



SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT

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AGBAR

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28 January 2013

EU water policy in practice:

**Invitation for a one day study-trip to AGBAR's water management sites
on 1st March 2013 in Barcelona, Spain**

Dear Madam,

On behalf of SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT and its affiliate AGBAR, we would like to invite you to participate in a **one-day study trip to Barcelona, Spain** designed to provide you with a hands-on, practical insight into state-of-the-art solutions for water resources management **as part of the current debate on the protection of water resources in Europe.**

The EU Commission has recently released a **Blueprint to safeguard water** resources in Europe and launched a **European Innovation Partnership** to solve upcoming innovation challenges related to water issues. The implementation of these two initiatives will take place over the long-term and will depend upon the smooth integration of EU water policy objectives within other EU policy areas (agriculture, industry, energy...). It will depend also and directly on the actions undertaken by stakeholders since many of the measures foreseen will be implemented on voluntary basis. This is why we believe that this study trip will provide food for thought to policy makers across the three institutions and to stakeholders involved in the debate.

The proposed trip will take you to several installations of **AGBAR** in Barcelona. It will, among others, illustrate the stakes and challenges of the EU water policy, in the context of a major city in Europe, and the solutions provided to address these challenges.

You will find attached the draft programme of the trip, which will take place on **Friday 1st March 2013**, with a departure from Brussels on the eve by a direct flight from Brussels to Barcelona. The return trip is foreseen on Friday evening.

The programme will include:

- A visit of the operational control center managing water for the city of Barcelona;
- A visit of a drinking water treatment plant (showcasing different types of treatment);
- A debate on the stakes and challenges of EU Water policy.

Upon request as per your registration form, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT will provide assistance and cover the costs of airline travels to/from Brussels and accommodation at Silken Hotel in Barcelona.

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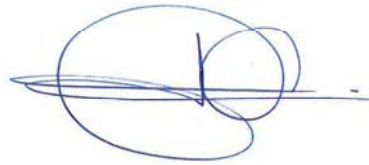
Participants will include MEPs and policy advisors, Commission officials, Member States representatives and NGOs. The visits will be conducted in English. Please note that the number of participants will be limited to 15 persons.

We would be grateful to receive confirmation of your participation by **February 7th, 2013** by using the reply form attached to this letter and sending it to: eupa@suez-env.com.

Yours sincerely,



Bernard GUIRKINGER
Senior Executive Vice-President
SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT



Juan-Antonio GUIJARRO
General Manager Aqualogy
AGBAR

Attachments:

- Presentation of the study trip
- Registration form

For more information, please contact:

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About SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT

With total revenues in Europe of €10.5 billion, and 68,316 employees as of December 31, 2011, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT is a reference player in the delivery of environmental services, with a permanent presence in 24 European countries. The Group is active at each stage of the water and waste cycles, and operates both on behalf of public authorities and private sector players.

Through its water-related activities in Europe, SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT supplied 33.5 million people with drinking water, and provided sanitation services to 30.4 million people in 2010. In the same year, the Group provided waste collection services to nearly 43 million people in Europe and over 500,000 industrial and commercial clients and treated nearly 36 million tons of waste. SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT is also active outside Europe, where it achieves 25% of its total revenues worldwide.

About AGBAR

Since 1867, the companies which make up AGBAR have brought the future to the management of water and the environment, continuously applying new developments, technological advances and knowledge. AGBAR is a reference player with a presence in 11 countries: Spain, the United Kingdom, as well as Chile, Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, Algeria, Peru, Brazil, Turkey and United States. With 10,061 employees, AGBAR serves 25.6 million people worldwide every day. In Spain, AGBAR manages the water of 1,023 cities.



European Water Policy in practice
One-day study trip to AGBAR water management sites
Friday 1st March 2013, Barcelona, Spain

As of Jan. 28

I Provisional Agenda

Day 1 : Thursday 28th February

Departure from Brussels, to be chosen from :

Option 1 :

6.40 pm > Departure (with Brussels Airlines)
8.35 pm > Arrival in Barcelona
... transfer to hotel Silken

Option 2 :

8.50 pm > Departure (with Vueling)
10.45 pm > Arrival in Barcelona
... transfer to hotel Silken

9.30 pm Welcome Dinner (for participants choosing Option 1)
Barcelona
Hotel Silken

Day 2 : Friday 1st March

9.00 am
Torre Agbar

Welcome speech by AGBAR's management
Presentation of AGBAR-AQUALOGY & discussion

10.30 am – 11.30 am
Collblanc

Visit of the Operational control centre of Aguas de Barcelona (Waters of Barcelona)

☞ The Operational Control Centre manages the entire distribution of drinking water to the Barcelona metropolitan area, operating non-stop 24/7. Through a daily water demand forecast for each supply zone, it plans the resources that the treatment plants need to provide. It moreover operates the supply facilities with criteria of maximum technical and economic efficiency, maintaining the service's quality levels stable at all times.

12.00 am – 3.00 pm
Agbar Foundation

Debate on the current challenges faced by water services operators in relation to EU water policy

Introduction by Agbar: on stakes and challenges faced by operators, public authorities and industries to implement EU's water policy objectives.

3 to 4 key questions will be discussed (agenda and guests tbc)

Lunch Buffet

... / ...

3.30 pm – 4.30 pm **Visit of the drinking water facilities**
St Joan Despi (insight on several water treatment techniques)

☞ The Saint Joan Despi Drinking Water Treatment Plant is one of the main sources of supply of the Barcelona metropolitan area. It has applied the most advanced water treatment technologies since it came into operation in 1955. The improvements in its processes include ozone treatment and reverse osmosis.

4.45 pm Transfer to the airport

6.05 pm Departure to Brussels (with Vueling) – arrival at 8.15 pm

II Logistics

Transport : SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT will take care of flights booking and expenses (for a direct return flight Brussels-Barcelona with Brussels airline or Vueling).

Accommodation : SUEZ ENVIRONNEMENT will take care of the booking and expenses for 1 hotel night (from 28th February to 1st March) at the Hotel Silken (Avenida Diagonal, 205 Barcelona, 08018 Spain / T. +34 934 895 300 - <http://www.hoteles-silken.com/hotel-diagonal-barcelona/fr/>)