

**Abstract :**

The sector of water in Algeria knew since 1962, a remarkable evolution as regards investments particularly since 1970, year of creation of the Secretariat of State to Hydraulics. However the management of the sector underwent successive reorganizations, which did not make it possible to set up an effective organization of management with clear objectives.

In 1970, the creation of the SONADE (organization related to commercial and industrial), equivalent with the SONEGAS for the energy which had the monopoly of the production and the distribution of water in Algeria really could deal with the totality of the activity for all its period of existence of 1970 to 1983 and that by a questioning of its missions and a destabilization of its organisational diagram initially envisaged.

In 1983, a second reorganization of the activity led to the creation of 13 regional companies having in load in their respective geographical areas, the same missions as the SONADE during its creation. This reorganization was intended for recadrer the activity of the sector and to operate a direct recovery by the state. As for the reorganization of 1970, the new organization will be still called into question.

Thus in 1987, one decides a division of competences, as regards management of drinking water, between the State and the local communities.

In 1997, the government decided a new organization in the light of the new provisions of the code of water amended in 1996 and new policy of the water adopted in 1996 after National's bases of water held in 1995.

Today the public utility of drinking water is ensured by 34 establishments of water (9 regional establishments, 25 establishments of Wilaya) and is managed in 40 % of common representing 57 % of the total population and 71 % of the agglomerated population, the remainder of the communes ensures its own public utility, in general by a direct management.

On the level of the establishments of water, the cleansing and maintenance costs are covered by the tariff of water consumption according to decrees' 85-267 of the 29/10/85, 96-301 of the 15/09/96 and 98-156 of the 16/05/98, the tariff of the cleansing corresponds to 20 % of the drinking water invoice.

The new policy of the water of 1996 had been adopted to cure the situation, but unfortunately apart from some decisions undoubtedly significant (amendment of the code of water to extend the concession of the public utility of water to the private sector) the sector of water did not know notable improvement and the public utility of drinking water and cleansing is not yet reliable (quantity of insufficient water, quality of no satisfactory water, stations of purifications to the stop).