Environmentally Sustainable Practices

Whereas: The Water Environment Federation's Vision is to be recognized as a leader dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the global water environment; and,

Whereas: Sustainability of natural and manmade resources is integral to the long-term health of the environment and to the economic well-being of future generations; and,

Whereas: The credibility and standing of the Water Environment Federation is dependent upon demonstrated commitment to a sustainable environment through its own environmentally sound practices; and,

Whereas: The Water Environment Federation's leadership in sustainable practices begins with their institutionalization in its business practices at its headquarters and at all events sponsored and managed by the Federation. Therefore,

Be it Resolved, that it be the policy of the Water Environment Federation to develop and implement sustainable practices at the Federation's headquarters that include

- The consideration of sustainability of products that are purchased for use at WEF headquarters. The ability to recycle and/or reuse products is a key element of their sustainability.

- The evaluation of supplier sustainable practices as a consideration when selecting suppliers of WEF utilized products and services.

- Wherever practical, the purchase and use of reusable products and the elimination of non-reusable, disposable products.

- The establishment of convenient recycling systems for all products that cannot be reused.

- The commitment to seek recycling opportunities for all products such as computers, carpet and furniture when they are removed from service.

- The establishment of a culture of sustainability within the Federation staff.

Be it resolved further: that it will be the policy of the Water Environment Federation to seek to influence the development of sustainable practices of those businesses which benefit financially through contracts with the Federation. That influence will include

- Providing technical information to vendors to assist with their own sustainable practices.

- When negotiating with hotels and meeting venues who host WEF members and events, requesting that reusable and recyclable products be used whenever possible and assuring that convenient recycling receptacles are provided.

- Giving preferential consideration in the selection of suppliers and vendors to those who use sustainable practices, when economically reasonable.

- Including notification that WEF supports and practices environmental sustainability as appropriate in its advertising and publications.

Be it further Resolved: The Water Environment Federation will develop the systems to implement and measure its environmentally sustainable practices by January 2006.

- An inventory of non-recyclable or non-reusable products in use will be developed.

- Suitable reusable and recyclable products will be identified and acquired.

- An informational brochure detailing desirable sustainable practices for vendors and suppliers will be developed and distributed to current and potential vendors and suppliers.

- Negotiation strategies for communicating the Federation's interests in the inclusion of sustainable practices in contracts with vendors, suppliers and service providers will be developed.

- An accurate budget estimate for development, implementation, and outgoing support will be developed and provided to the WEF Board of Trustees.

- A report on the status of the Water Environment Federation's Environmentally Sustainable Practices will be provided annually to the WEF Board of Trustees.

Adopted by Board of Trustees July 2005