

WATER - A GOOD BELONGING TO EVERYBODY

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Today I would like to pose this question to you as well as to myself: do we have the knowledge of our times? In other words: what is our time - the time of our generation? Each generation has its time characterized by certain dimensions. Some will say this is the time of the clash between civilizations, someone else will say this is the time of the clash of faith and laicism - as a matter of fact you can find these positions in the daily news. But if you read carefully and listen to what are now the data, listen to the conclusions and warnings coming forth from the summit meetings of institutions and big international organizations, it appears to me that this is the time of the exhaustion of some resources, some goods on which our life depends - depends in the real universal and irreplaceable sense of the word.

In referring to petrol and fossil fuels as resources, it becomes clear to everybody, at least since the summit of Stockholm in August 2006, the summit on climate change in Nairobi and the summit of the FAO in Rome, that all of the 2500 scientist of the United Nations who are monitoring the situation around the world have clearly confirmed, that the resources of petrol and fossil fuels will run out within 30 or 40 years.

When the fossil fuels are used up, today's young people will still be alive and strong and have children, but the political, cultural and scientific sector does not show much of a reaction to this perspective. Nevertheless with the exhaustion of fossil fuels and especially petrol, everything will change drastically because the development of our society has been completely dependent on them for the last century. Let's try to imagine a situation where - in addition to oil - plastic will also be missing - what will we do? Not that we would not live, but we need to face this problem now because it affects us all. The whole rhythm of society and development will change. For instance, our governments are developing plans for new roads, for tunnels through mountains, for bridges over straits and huge works of highways for the next forty years - but if in forty years petrol is exhausted, what are they really doing?

Let's put aside the argument about oil. I would like to raise the same question now for WATER. Experts already asked this question some time ago: Can there be exhaustion of water? This is actually an interesting question. Seen from a scientific angle it seems that water cannot become exhausted because its natural cycle balances the evaporation and the rains in the same quantity. Nevertheless it occurs that the "good" drinkable sweet water that all life on this planet depends on is actually linked to some very delicate and exiguous cycles.

On this planet there is plenty of water, but only 2.5% of it is good drinkable water. 2% of this 2.5% is concentrated in the polar caps - and it would be desirable that it remains there, because if the polar caps melt something really serious will happen to all of us on this planet, as one can already intuitively imagine. So the actual available amount of dinking-water is only 0.5% of the total. It is not a huge amount, but for millions of years it is this quantity of continuously recycled water that the whole life process of all living organisms has been based on.

In the last forty years of this planet's life, essentially through our models of production and consummation, through our life style, our ambitions, our industries, our agriculture and so forth, we have rendered over 50% of the available drinking-water unusable! The following is based on data provided by the United Nations. In the past 4,491 gallons (17,000 m³) of drinking water per year per person was available for all our needs, especially for drinking; today in the year 2000 we have at our disposal only 1,981 gallons (7,500 m³) and that means that we have rendered unusable more than half of the amount. It actually happened during the last forty years

that we have withdrawn more water from rivers, lakes and water aquifers than the natural cycle of rain can replace, so these basins and aquifers empty out little by little. This will not be so easy to remediate. Furthermore, if the precipitation is not filling up the depleted aquifers but is flowing directly into the sea/ocean, we are not able to have this water at our disposal anymore.

This is what happens to lakes and rivers from which water was taken excessively; for instance the Lake of Aral practically does not exist anymore, it has nearly dried up. In recent years there have been very serious warnings: from multiple causes the big lakes of central Africa are in the process of drying up. If on top of that, all these depleted water reserves and aquifers receive in exchange highly polluted water, this water will not be of any use for the vital processes of the planet's organisms. All these developments happen right under our eyes and we can clearly see what became of our streams and rivers! As a boy I was bathing in the springs that were rising and forming small lakes at the periphery of Milan (Italy), pure water that one could also drink. That was not too long ago, but still all the hundreds of small lakes have disappeared except for one that now serves as a national monument!

What is happening to the aquifers along the whole Mediterranean coast? Because of the excessive withdrawal of water, the saline wedge, the seawater, entered them and as a result nearly all of them became salted and unusable even for agriculture. There are regions in Italy like Puglia and Sardinia that are in process of desertification because of the lack of water. These are only a few examples of developments that take place right before our eyes. To give a broad picture of the dimension of what is really happening to the drinking water on a world scale I would like to mention the two countries where the biggest disasters are occurring now: the first the United States of America, and secondly, China.

