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Statement

by

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at

**Interactive Dialogue – Water for Cooperation: Transboundary and
International Water Cooperation, Cross Sectoral Cooperation, including
Scientific Cooperation, and Water Across the 2030 Agenda**

United Nations 2023 Water Conference

In Person, 23 March 2023

Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters

Excellencies, ministers, ladies and gentlemen,

First, I would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the organisers, co-chairs, the moderator, panellists, lead discussants, participants for such an interesting dialogue.

I would like to point out only the most important things in the light of questions raised in the concept paper.

We see that during the last years, there is a growing interest to access the Water Convention, and we need to guide those countries to finalise their process of ratification followed by concrete activities in the countries, and especially to offer our expertise and knowledge in establishing joint bodies for water cooperation.

Guiding documents, elaborated by the Water Convention, are valuable tools here. For example, “A Practical Guide for the Development of Agreements or Other Arrangements for Transboundary Water Cooperation” addresses these questions and supports countries and other stakeholders on their journey towards an arrangement for their transboundary waters.

That practical guidance together with active participation in the Water Convention Work Programme may significantly speed up the progress for water cooperation in shared basins, transboundary rivers, lakes and aquifers.

The second important issue is financing.

A basic for clear and transparent financing of Water Cooperation is a well-prepared joint water management for Transboundary Water basins. Those plans should have clear and well-balanced goals with concrete plans of measures, with the long-term sustainable funding or financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development.

Successful implementation of Basin management plans requires adequate capacity, manpower, in responsible bodies or in River basin organizations. Those are usually preconditions for financial institutions.

Thank you!