Dear Colleagues,


The UN 2023 Water Conference is co-hosted by the Governments of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. On 21 May 2021, the Secretary-General of the United Nations appointed the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, as the Conference Secretary-General, and UN DESA serves as the Secretariat of the Conference, with the support of UN-Water. The Conference will help to achieve the internationally agreed water related goals and targets, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In accordance with paragraph 16 of resolution 75/212, the one-day preparatory meeting for the Conference convened by the President of the United Nations General Assembly on 25 October 2022, finalized the themes of the interactive dialogues as follows:

1. **Water for Health**: Access to WASH, including the Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation (SDGs 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 17);
2. **Water for Sustainable Development**: Valuing Water, Water-Energy-Food Nexus and Sustainable Economic and Urban Development (SDGs 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and SDGs 2, 8, 9, 11, 12);
3. **Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment**: Source to Sea, Biodiversity, Climate, Resilience and DRR (SDGs 6.5, 6.6, 7, 11.5, 13, 14, 15);
4. **Water for Cooperation**: Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation, including Scientific Cooperation, and Water Across the 2030 Agenda (SDG 6.5, 6.b and SDGs 16, 17);
5. **Water Action Decade**: Accelerating the implementation of the objectives of the Decade, including through the UN Secretary-General’s Action Plan.

ECESA Plus Principals

28 October 2022
The proposed themes are supported by the five accelerators of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework\(^1\) (Financing, Governance, Data and Information, Capacity Development, and Innovation), and the three principles of the Conference (Inclusive, Cross Sectoral and Action Oriented).

The Secretariat will begin preparing the respective concept papers on each of the themes of the interactive dialogues with a view to finalizing them by the end of December 2022. As provided for in paragraph 9(d) of the resolution, I would like to invite contributions from your organization with the latest related data and analysis, analysis on the interlinkages between SDG 6, its targets with other sustainable development goals (SDGs) as highlighted in the themes, as well as how the five accelerators of the SDG 6 Global Acceleration Framework can support the achievement of water-related goals and targets, bearing in mind the cross-cutting nature of water and interlinkages between SDG 6 and other goals.

I would further encourage your organization to share good practices and contributions for the way forward and recommendations on advancing the implementation of water-related SDGs. A generic draft outline for the concept papers is attached for reference.

Due to the restrictions on the length of the documents emanating from the Secretariat, we will be unable to reflect your contribution in its entirety but will try to do so to the extent possible. However, with your consent, the full text of your contribution will be published on the website of the Conference at: https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023.

It would be greatly appreciated if the contribution of your organization could be sent in English, to the Secretariat - Mr. Tomoyuki Okada, tomoyuki.okada@un.org and Ms. Eun Hee Lee, eunhee.lee@un.org with copy to Ms. Madhushree Chatterjee, chatterjeem@un.org by 28 November 2022. In your submission, please indicate if the Secretariat may publish it on the Conference website.

In addition, I would like to invite an expression of interest of your organization to serve as a panellist in any of the five interactive dialogues at the highest level. We would also welcome-nominations of distinguished experts to serve as panellists and/or moderators as provided for in paragraph 9(d) of General Assembly resolution 75/212. Please communicate your proposals to the abovementioned Secretariat no later than 28 November 2022.

Finally, I would like to encourage all organizations to announce voluntary commitments to feed into the Water Action Agenda that aims to contribute to the implementation of water-related SDGs and associated targets, as envisaged in

\(^1\) https://www.unwater.org/publications/sdg-6-global-acceleration-framework
paragraph 4(g) of General Assembly resolution 75/212. The voluntary commitments can be registered through the online form available on the Water Conference website: https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/action-networks/water, or announced in the official meetings of the Conference.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

LI Junhua

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Under-Secretary-General