

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI



XIX WORLD WATER CONGRESS  
International Water Resources Association (IWRA)  
Marrakech, Morocco | 1-5 December 2025

Kingdom of Morocco



Ministry of  
Equipment and Water

**From water quality monitoring to the generalization of testing the implementation of new approaches for health risk assessment and management.  
- ONEE Water Branch Experience -**

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Water Quality Control Directorate, National Office of Electricity and  
Drinking Water, Rabat, Morocco

02/12/2025

NB: WHO / IWA support

Results of the work done by the local teams of ONEE / Water Branch

# Summary



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## Context and objectives

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Why Implement a Risk Management Approach?  
Quality is at the Heart of the Office's Business

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# Drinking water



- **Global crisis**

- Scarcity
- Unsuitable wastewater treatment
- Drying sources
- Degradation of surface water and Underground water

Climate change  
(flood-drought)

- **No access to drinking water**

- 1.4 billion people
- 2 billion people without infrastructure health
- The consumption of polluted water kills 4 million children per year

Energy problems  
(future)

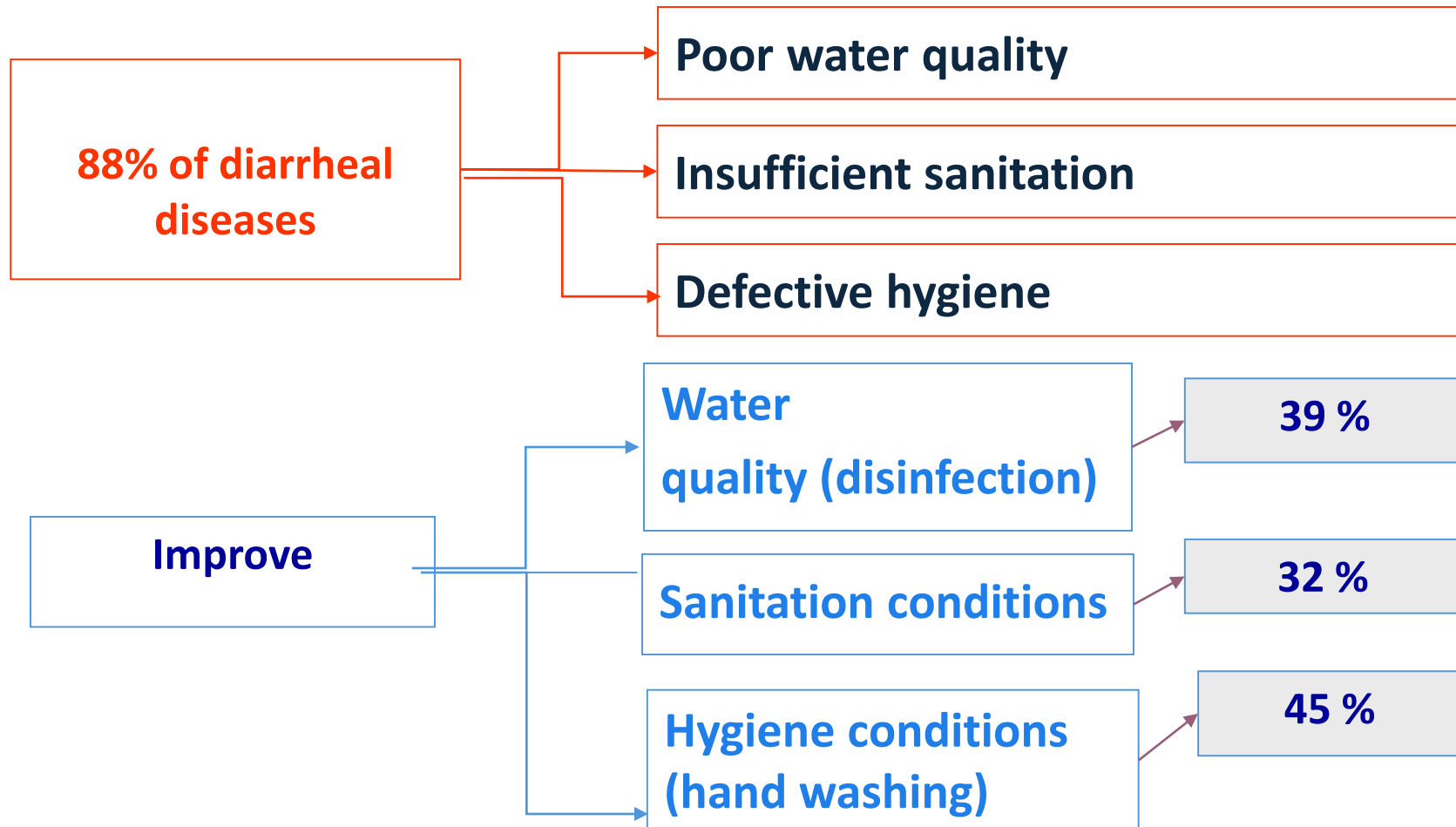




# Context



# According to the WHO:



Réf : site [www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/2005\\_advocguide/fr](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/2005_advocguide/fr)

