

# World Water Day 2022

## “Towards the UN 2023 Water Conference; The One Year Mark”

### Main Points

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- The 2023 water conference marks a critical juncture for global water policy and is **an opportunity that cannot be missed**. After 46 years since the last UN Conference on Water, we need a conference that can deliver high-impact solutions and promote tangible change.
- The Conference can be the moment through which the world **set a roadmap and timeline towards securing water for all**. High level ambition is required in the upcoming months leading up to UN 2023 conference to galvanize action and bring water on top of the global agenda.
- The UN2023 water conference is a crucial moment for **advancing implementation of the 2030 Agenda** and to renew our collective commitment to realize all SDGs, **especially SDG6**. The fact that we are off track on meeting SDG6 is a major threat to the whole 2030 agenda.
- The **Cross Regional Statement on Water** in 2021 shows that there is broad consensus on advancing water issues within the UN membership.
- The themes of **the interactive dialogues**, the quality of discussions and the involvement of decision makers from all relevant sectors will significantly influence whether the UN 2023 Water Conference will be the turning point we are striving for.
- Urgent action is needed because **water scarcity** is threatening lives and livelihoods all over the world, we need a future where we ensure that **human rights to water** are protected, promoted and fulfilled.

- The interlinkages **between water and climate agenda** are clear. Water will feature within the context of COP27. Enhancing early warning systems including for water related disasters is a priority action in the coming years, especially in Africa.
- Water diplomacy, strong leadership and political dialogue are required. This is especially relevant when it comes to supporting **transboundary water cooperation**. Water cooperation can and should be conduit for peaceful cooperation and regional integration between countries. On the other hand, lack of effective transboundary cooperation carries the risk of leading to disputes.
- **New investment models** are needed to enhance environmentally sustainable water related infrastructures and sanitation systems. Addressing the accessibility and affordability of water technologies and innovations is essential.
- **Multi-stakeholder partnerships** should be enhanced. Only through combined efforts we can achieve the water agenda. We have to strengthen the dialogue with other sectors and find common levers to accelerate progress. **Civil society, academia and relevant stakeholders** should play an active role in the preparatory process and the conference itself.
- The UN2023 Water conference should be **comprehensive, inclusive, action oriented, and cross-sectoral** leading to concrete actions and commitments to address the issues of sustainable and integrated management of water resources.
- **UN system wide approach towards water** is vital, including a UN Special Envoy on Water to accelerate the realization of SDG6.
- Support is granted to Tajikistan and the Netherlands, in their capacity as the Co-hosts, as well as to H.E. Mr. Liu Zhenmin the Secretary General of UN 2023 Water Conference and other relevant UN entities.

