-Government and Financing Institutions, be mobilized, and practiced on a regional, community and family basis, in order to ensure Green Cities of tomorrow around the world, apply Rainwater Harvesting broadly, in line with the principle of controlling of water near its source ;

A paradigm shift in the planning and design, and funding arrangements be promoted for the use of multiple sources of water for different uses, by incorporating the concept of Rainwater Harvesting at the conceptual stages of all water projects, in reducing the per capita conveyance through the piping network ;

Rainwater Harvesting projects be combined with water re-cycling, ground water recharging and conservation measures in order to achieve a higher degree of self reliance and poverty alleviation ;

Rainwater being an inexhaustible resource, naturally purified by the sun and having potential energy, possesses the capability of supplementing current water sources with minimal structural changes ;

Reduction of the burden on Governments in the cost of energy used in piping potable water for secondary uses and road rail maintenance, reduction of energy consumption, mitigation of flood damage, and access to additional sources of water during drought, disaster, among others, make Rainwater Harvesting a win-win solution ;

Where fossil fuel energy is currently used for piping water Rainwater Harvesting be included for eligibility of funding under the Carbon Trading Agreements.

Both voluntary measures and new creative legislation be adopted to actively promote Rainwater Harvesting as a simple, liberative technology ;

Professionals be encouraged, to produce innovative designs and do further Research and Development, disseminating information, such that good designs of rainwater harvesting are practiced.