The United States of America and China are consuming huge amounts of energy. The United States of America is not only consuming 26% of all the petrol worldwide, but also paradoxically 26% of the water. It is now happening in the United States of America that the world's biggest water aquifer, the aquifer of Ogallala that extends beneath all eight southern states, is drying up and has lost 30% of its water over the last 40 years. California that is known as a sort of Eldorado is now having problems and is starting to change the nature of its industrialization and agriculture because of the scarcity of water. Arizona also needs to change its monoculture cotton production because it is unsustainable. The Silicon Valley that has to use especially pure water for the production of computers and microprocessors and uses water from the aquifer of Ogallala for this purpose, cannot proceed any further and from this point of view it is in crisis.

The water shortage is having an impact on the economy of the United States and already there is discussion of bringing in water from Canada through pipelines like the pipelines for oil.

China is in pitiful shape concerning its water problem. Chinese production is growing at an impressive 10-12% per year, but a balance of population, economic growth and resources is clearly needed in this country.

First of all, China is raiding energy and petrol resources all over the world, in Africa, particularly in Angola and Ivory Coast, but mainly in his own territory, creating enormous devastation in regards to the water. In the northern, mainly agricultural parts of the country, the level of the water aquifers declines by 10 feet annually and in the other regions the annual median loss is 5 feet. This phenomenon is also observed in India. These are terrible figures because it can be foreseen that in a short time these aquifers will be dried out and then the attempts of China and India to solve the problem will consist in the construction of enormous dams that will completely destroy what remains of their natural environment. Today China is already constructing 111 large dams and the small ones number in the thousands. Already several dams are planned on the Mekong meaning that this will completely change the political relationship between China and the southeastern countries that use the Mekong for all of their absolutely vital economic and agricultural activities. At the summit of Stockholm on the state of the planet

the data provided showed that in order to respond to all of the worldwide requirements of resources and the exploitation of the territories going on now in the industrialized countries, one would need 4 planets earth. That means one would need four times the present water resources and in general four times the energy resources presently available. Some of the summits were requested by the United Nations, others, like the summit on climate change requested by Tony Blair, have been promoted by individual nations, and by organizations like "No Global". The summits should not be marked as "ideological" because scientists from all over the world have freely participated and contributed their knowledge to the cause.

In regards to water, a date was introduced that could serve as a reference: 2050. If development continues as it is, in 2050 half of the world's population, that is 4 billion people, will not have access to drinking water whereas 5 billion people will not have access to hygienic services. 48% of the water needs will be unmet, which means that the demand for food from agriculture production as well as from industrial production, corresponding to the current model of continuous economic growth, will also be unmet. It is not true that we will all die, there will be a selection and 48% of the needs will just remain unmet.

And then who is going to see their needs satisfied and who will not? And what will be the quality of the water available? It may well be the case that those who get drinkable water also get water to bathe, to wash their clothes, plus water for their swimming pool, golf and tennis courts, for all their needs, while an increasing number of communities and countries do not have access to water for drinking, for the production of food, nor for any other necessity. They might be in a situation of declared underdevelopment and... facing death. These are the dimensions of the problem: in the near future 48% of the demands for water cannot be satisfied!

What happened during these past 40 years? The main factor that determined the impoverishment of resources was agriculture and especially the agricultural models that have been introduced. In the 1950s the model called the "green revolution" was introduced. First of all one started to use grains of great profit, the so-called "global" grains that can be planted anywhere. Secondly, the number and the variety of many species of products were drastically reduced, like corn, rice, sorghum, soybeans, etc.

Also the market became global. No longer does the farmer every year set aside the products he is going to seed the next year, using seeds that have been selected over the course of many generations and which are responding to characteristics of the climate and of the land of their origin. Today uniform seeds are used that are resistant and produce large amounts of products, but only under the condition of the massive use of fertilizers, massive use of weed killers, of massive use of pesticides and large quantities of water.

This is exactly what was happening. From then on the great phenomenon of an agriculture based on increasing water requirements led to the draining of the aquifers. Also important to mention is the fact that on a worldwide scale the habits of nourishment of the rich people have considerably changed. The culture of meat was introduced and thus the breaking up of the cycles of fertilization of the fields by the animals. Once the farmer was also breeding animals, whereas today the animals are bred in large factory farms and the slaughtered animals sent to our plates. These processes require huge amounts of fodder with the result that 60% of the agricultural production is for feeding the animals.

