HEADQUARTERS | SIEGE | NEW YORK, NY 10017

Reference: DESA-25/00535 21 March 2025

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to seek your collaboration in the preparations for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, which will be co-hosted by Senegal and the United Arab Emirates from 2-4 December in the United Arab Emirates and will consist of plenary sessions and six Interactive Dialogues.

You may recall that on 3 March, H.E. Mr. Coly Seck, Permanent Representative of Senegal to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Mohamed Abushahab, Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations, co-chaired an organizational session, as mandated in the Conference modalities resolution (A/RES/78/327), to discuss possible themes for the six Dialogues. The session provided the opportunity for Member States, United Nations system entities, and civil society organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC to share reflections and recommendations on the Dialogue themes. Further information on the session, including the UN WebTV recording, the full written statements, and a brief summary, are all available on the Conference website (<a href="https://states.com/http

While the interventions at the organizational session were very substantive, not all UN system entities participated. If your organization did not participate, or if you would like to submit additional material on recommendations for the Dialogue themes, Kindly send your input (Maximum 1000 words) to Ms. Stephanie Rambler (rambler@un.org), copied to Ms. Ruoshi Geng (ruoshi.geng@un.org). Please share your contribution by 11 April 2025.

The modalities resolution requested me, as Conference Secretary-General, to prepare a background note on possible themes of the Dialogues, in consultation with Member States and with the support of UN-Water and the UN system. My team will use the 3 March interventions and any additional inputs received from Governments, the UN System and civil society as the basis for this background note, which will be shared in due course with all Missions. The co-hosts of the Conference will then propose a set of six themes for consideration by Member States. At a one-day meeting to be convened by the President of the General Assembly on 9 July 2025, Member States will adopt the themes of the Dialogues.

Thank you for your support and active engagement throughout this process. I will provide regular updates on the Conference website and through direct communication as needed.

Yours sincerely,

Under-Secretary-General
Department of Economic and Social Affairs