

## **Urgent Proposal: International Access to Spring Water and Ban on Toxic Drainage – South Africa Water Crisis Response**

**From:** Dika Moka Youth Development Forum <info@dika-moka.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, 03 July 2025 20:16

**To:** unepinfo@unep.org; info@who.int; env-info@ec.europa.eu; chemicals@dcceew.gov.au; sndr@mma.gov.br; ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca; zhuoz@mee.gov.cn; div-org@mee.gov.cn; poststelle@bmuv.bund.de; mefcc@gov.in; asnpg.mefcc@gov.in; rosavivien@gmail.com; kaiiki@env.go.jp; chikyu-kyoryoku@env.go.jp; yumic@keiti.re.kr; ysbforest@korea.kr; Q-alsharari@mewa.gov.sa; callcentre <callcentre@dffe.gov.za>; DG <DG@dffe.gov.za>; agul.yilmaz@csb.gov.tr; defra.helpline@defra.gov.uk; info@epa.gov; maca@ambiente.gob.ar

**Subject:** Urgent Proposal: International Access to Spring Water and Ban on Toxic Drainage – South Africa Water Crisis Response

Dear Esteemed Officials,

On behalf of the Dika-Moka Youth Development Forum, I am submitting a formal proposal for your urgent attention and collaborative action.

This proposal outlines a comprehensive, solution-driven response to South Africa's escalating water contamination crisis—caused by chemical drainage, unregulated industrial and healthcare waste, and deteriorating municipal water systems. It recommends an immediate shift toward public access to natural spring water, the strict control of chemical pollutants, and the protection of aquatic and human life.

We respectfully request your leadership in:

- Enabling global access to clean, spring water
- Ending chemical and pharmaceutical pollution via drainage
- Enforcing accountability and sustainability for companies extracting natural spring water
- Promoting eco-conscious household and industrial practices

## **1. Comparison: Natural Spring Water vs. Tap Water Treatment**

### **A. Natural Spring Water**

- **Source:** Emerges naturally from underground aquifers
- **Treatment:** Minimal (filtration); retains natural minerals
- **Benefits:** Free of chlorine, fluoride, and industrial contaminants

## **B. Tap Water**

- **Source:** Often contaminated surface water
- **Treatment:** Includes chlorine, coagulation, fluoridation
- **Risks:** Exposure to chlorine by-products, heavy metals, fluoride, microplastics

## **2. Dangers of Tap Water Contamination**

- **Chemical Waste:** Detergents, cosmetics, and solvents entering pipes
- **Healthcare Waste:** Pharmaceuticals affecting aquatic and human biology
- **Environmental Impact:**
  - Mutations and death in fish, amphibians, coral
  - Hormonal disorders, cancers, antibiotic resistance in humans

## **3. Proposal for Government Action**

### **A. Spring Water Access for All Citizens**

- Identify and protect provincial springs
- Establish local bottling with subsidies for poor communities

### **B. Reform of Drainage and Waste Disposal**

- Ban drainage of chemicals, drugs, industrial toxins
- Mandate green product usage and treatment plants
- Enforce penalties and offer incentives for compliance

### **C. Environmental and Health Education**

- National awareness campaigns
- Promote biodegradable home products
- Empower schools to test/report water quality

### **D. Accountability of Private Spring Water Companies**

- Monitor extraction volumes and water sustainability
- Enforce benefit-sharing for affected communities

- Focus on: Cradle of Humankind, Valpré, Paarl, aQuellé, Cornwall Hill, Waterberg, etc.

## **E. Regulation of Bottling Chemicals**

- Enforce safe sterilization and disposal methods
- Certify use of food-grade and eco-safe materials

## **F. Ban or Strictly Control the Following in Drainage Systems:**

- **Home:** Bleach, ammonia, fragrances, dyes
- **Industry:** PFAS, solvents, heavy metals
- **Healthcare:** Pharmaceuticals, hormones
- **Agriculture:** Fertilizers, pesticides, animal drugs

## **4. Benefits to Nature and Society**

- Safer drinking water
- Revival of rivers and aquatic ecosystems
- Biodiversity protection
- Reduced healthcare costs
- Job creation through local water industries

## **Conclusion**

Governments must act urgently to reverse the tide of chemical pollution and water degradation. Making spring water accessible and banning harmful waste from entering drainage systems will protect both human health and the natural world.

We welcome the opportunity to present this proposal and discuss legislative or programmatic support at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your commitment to the people and ecosystems of the planet.

Warm regards,

Frans Ramoba

Chairperson – Dika-Moka Youth Development Forum

+27 61 586 6287

info@dika-moka.com

www.dika-moka.com