The animals are mostly fed with corn, a grain requiring large quantities of water. If you look around the region of Lombardy (Italy) you find that monoculture took over the fields, and in consequence Italy, second after the United States, is the main consumer of water in the world. The United States uses about 396 - 528 gallons (1500 - 2000 m³) of water per person and year whereas Italy uses about 259 gallons (980 m³) of water per person and year.

To worsen the situation, there is the pollution of water by industries and agriculture. Agriculture in particular releases billions of pounds of fertilizers and pesticides into the ground water; also in this respect Italy is one of the main users of pesticides in the world. It's hard to believe, but the most civilized region, the Trentino, uses the most pesticides compared to all other Italian regions for the cultivation of apples.

Also the climate changes are due to the intervention of man. The summit of Stockholm foresees for Italy a reduction of rainfall by 20% until 2050 due to climate change. And to understand the phenomenon of climate change you just have to look at the impact on the Alps. Recently the statement of Fausto Di Stefano revealed that the glacier of Adamello has practically vanished. In Africa, climate change is provoking disasters of drought, desertification and in consequence, excessive urbanization of people that migrate to the cities. Urbanization has itself an impact on the regimen of water because cement and asphalt pavement prevents rainwater from entering the ground and filling up the aquifers.

In addition, all the galleries and tunnels constructed so far never took into account the balance of water in the area or the necessity to rationalize the resources of water on which we depend. All these factors were never taken into account. It may seem to be only a small issue but in fact whole aquifers are being abolished by perforation of the mountains. For instance the aquifers of Monte Olimpino that have fed the city of Como (Italy) were destroyed by the road tunnels constructed to connect it with Switzerland and today Como is forced to take the water from the lake. Let's ask how many aquifers will be destroyed realizing the TAV (projected train connection Turin - Lyon). This is an unanswered question because no one ever took it into account and no one ever had the intention to think about it seriously.

Similarly, when permits are granted for the construction of houses or buildings, no one takes the water balance into account to evaluate how much of the used water will be given back and to what extent it will be polluted. For instance the city of Pisa with its paper factories became Europe's top producer of hygienic paper and for this purpose it is using up all the water of the whole region so that its aquifers are in crisis today. Therefore there is not even enough water for the citizens. The question is, is it really necessary for Pisa to produce hygienic paper for all of Europe, or wouldn't it be more reasonable that each country produce its own paper according to its needs? This is how global production uses up limited local resources.

We too have to learn to make these considerations. How much water do we uselessly consume ourselves, and let run from the faucet without thinking? Italians are among the greatest consumers of domestic water. Italians consume 69 gallons (260 liters) of water per person daily, but this data is a media estimation that also takes into account the consumption of the Mediterranean regions as Puglia, Sicily and the Meridione. That means that in cities such as Rome or Milan the mean consumption per person and day mounts to about 106 gallons (400 liters). We too must consider the number of showers, the taps remaining open, the sprinkling of the balcony, etc. For sure we are living up to a model of development and a model of production that obviously is not sustainable, but it is also our life style that is no longer sustainable.

When a vital resource like water becomes rare, it does not disappear at once, but what happens over time is that some people continue to be able to use it without problems, whereas others - being part of the 48% of the users as mentioned earlier - will be excluded from the possibility of access. "Areas of exclusion" are formed where the resource is no longer available.

If therefore water is destined from now to 2050 to become this rare resource, the powerful, the ever greedy ones, the ones who started this systematic destruction of the resources, have already thought about how to deal with it: they would like to turn water into a commodity and in consequence the access to water becomes regulated by the market price and it becomes nothing more or less than petrol. The price for petrol rises and falls according to demand and it

might be the same for water with the difference that petrol is actually replaceable as an energy source, whereas water is not. Without water, all life dies. The lack of water abolishes all rights, including the right to live. In other words they would like to merchandize water like petrol and turn it into “blue petrol” or “blue gold” as it is called.

