

1 [Commendation for Rudolf Amenga-Etego and the Ghana National Coalition Against  
2 Privatization of Water.]

3 **Resolution commending Rudolf Amenga-Etego for his growing international**  
4 **recognition as a pioneer in environmentally sustainable water policy and universal**  
5 **access to safe, affordable water.**

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7 WHEREAS, Rudolf Amenga-Etego has gained international recognition for his  
8 contributions to the environment, and will be honored in both San Francisco and Washington,  
9 D.C., during April, 2004, for his remarkable achievements; and

10 WHEREAS, Rudolf Amenga-Etego co-founded the Ghana National Coalition Against  
11 Privatization of Water (National CAP of Water), which has developed a groundbreaking  
12 community government model for supplying water in Ghana, in which the public sector would  
13 supply water, and the local community would handle distribution; and

14 WHEREAS, the National CAP of Water has brought together a broad consortium of  
15 organizations representing health professionals, women’s organizations, trade unions, student  
16 and youth groups, tenants, residents and community associations, religious groups,  
17 environmental groups, human rights groups, and academia, which has been instrumental in  
18 raising public awareness about a proposal to privatize the urban water supply in Ghana, and  
19 has united around the goal of ensuring access to water for all Ghanaians by 2008; and,

20 WHEREAS, Public control and public accountability for water are key to achieving and  
21 maintaining access to affordable water; and,

22 WHEREAS, Water privatization projects by multinational corporations in Bolivia, the  
23 Philippines, Argentina, and South Africa have resulted in water rate hikes for consumers,  
24 service cutoffs to vulnerable populations, and preventable deaths and water related diseases  
25 such as cholera, dengue hemmorrhagic fever, and malaria; and

1           WHEREAS, in developing nations, over a billion people lack access to safe drinking  
2 water and 2.4 billion do not have adequate sanitation; and,

3           WHEREAS, In Ghana where running water is a limited resource, the World Bank has  
4 required the government to privatize its urban water system which would impose higher rates  
5 on individuals and not address the serious need for sanitation; and,

6           WHEREAS, Mr. Amenga-Etego and the National CAP of Water are promoting  
7 democracy and environmental sustainability through encouraging full participation of all  
8 sectors of civil society in water sector reform in Ghana; and

9           WHEREAS, Rudolf Amenga-Etego's return visit to San Francisco in April, 2004, will  
10 connect local and global efforts to protect safe water and the environment, will address the  
11 dangers of multinational companies privatizing the supply of water, and will educate  
12 individuals about the necessity of achieving and maintaining access to affordable water; and

13           WHEREAS, the people of Ghana and the NCAP of Water have been encouraged in  
14 their ongoing efforts and gratefully received San Francisco's expression of support in 2002;  
15 now therefore, be it,

16           RESOLVED, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors welcome Rudolf Amenga-Etego  
17 and commend the National Coalition Against the Privatization of Water in Ghana for their  
18 continued efforts to expand access to safe, affordable water and sanitation through publicly  
19 accountable systems and environmentally sustainable alternatives in Ghana, the United  
20 States, and internationally.