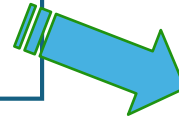




# Evolutions....

**Definition of drinking water: Water that doesn't pose any risk to health.**

Water from food preparation and food industry



Microbiological quality assurance strategy for water based on faecal contamination indicators or indicators treatment efficiency.

Water from other household uses including body washing



New microbiological risks:  
- inhalation of water  
- contact with water

Parasitological risks



# New pressures .....



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**Hardening of the regulations**

**Changes in standards and practices**

**Pressure of competition**

**Customer requirements**





# Objectives



# Objectives of any Water supplier:

- Guarantee safe and acceptable water that does not pose health risks for consumer
- Control the risks related to the drinking water supply and have strategies to control its risks
- Know the risks of non-compliance with national standards for produced and distributed drinking water



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# Background



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National:

Moroccan standard for food use water 03.7.001 (2020)

Moroccan standard for the control and monitoring of public drinking water supply networks NM 03.7.002- (2011)

Moroccan standard of WSP NM 00.5.057 (2020)

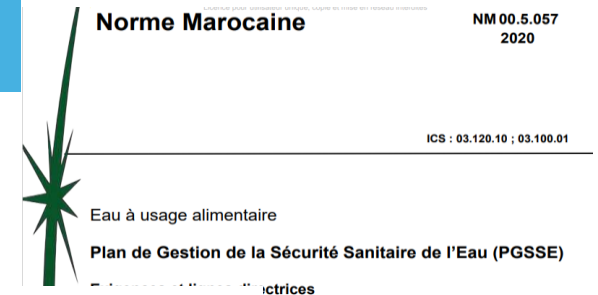
Standards NM 08.0.002 and 08.0.001

International:

WHO guidelines, WSP, NM ISO 22000... Supply drinking water crises.

Maximum admissible values

Sampling frequency resource storage



# Objectives of control health risks



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**Staying** in line with WHO guidelines, national and international standards.

**Demonstrate** the ability to provide consumers a safe healthy through:

- The control of health risks at all stages from production water through processing, storage, transportation to distribution of water.
- Improving the management and control system of the drinking water supply
- Control of the health risk communication.

**Preserving** the consumer health

**Strengthen collaboration and synergy** between water managers, producers, distributors, local authorities and health authorities.





# Risk Management Approach



# Why implement a risk management approach?



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- Ensure the drinking water safety
- Improve the management of drinking water supply systems
- Optimize analytical controls

*And...*

Preventive approach

Obligation of results and not means

Limitation of water quality control

Emergency preparedness and management

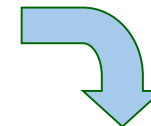
Effective internal and external communication



# From the resource to the tap ... quality is at the heart of the Office's business



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**Water quality**  
1 central laboratory  
and 117 decentralized laboratories



+ 1000 catchments

+ 7000 Network points





# Water Safety Plan WSP



# Introduction



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The major and immediate risks for consumers of drinking water are **pathogenic micro-organisms**.

Water resources protection and treatment are very important and **should never be compromised**.



# Water Safety Plan -WSPs - The Basics



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- Concept developed by WHO in its Quality Guidelines for Drinking Water 2004 and 2011
- 3 principles :
  1. Setting quality objectives based on public health and acceptability
  2. WSP based on the principles of risk management used in food industry (HACCP) + multiple barriers
  3. Monitoring



# Basics:



## ☹ Restrictive

- 💧 List of water quality indicators limited
- ☹ Diseases observed despite water test results in accordance with national regulations

## ☹ Limited

- ☹ Sampling volume in relation to the volume of water produced Not representative
- ☹ Thresholds of analytical detections (microbiology) insufficient
- ☹ When water contamination is detected, it has already reached the consumer

Classical approach:  
control of the finished  
product with obligation  
of results (curative)



System approach through  
analysis and risk  
management at all stages  
of water production

Réf : J.F Loret \_ Suez Environnement CIRCSEE



# Approaches of controlling health risks

2004 :

WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Chapter on the application of a health risk management approach

2006 :

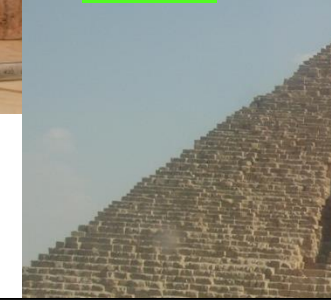
Standard for Food Safety Management (ISO 22000) adopted by Morocco.

