**MEPs strongly support the citizens' initiative for the right to clean water and sanitation**

**Original Script Date:** September 8, 2015

**Script Version:** 1

**Locations:** European Parliament, Strasbourg; Murcia, Spain; Germany

**Dates Shot:** September 8, 2015; March 2012; May 2014

**Sound:** natural with English speech, natural with Spanish speech

**Duration:**  2:12

**Source:** S&D group

**Restriction:** none

**Intro**

*Strasbourg, 8th of September.* More than one million people in the European Union still lack access to safe and clean drinking water and nearly 2 % of the EU population doesn't have access to sanitation.

This is why the Socialists and Democrats today backed a parliamentary resolution calling on the Commission to urgently present a proposal to end this situation.

**This HD broadcast package contains ready-to-air and b-rolls videos with:**

·         Interview with MEP Matthias Groote, S&D spokesperson on environment and public health (natural soundbites, EN)

·         Interview with Julián Escudero Castero, Site Manager of EDAR Los Alcázares (natural soundbites, ES + EN subtitles available)

·         Various Stock shots on access to water

**Shotlist**

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (MAY, 2014) (EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AUDIOVISUAL - ACCESS ALL)

1. CUTAWAYS: PICTURES OF WATER PLANTS IN STRASBOURG

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (SEPTEMBER 08, 2015) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

1. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF THE VOTE ON THE EUROPEAN CITIZEN’S INITIATIVE RIGHT2WATER
2. VOICE-OVER SAYING (ENGLISH):

« Today, the European Parliament called on the Commission to recognize access to water as a fundamental right. This vote reflects the strong support of MEPs to the Right2water citizen’s initiative, the first to have collected the 1.000.000 necessary signatures to invite the Commission to make a legislative proposal on this matter.»

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (SEPTEMBER 07, 2015) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

4. MATTHIAS GROOTE (S&D MEP) SAYING (ENGLISH):

"When nearly 2.000.000 people in the EU collect signatures and raise their voice to say that water is a free good and a human right, then we need a strong answer from the European Commission, not a diplomatic one."

5. CUTAWAY: MATTHIAS GROOTE TALKING TO A JOURNALIST

6. VOICE-OVER SAYING (ENGLISH):

« In concrete terms, MEPs want to provide all citizens with sufficient and clean drinking water and sanitation. »

7. MATTHIAS GROOTE (S&D MEP) SAYING (ENGLISH):

"It has nothing to do with the common market. Water is a free good and should not be included in trade negotiations. Nor in TTIP, neither in other negotiations. Water must be free and available for everyone inside and outside the EU. »

MURCIA, SPAIN (MARCH 2012) (TV LINK EUROPE- ACCESS ALL)

8. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF DRY GROUND IN SPAIN

9. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF WATER TREATMENT CENTRES

10. VOICE-OVER SAYING (ENGLISH):

“Indeed, water access is not the same for everyone. In the hot and dry South-Easth region of Spain, several wastewater treatment centres have been created in order to respond to the high demand for water… Here is an overview of the last filtration step operated on wastewater.»

11. JULIAN ESCUDERO CASTERO (SITE MANAGER, EDAR LOS ALCAZARES) SAYING (SPANISH):

"Here happens the tertiary wastewater treatment, consisting of physical-chemical treatment with lamella separation, sand filtration, and UV treatment. Here we add chlorine and aluminium sulphate to disinfect the water. The final objective in the purification process is to obtain clear water without solids which is in line with the environmental and European norms. This water meets all the parameters to be pre-drinkable".

12. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT CENTRE

13. VOICE-OVER SAYING (ENGLISH):

« …which means that it could be used for farming with no risk to health. This is one of the many initiatives that could inspire governments in order to reach water sanity and clean drinking water for all. »

14. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF AGRICULTURE IN SPAIN

FRANCE, STRASBOURG (SEPTEMBER 08, 2015) (SOCIALISTS AND DEMOCRATS, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - ACCESS ALL)

15. CUTAWAY: VARIOUS OF MEPS IN THE PLENARY

16. CUTAWAY: EXTERNAL SHOTS OF THE PARLIAMENT IN STRASBOURG

16. VOICE-OVER SAYING (ENGLISH):

« Let us hope that MEPs’ call will soon lead to clear and strong commitment from the commission and EU governments to recognise the access to water as a fundamental right, a right recognized by the United Nations for 5 years already. »

**Story**

More than one million people in the European Union still lack access to safe and clean drinking water and nearly 2 % of the EU population doesn't have access to sanitation\*.

This is why the Socialists and Democrats today backed a parliamentary resolution calling on the Commission to urgently present a proposal to end this situation.

The S&D Group managed to overcome the initial opposition of the EPP and ECR Groups and secured the main progressive demands in the resolution, such as the recognition of water and sanitation as a public good that cannot be used for profit.

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