If we consider what was written in January in the “Economia”, the insertion of the newspaper Corriere della Sera where Chris Mayer, one of the gurus of the international world of finances clearly stated that water will be *the* business of the future and that one must invest in water titles, expected to rise over 30%. He also mentioned a list of the most convenient titles. For instance the Pictet Bank has already issued titles that promise to be very profitable. Answering the question “What is going to happen with water?” he says: One creates an organization for water similar to the one for petrol, the OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) that allows the producing nations to be associated and to determine the price of the commodity on the market. One could create also an organization for water and the countries that have water can sell it on the market. These countries could be Canada, Russia, Greenland, Brazil.

This future is awaiting us; the conditions are already present. This is actually not a hypothetical process but one already in action – on a political level international negotiations were undertaken and the WTO (World Trade Organization) has inserted them to their agreements. Among the services that will be privatized and offered on the market, says the WTO, is the provision of water. Many countries have already joined the negotiations and Europe has already agreed under the condition that every country will have to decide according to its own legislation.

The European Union has given its assent to these negotiations and has asked 72 countries of the Third World to make their public water utilities available for privatization by the multinationals, and for water situated in Europe to operate in conformity with these negotiations. For instance the Roman electricity and water company Acea is active all over the world and takes and distributes the water of Erevan and Tirana in Armenia, of Lima in Peru and of Honduras. Father Tamayo, with whom I am regularly in contact, lives in Honduras and continues to launch warnings about water, and often mentions Acea that dominates the market of water services in Honduras. This is the situation. We are dealing with an incredibly large market with 6 billion obligatory customers that cannot escape, with a value of 400 – 1’000 billion dollars per year depending on whether the beverage market is included or not.

The first directive is to realize that privatization is striving to control the tap water. Tap water is destined to become a privatized resource, subjected to the market in order to make profit, becoming a business of the big multinationals. The other issue is bottled water; the corporations convinced everybody by publicity that bottled water is necessary and good. It is sufficient to convince the citizens that the tap water is not safe in order to reap huge profits selling basically the same water (in toxic waste-producing plastic bottles, very few of which are actually recycled, and that end up in landfills, and trashing the seas – commentary of the editor).

Italy has according to the Law Galli in 1994, started to introduce the principle of the costs of water. Substantially the question is: what is the cost of water? The cost of water is from now on determined by the cost of producing it; that is, to lead it into the network, to channel it and bring it to the taps as well as the costs of the sewerage and the deposition of water. Adding to these costs there is what is called the “just recompense of the invested capital” stating for the first time ever that this just recompense should minimally be 7%. This means that the firm trading in water will make 7% guaranteed profit without taking any risk for the enterprise!

This law actually introduced privatization. However, it has been countered by clashes with the Movement for water that meanwhile has been gaining public attention. The Worldwide Contract on Water, and other environmental movements, have joined forces with some of the parliamentarians and administrators who rebelled against this development. In Italy, Europe in general, and in other parts of the world, the privatization of water has run into obstacles. Luckily

there are all these encounters because in 2002 an article was introduced in the financial law that aimed to impose water privatization on all the communes of Italy, i.e. to enter competition for the service of water distribution. There was a hot debate about this article, and finally this measure was blocked and modified introducing the ability for the communes to not privatize the water services but to administer them in house. Now the Government of the European Union has written in its electoral statement that water will not be privatized, not as property or as a service, and this is most essential.

This discussion is going on all over Italy and the world and it absolutely needs the participation and the support of everybody. The citizens have to be involved in this big question to strengthen the importance of their actions. I'd like to add some considerations. The twentieth century has not been a great century in respect to the relations between individuals: world wars, enormous massacres, genocide, gulag, concentration and extermination camps, all very horrible. But it has also been the century of the social doctrine and the welfare state, of democracy and voting, of big parties of the masses that realize values of great importance, be it Christian, secular or leftwing. The last century has confirmed everybody's rights for health care and education in many countries. In respect to water, the 20th century was the century that brought water into many people's homes.

Today the young people hardly ever consider the problem of the use of water. They have seen the taps ever since they were born and found water always at their disposal, but they do not know that to have water at home was a great invention, one of the greatest inventions of humanity because before that happened, babies and children were dying like flies. Also in Italy, in Rome or Milan the children died from gastroenteritis, from diarrhea, intestinal parasites, and the elderly still remember these things. The distribution of water to the home has significance for the whole population since it brought health. Also, toilets and sewers played a crucial role contributing to the disappearance of typhoid fever. The taps and toilets were the biggest sanitary operation in history.

