

ECOSOC accredited organisation: Stiftelsen Stockholm International Water Institute

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Speaking on behalf of: Stockholm International Water Institute and the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation

My name is Georgette Mrakadeh-Keane and I am speaking on behalf of Stockholm International Water Institute and the Alliance for Global Water Adaptation.

To maintain and build momentum from the UN 2023 Water Conference, SIWI and AGWA support maintaining the same overall ID themes, with the following adjustments. We believe that ID6 should focus on inclusivity and enabling environments, such as those defined by the SDG6 Global Acceleration Framework (GAF). This would mean that the outcomes of ID6 would enhance water action across all IDs and integrate the GAF, especially financing, into workplans and outcome documents. ID 5 should offer the platform and mechanism to foster, build and report on implementation.

With 2030 on our doorstep and only a year and a half until this Conference, we do not have time to reinvent the wheel. We need to leverage existing processes and platforms that can act as a springboard to enable larger and faster transformations and mobilize everyone along the way. This is especially relevant to the framework for ID3, where, together, Governments, NGOs and IGOs can create synergies between UN processes such as the Baku Dialogue for Water and Climate Action and across the 3 Rio conventions + Ramsar convention, as well as utilising complementary platforms to continue progress on IDs ahead of and beyond December 2026.

Many non-state actors felt that their voices could not be adequately heard within the formal proceedings of the UN2023 Water Conference. Instituting a clear, transparent, and inclusive process for the dialogues over the coming 1.5 years will be essential to their success. The interactive dialogues and their preparatory process would benefit from being more participatory and inclusive. The Interactive Dialogues should be truly interactive, enabling meaningful exchange with diverse stakeholders from inside and outside the water community in a formally recognized way.

Finally, sustainable, low-emission development depends on Just Transitions: which should be an integral part of ID2. A focus on efforts to build systemic economic resilience to ensure that water systems can adequately support the achievement of all the SDGs and prepare our cities, food and energy systems, and ecosystems with the resources, tools, and technologies needed to meet future water needs for all, especially those most in need.