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UN Stakeholders Consultation on preparation of UN N-York
Conference 2023 “ Water for sustainable development 2018-2028”

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Dear Participants

Dear Friends of Water

As the President of the World Water Council, a key actor in the water sector and co-organizer of all World Water Forums, let me express the messages from our international multi-stakeholder platform, which represents more than 300 organization members.

Let me first of all remind you that :

WATER IS CLIMATE, CLIMATE IS WATER ;

BUT WATER IS DEMOGRAPHY, DEMOGRAPHY IS WATER ;

AS WATER IS FOOD AND FOOD IS WATER ;

AND WATER IS ESSENTIAL FOR HUMANS AND NATURE,

We, water professionals, experts, operators, researchers, we know this and we are convinced that water is not a simple technical issue but above all this :

WATER IS POLITICS

And that we must bring solutions and responses to the poorest

So what are our 5 messages ?

First : Make water security and water saving a world priority for policy-makers

Increase in every country, every city, every local community, water security.

On the one hand by producing more fresh water and drinking water through pumping, water transfers and storages and more and more desalinization, recycling and reuse.

And on the other hand, by respecting and saving water for a better maintenance of infrastructures and networks and also by changing our awareness on water.

Second : We need to re-consider completely the financing mechanisms of the water sector in the poorest countries. Put a small part from Climate Funds into water financing, establish specific blended financing for water and apply enlarged sub-sovereignty principles for all cities which are proved to be solvent.

Third : we need to give a new reality to hydro-diplomacy through strengthening dialogue and transboundary discussions. Hydrodiplomacy means dialogue, again and again dialogue !

This is what our World Water Council has been practicing for twenty years.

Fourth : Promote innovative and un-conventional water resources such as desalination, wastewater reuse, nature-respectful aquatic reservoirs, controlled groundwater reserves, coupled and linked to renewable energies. The World Water Council is studying the creation of an International Observatory on this subject.

Five : We are saying that we need a real harmony between water for humans and water for NATURE. Sufficient water to save biodiversity and ecosystems.

And with all these elements, we will give a true reality to the right to water, the right to access to water and sanitation, the right to access to safe water which will, step by step, be enforceable for all.

These are very simple principles about water : Securing, Financing, Governing and Sharing.

And we would like to proclaim them, along with some other proposals, in New-York in March 2023.

And to finish, I would like to announce here, together with our Indonesian Colleagues, that we are now on the way to Bali for the 10th World Water Forum which will be held from 18 to 24 May 2024.