And this outstanding social development was achieved through the tax system, the taxation of the collective that permitted the State to construct the water network as it constructed the electricity network, the schools, the roads, the trains, the hospitals, etc. How can one therefore think that today, at the dawn of the third millennium while the produced wealth is enormous compared to yesterday, that we should reverse course by privatizing the resource that is absolutely crucial for the wellbeing and the life of the people? Moreover, water has a symbolic meaning that everybody, laymen and believers alike, identify with. Let's think of how much water is valued and sanctified by the believers of all religions, and spiritual individuals as well. The Baptism is water, the Muslims wash themselves before entering the mosque, and in the Hindu religion the rivers are also sacred, and the stream accompanies the dead on their journey to heaven, to God. The universal gesture of offering a glass of water is common to all of humanity. How can one possibly turn backwards and say, "I'll give it to you only if you pay me"?

The data that I am going to quote is based on the 500-page report of 2006 by the United Nations, which can be found in any library, entitled "Poverty and the Worldwide Crisis of Water". These are the data: 1.4 billion people do not have access to drinkable water and 2.5 billion do not have access to hygienic services. This leads every day to the death of 4,900 children caused by diarrhea and represents an enormous crime. The report mentions that these conditions were identical to the ones at the beginning of last century in Milan, Rome and London, conditions that have only been surmounted thanks to taxation, to the public engagement and to political action. The report also states that the aim for the millennium that has been continuously proposed since 1998 would be to provide drinkable water for at least half of the 1.4 billion **people** who do not have access to it now. It also estimates the cost of water service, which previously has been between 8 and 25 billion dollars annually; recent estimates were revised and now total 10 billion dollars per year.

What is 10 billion dollars? They are equivalent to 5 days of military expenses! This is stated by the same report by the United Nations. And the American space program that is aimed at finding water on the moon is called “iced moon” and costs, for instance, one million million dollars (1,000,000,000,000). One looks out to learn whether there is water and life on the moon and at the same time, one is indifferent to 1.4 billion people on earth! These data are terrible because they speak of our impotence in appropriating the absolutely necessary 10 billion dollars.

The last summit of the World Forum for Water that is held every three years and was held in Mexico City in March 2006, resulted in the following discussions: the matter of finding the 10 billion dollars per year needed to bring water to those who need it, and the insertion in the final programmatic document of this simple phrase: Water is a human right. Many did make this request and there was a big political dispute between the 148 governments present at the summit. The result was that 143 governments refused to accept it. Ask anyone if he/she believes that water is a human right or not: Certainly he/she will respond with Yes. And yet 143 of 148 countries said No. Only 5 of them were opposed and issued a document of their own. They are: Uruguay, Argentina, Venezuela, Bolivia and Cuba.

The president of the Assembly is Louis Phochon who is president of the Marseille Water Company that is itself a 50% owner of Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux and a 50% owner of Vivendi - Veolia, and therefore represents the multinationals in the water business. In fact, they convinced the participating governments to say no to the concept of water being a human right. The Mexican Dr. Slym said immediately: “Let’s leave it right there with this story of the right. Do we want to write it down that water is a right? Okay, let’s write it down, provided that it is clear that in the end the water gets paid for.” In other words this means ensuring that water is being distributed by public and private partnerships so that the contractor who is providing the water will for 30 years get all the profit he wants on the back of the poor people. Slym also added that the necessary pledges that were established for the millennium failed to be secured, since only 5% of the 10 billion per year were collected. One understood that he wanted to close this project and not talk about it any more.

So it is evident that it is up to us now, the civil society, to respond to this crisis. Privatizing water in combination with climate change and the depletion of water is wreaking frightening effects. Here are three examples: In the shantytown of Kibera in Nairobi where one million of people are living under inhumane conditions in huts of corrugated tin, and without a sewage system, the water - as stated by the report of the United Nations and as we could see for ourselves - costs more than in Italy where it is distributed by the public water utility. As a matter of fact, if you want to have access to a container of water in Nairobi you have to go to a small wall where beyond the wall there is a cistern and a tap. The wall has two differently sized holes - one for the can with the water, the other for the money. The water can only be taken out when the money is paid. Those without money have no drinkable well water or rainwater because even the rainwater is privately collected and sold to the people. This system seriously threatens the lives of children. At Kibera the water system is not established because there is no money to pay for it, but in Nairobi the water system exists and the water costs less than the cans of it in Kibera.