2009 :

Development of the guide for the application of water safety plans (in French).



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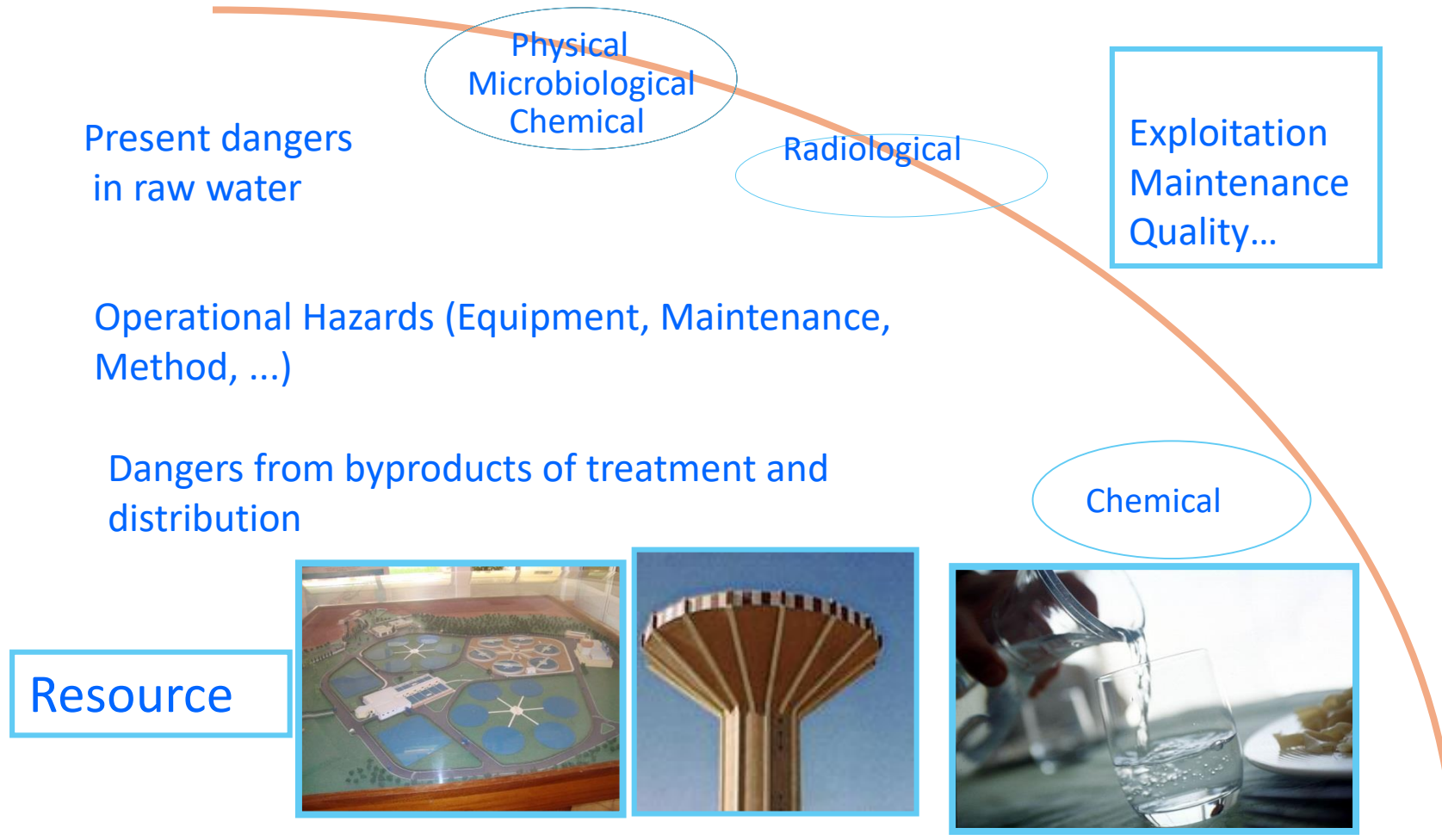




# Implementation



# Application domain



Drinking water supply process: production, storage, distribution



# Many elements already in place



- The protection of resources through the reduction of pollution sources that could negatively affect the water cycle.
- The best choice of the resource for the drinking water production.
- The appropriate treatment process according to the resource quality - the performance monitoring of the water treatment plant, the treatment reagents control, the materials used ...
- A local water quality monitoring network covering all stages of water production and distribution.
- Reliable analysis results
- Compliance with the regulations governing the water quality

Operating and  
maintenance  
procedures

Training ....

