

## **UN 2023 Water Conference Side Event**

Japan Reception Party - Water Sustainability for the Future -

24th March, Friday 17:00 -19:00, Japan Society, 333 East 47th Street New York, NY 10017

Organized by: Japan Water Forum, Youth Water Forum

## Background on the event (one paragraph)

On 23 (Sat)-24 (Sun) April 2022, the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) and Kumamoto City co-organized the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (APWS) with the support of the Government of Japan under the theme of "Water for Sustainable Development: Best Practices and the Next Generation." The Summit brought a strong determination and commitments of participated heads of state and government on water sustainability and transformation towards a quality-oriented society that is resilient, sustainable, and inclusive in order to make a full recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and address aggravated water challenges. JWF that served as the secretariat of the 4th APWS commits itself to enhancing cooperation of multiple stakeholders at local, national, regional, and international levels to strengthen capacity, improve governance, and boost investment towards realizing their ambition. JWF provided guests with an opportunity to interact with multiple stakeholders and join the journey towards realizing a quality-oriented society while enjoying Japanese water and food culture.

Water Action Agenda (one paragraph, if possible, please include the link to your commitment in the <u>Water Action Agenda database</u>)

## Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

• Threats to local biodiversity due to climate change, alien species, and human development work

• Importance of inter-generational and intra-generational partnerships in promoting water resource sustainability and empowering youth

• UN1FY's role in promoting meaningful youth participation in water and climate policy negotiations, and the development of the Water and Climate Youth Development Plan Agenda (YDPA)

• JICA's youth initiative in Africa, W-SAT, focusing on innovation by young people, intergenerational partnership, and influence on government policy

• The importance of intergenerational and multinational interactions, exposing youth to diverse engagements and solutions in water-related issues

## Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

• Inform people about the presence of diverse creatures and encourage more environmentally considerate lifestyles

• Strengthen youth action at local, regional, and global levels by fostering collaboration and recognizing their valuable contributions to water management

• Continue to support and expand youth-driven initiatives like W-SAT to foster innovative solutions and partnerships for water supply projects in developing countries

• Engage and empower young people in the water sector by supporting programs like the Water and Climate Youth Development Plan Agenda (YDPA) to create a more sustainable and liveable future

• Encourage and create more opportunities for youth involvement in global platforms like the UN conference, fostering connections and learning from varied perspectives