If you go to Manaus in Amazon you find the Rio of Amazon flowing right in front of the city and every day so much water flows down the stream that it would be sufficient for a city like New York for a whole year. Nevertheless half of Manaus has no access to drinking water and water services because Lyonnaise des Eaux does not provide it for them free of charge: Lyonnaise des Eaux takes it from the river but does not give it to those don’t pay for it.

If you go to Johannesburg you find streets next to electrified walls with a sign saying, “armed.” These are armed walls. On one side of the walls you see tennis courts, golf courses and cricket grounds with water running everywhere, children splashing about in pools and on green lawns.

Of course, the rich live there. On the other side of the walls of the very same streets are the slums of Alexandria that look just like the slums of Kibera, Nairobi – terrible. And also in Alexandria, water is not available unless it is obtained as described above, the hole-in-the-wall system. Why is Lyonnaise des Eaux allowed to distribute life-sustaining water in Johannesburg only to the rich?

These are the dimensions of the problem that we face. Can we do something to modify it? I think yes, if we agree to acknowledge that we have now entered the period of exhaustion of the resources. We must rediscover the sense of the value of civic participation; we have to understand that there are essential common goods – like water – to which everybody must have access. Starting from our communities we need to think about how to distribute and how to administer them fairly. Speaking in particular about water, we need to introduce certain rules in order to preserve this precious resource for the future of the planet. It is not about handing it out for free, but – as the WHO (World Health Organization) also states – to make sure that the first 13 gallons (50 liters) that are indispensable for life can reach everybody. Thereafter water needs to be paid for, maybe also very dearly, so that one consumes less and less for unnecessary uses, perhaps also introducing a penalty for those who consume too much. But these 13 gallons (50 liters) that represent the right to life have to be secured for everybody in all countries on all the continents.

There is another matter to address, apart from the equitable distribution of the essential resources, and that is taxation. This is actually a very important point, since everybody is voting on the basis of taxes, and politics revolves around taxes. But real politics is different – the real politics are the data that speak of 1.4 billion people that die because they do not have water. The real politics is water that becomes scarce and that will be scarce in Italy as well because we have entered the period of the exhaustion of this particular resource. It is not in vain that the civil protection speaks of the water shortage every year when summer arrives; last year Mr. Formigoni (President of the Lombardy region) did not know whether he should distribute the water to the farmers or to the industries because there was not enough water for both.

Real politics in the noble sense of the word would consist of introducing and spreading the principals of conservation and by changing the life styles of consumption. Thus we can start with ourselves by saving water learning to consume less water in general on all fronts. Consider that for the production of a car 105,669 gallons (400,000 liters) of water is needed. In Milan there are more registrations of cars than inscriptions of births in the register and there are 80 cars for every 100 inhabitants. We would really have to contemplate these facts and rediscover habits that were absolutely normal 40 years ago. For instance 40 years ago, the habit of buying and throwing away did not exist; a jacket lasted 15 years and a coat 20 years, shoes were re-soled and cars were repaired and for these labors many craftsmen were employed. Some time ago there was not this frantic pattern of buying and discarding, and the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) that is supposed to constantly rise was not calculated, but nevertheless humanity lived without regressing. Actually no one is proposing to return to the candle, but one is talking about the necessity to draw up the accounts because our present situation is not a theoretical hypothesis, but it is a very concrete reality that is certainly catching up with us fast. And therefore it is necessary to learn how to draw up the accounts to relearn the elements of saving, of sobriety, of moderation, of trade that grows between us, of economies that apply practical and equitable forms of cooperation and solidarity. It is necessary to rediscover all these skills because it is the only way to respond to the exhaustion of resources.

We must all cooperate to write the paradigms of the new politics that should consist of making the necessary agreements in order to live together for the next decades. Either 6 billion people sign on to these agreements or one is tearing everything to pieces by making war for water, just like the wars that are happening today for oil, wars that are fought in our home and not only far from us.

All of us are called upon to take action, starting with the schools, with the education of children and with the work of changing ourselves. Only in this way we will be able to succeed in changing politics and its parameters in order to write this contract for living together in the 21st century.

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