**Missing the link**



# Criteria for selecting Sites:



The choice was made according to the following criteria:

- The importance of drinking water supply (DWS)
- The nature of the water supply system and the history of water quality
- The availability of safety studies of DWS systems

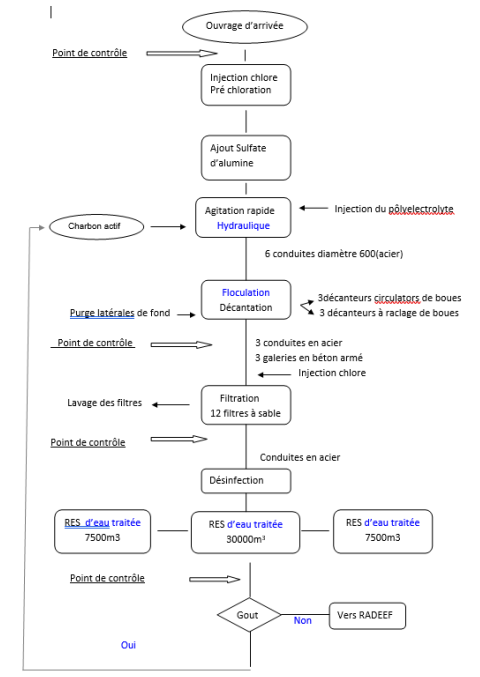
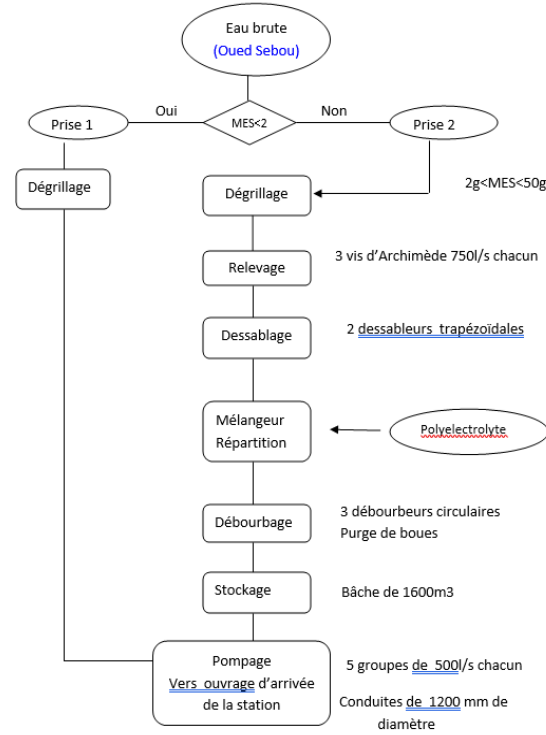


# Approach Adopted

- Implementation of WSP at the local level with the participation of people involved in the drinking water production process for large treatment plants and medium capacity of DWS systems.
- Implementation of ISO 22 000/WSP at large DWS complexes.



## Process diagram



# Overall overview of the WSP or SFMS implementation project



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## Mission I:

Diagnosis of the current situation of WSS systems, evaluation of sites with respect to WSP or ISO 22000 requirements, staff training, and development of a support and guidance plan for the implementation of the WSP or SFMS.

## Consistency

## Mission II:

Methodology and development of the health risk management aspect, preparation and writing of the procedures required by the WSP or the SFMS

## Mission III:

Support, application, verification, and validation of WSP or SFMS procedures at the selected sites and request for an audit from IMANOR.





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# RESULTS



# Results

5 Treatment plants certified ISO 22 000

Sebou (Fès), Daourat (El Jadida),  
Rocade (Marrakech), El Kansera  
(Khemisset) and Bittit Ribaa  
(Meknès).



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# Results

- TP El Kansera (Khemisset) certified WSP by Moroccan Institute for Standardization (1st certified site)
- 25 sites in progress covering all regional production directions of ONEE



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# PERSPECTIVES



# Roadmap for scaling up the implementation of the WSP

2023 – 2030 :

- Use of external support for the development and deployment of the WSP for around twenty sites spread across all Regional Directorates of the Office.
- Internal development and deployment at all conventional and specific treatment plants

This plan takes into account the difficulties of generalizing to all water supply systems managed by the Office, given their number, and the time and cost involved in development and implementation.



