



UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE

A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER INFORMATIVE WEBINAR ON THE UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE

12 October 2022, 9:30 – 11:00AM (EDT)

Draft Concept Note and Agenda

11 October 2022

Background

In its resolution 73/226, the United Nations General Assembly decided to convene the [UN 2023 Water Conference](#) from 22-24 March 2023 in New York, emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger; that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked; and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being and a vital element of achieving the SDGs. Member States also noted that the world was not on track to achieve water-related SDGs and targets at the global level by 2030.

The modalities for the UN 2023 Water Conference are set in General Assembly [resolution 75/212](#). The Conference will be co-hosted by the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Republic of Tajikistan.

The Conference is expected to “involve all relevant stakeholders”, bringing together Governments, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, other interested international bodies, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector, philanthropic organizations and other actors to assess challenges and opportunities relating to, as well as support further action to implement the objectives of the Decade and the water-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

On 25 October 2022, as mandated by A/RES/75/212, the President of the UN General Assembly (PGA) will be holding a [one-day preparatory meeting](#), at United Nations Headquarters in New York, to finalize the themes for the interactive dialogues and other outstanding organizational matters of the UN 2023 Water Conference. To ensure the meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders, the PGA is also convening a stakeholder consultation on 24 October 2022.

UN 2023 Water Conference Multi-Stakeholder Informative Webinar

A multi-stakeholder informative webinar is proposed for **12 October 2022, from 9:30 – 11 AM (EDT)**. The webinar aims to share updated information about the UN 2023 Water Conference

with all stakeholders, including its preparatory meeting, to be held on 25 October, and the related stakeholder consultation on 24 October 2022.

The event will also be an opportunity to build momentum around the new Water Action Agenda, and to provide a space for Q&A with participants.

The webinar will include opening remarks from the Conference co-hosts (the Netherlands and Tajikistan), followed by an introductory message from the Team Leader for Sustainable Development of the Office of the President of the UN General Assembly. An update on the organization of the Conference will be presented by UN DESA, followed by guidance on the forthcoming round of special accreditation process for non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders. An interactive dialogue will follow when participants will be able to share questions and comments.

DESA/DSDG will prepare a summary of the webinar and will publish the recording, presentations and relevant information on the official [UN 2023 Water Conference website](#). More information about the webinar can be found here: <https://bit.ly/WaterInformativeWebinar>.

The registration for the webinar is open to everyone, and the webinar will be webcast live through Facebook.

Draft Agenda

Below follows a proposed draft agenda.

09:30 – 09:40	<u>Welcome Remarks and Agenda Review</u> Moderator: Ms. Lotta Tahtinen , Chief, Outreach and Partnership Branch, DSDG, DESA
09:40 – 09:50	<u>The vision for the UN 2023 Water Conference</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Henk WJ Ovink, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs, the Netherlands• Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda, Special Envoy of the President of Tajikistan on Water Affairs
09:50 – 10:00	<u>UN 2023 Water Conference preparatory meeting (25 October) and stakeholder consultation (24 October)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Johannes Cullman, Team Leader, Sustainable Development, Office of the President of the UN General Assembly

10:00 – 10:15	The UN 2023 Water Conference – Updates and next steps Updates about the UN 2023 Water Conference, including the 2 nd round of special accreditation for non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.
10:15 – 10:50	Q&A UN DESA/DSDG to moderate.
10:50 – 11:00	Closing Remarks

Stakeholder Engagement and the UN 2023 Water Conference

Details about stakeholder engagement and the UN 2023 Water Conference can be found [here](#). Please, check the **FAQ** about stakeholder participation [here](#). A few highlights are listed below:

Special Accreditation

- Only eligible organizations can register representatives to participate in the UN 2023 Water Conference and its preparatory meetings. Relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the scientific community, the private sector and philanthropic organizations whose work is relevant to the Conference that are **not in consultative status with ECOSOC**, or that **have not** been accredited to the Summit listed above **must apply for special accreditation**.
- The outcomes of the first round of special accreditation to the UN 2023 Water Conference (August 2022) can be found [here](#). The second round of special accreditation will open from 31 October – 2 December 2022. Please check the [stakeholder engagement page](#) for updates.

Briefing

- On 15 June 2022, UN DESA Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), as the Secretariat of the UN 2023 Water Conference, together with the Conference Co-Hosts (the Netherlands and Tajikistan), organized the first [online stakeholder briefing](#) to share information about the Conference, including opportunities for engagement and expected outcomes.

Online Consultations

- The first [global online consultation](#) on proposals for the themes to be discussed during the UN 2023 Water Conference was held earlier in 2022. Inputs were summarized in a [report](#) and made publicly available.
- A [second online global consultation](#) focusing on the themes proposed by the co-hosts for the interactive dialogues of the UN 2023 Water Conference closed on 30 September 2022. A summary report with outcomes is expected to be available before the preparatory

meetings. For more information on this consultation, including all public responses, please visit: bit.ly/SecondWaterEConsultation2022info.