

UNITS OF MEASUREMENT RELATED TO WATER

| Expression | Recommended use of symbols | Equivalence | AVOID |
|------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 1 millimetre | 1 mm | | |
| 1 cubic metre | 1 m ³ | 1 m ³ | 1 M ³ |
| 1 million cubic metres | 1 hm ³ (cubic hectometre) | 10 ⁶ m ³ = 1 000 000 m ³ | 1 MM ³ |
| 1 billion cubic metres | 1 km ³ (cubic kilometre) | 10 ⁹ m ³ = 1 000 000 000 m ³ | 1 bcm |
| 1 kilowatt hour ¹ | 1 kWh | 10 ³ m ³ = 1 000 Wh | 1 KWH |
| 1 gigawatt hour | 1 GWh | 10 ⁹ m ³ = 1 000 000 000 Wh | 1 GWH |
| 1 terawatt hour | 1 TWh | 10 ¹² m ³ = 1 000 000 000 000 Wh | 1 TWH |
| 1 milligram per litre | 1 mg/L or 1 mg/l | 10 ⁻³ g/L = 0.001 g/L | 1 ppm |
| 1 hectare ² | 1 ha | 10 ⁴ m ² = 10 000 m ² | |
| 1 million hectares | | 1 000 km ² | |
| 1 000 000 000 | Thousands separated by spaces, not commas. Use Ctrl + Shift + Space to avoid number separation in Word. | | 1,000,000,000 |

Source: Based on Annex VI of the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS) and the International System of Units (SI).

Recommendations for formatting numbers

Following the 9th CGPM (1948, **Resolution 7**) and the 22nd CGPM (2003, **Resolution 10**), for numbers with many digits the digits may be divided into groups of three by a thin space, in order to facilitate reading. Neither dots nor commas are inserted in the spaces between groups of three. However, when there are only four digits before or after the decimal marker, it is customary not to use a space to isolate a single

CGPM = *Conférence Générale des Poids et Mesures* = General Conference on Weights and Measures. See website of the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM) = International Bureau of Weights and Measures at www.bipm.org

¹ A kWh is not an SI unit, but it is widely used in electricity generation reports. The SI unit is Joule (J)

² A hectare is not an SI unit, but it is widely used in irrigation. The SI unit is m² and multiples (e.g. km²)