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**Monsieur Le Directeur de l'Epidémiologie  
et de la Lutte Contre les Maladies  
71 Avenue Ibn Sina Agdal  
Rabat**

2 - 121

N°: DCE/S/2022

**Objet** : Application du plan de gestion de la sécurité sanitaire de l'eau (PGSSE)  
«NM 00.5.057 2020 »

**Réf** : V/Lettre n°1378 SAB/DHM/DELM/15 du 25/07/2022  
N/Message du 04/08/2022

Monsieur Le Directeur

Faisant suite aux envois cités en référence en relation avec l'application obligatoire du PGSSE, à partir de 2023, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire part du plan d'actions relatif à l'intégration du PGSSE au sein des unités de l'Office. Ce plan tient compte des difficultés d'une généralisation au niveau de tous les systèmes d'AEP gérés par l'Office vu leur nombre, le temps et le coût engendrés pour le développement et la mise en œuvre. En résumé :

**2023 – 2025 :**  
Recours à un accompagnement externe pour le développement et le déploiement du PGSSE et ce pour une vingtaine de sites réparties sur l'ensemble des Directions Régionales de l'Office.

**2023- 2030 :**  
Développement et déploiement en interne au niveau de toutes les stations de traitement classiques et spécifiques et les Centres urbains et ruraux alimentés par ces stations.

**Au-delà de 2030**  
Mise en place et déploiement du PGSSE au niveau des centres urbains ayant leur propre production et les centres ruraux gérés par l'ONEE selon le guide simplifié de l'OMS.

Ce plan d'action prévisionnel pourrait subir quelques modifications ou ajustements en fonction des contraintes rencontrées.

A signaler par ailleurs, que les modalités de l'audit du PGSSE restent à clarifier (MSPS, IMANOR ou autres prestataires) pour auditer d'ores et déjà les unités de l'Office certifiées selon le référentiel ISO 22000 « système de management de la sécurité des denrées alimentaires » s'agissant du même concept que le PGSSE.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Directeur, l'expression de mes salutations distinguées.

Directeur Contrôle  
des Eaux



# Challenges



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Approach to local integration in the  
"normal" operation?

Mandatory Health Safety  
Management Plans?

WSP: among the investment  
criteria for decision makers?



# Feedback on the implementation of the WSP or FSMS



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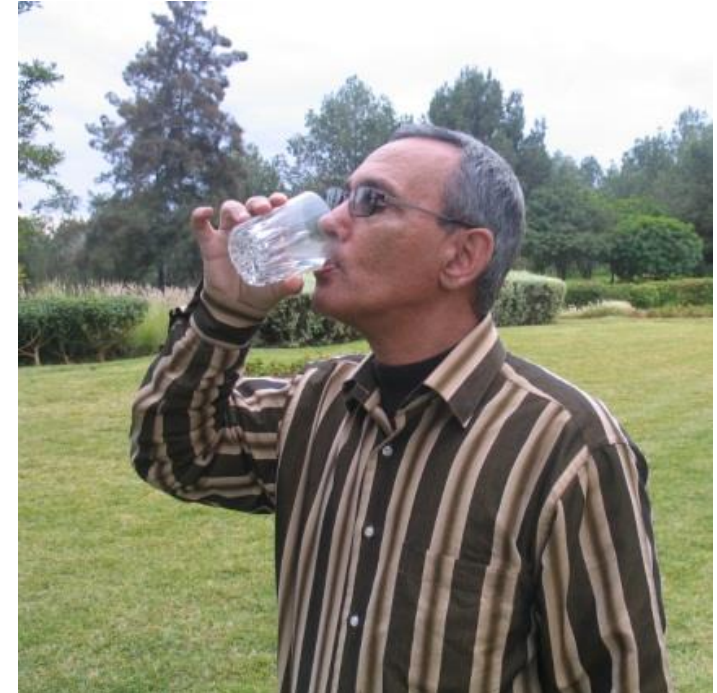
## Some benefits:

- Water Quality Control Oriented Toward Health Risks / Relevant Parameters.
- Optimization of analyses.
- Control of Health Risks Related to Water at All Stages of the Water Supply System from Source to Consumer: System Approach
- Consideration of Risks Arising from Actors in the Water Supply Chain
- Preventive Management of Health Risks
- New Approach with Synergy Between Different Activities
- Control of the Water Supply System in Normal and Crisis Situations



# Conclusion

- ❑ Drinking water safety management is a major challenge for public health.
- ❑ Results of the application of WSP/ISO2200 are convincing and will further strengthen the efforts undertaken by ONEE in terms of active monitoring of quality and will allow a better control of water supply system.



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Thank you!

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www.worldwatercongress.com

