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PRESS RELEASE

**AQUAFED SUPPORTS THE INTEGRITY
AND ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE**

STOCKHOLM, August 22, 2006 - AquaFed, the International Federation of Private Water Operators, supports the integrity and anti-corruption drive in the water sector and announced today that it has joined the Water Integrity Network (WIN) as a corporate member.

"Water operators constantly face the challenges of overcoming many forms of corruption and their negative effects. Private operators have a strong record in eliminating corruption and improving integrity in the delivery of high-quality water and sanitation services. AquaFed seeks to make a practical contribution to the fight for improved integrity and against corruption alongside other WIN members," said AquaFed President Gérard Payen at today's launch of the Water Integrity Network at the World Water Week in Stockholm. ***"Building integrity strengthens governance, societies and services and eliminates corruption,"***

The WIN's goals are completely consistent with AquaFed's Code of Ethics¹ and membership provides an opportunity for the Federation to carry on its central mission: connecting private water operators, public institutions and civil society organisations at the international level to find practical solutions to water issues facing the world.

"AquaFed is confident that by participating actively in the Water Integrity Network, it will be able to promote integrity and fight against corruption." said Payen. ***"We will be able to leverage our members' experience, add it to that of other participants in the network, develop good practices and help our members apply anti-corruption techniques."***

"I want to highlight the importance of tackling corruption in all areas of the water sector. This multi-stakeholder coalition can play an important role in initiating and supporting pro-poor actions to combat corruption. I am very happy that AquaFed is on board, as this organisation can make a valuable contribution to the anti-corruption efforts of the WIN.", said Dr. Donal O'Leary, Senior Advisor at Transparency International (TI), which hosts the WIN Secretariat.

