

Reference: DESA-25/00535

21 March 2025

Excellency,

I have the honor to refer to General Assembly Resolution 78/327, outlining the modalities for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference.

The Conference, which will be co-hosted by Senegal and the United Arab Emirates from 2-4 December in the United Arab Emirates, 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 modalities resolution, 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 (<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2026>).

While the interventions at the organizational session were very substantive, I welcome any additional input that your Government may have on recommendations for the Dialogue themes. If you would like to share material not covered in your statement of 3 March (oral or written), kindly send additional 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**.

All Permanent Representatives of Member States
to the United Nations
New York

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. 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.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Li Junhua' in Chinese characters, written in a cursive style.

LI Junhua

Under-Secretary-General
Department of Economic and Social Affairs