



C-ODG2025-001255 - Themes of the 2026 UN Water Conference Interactive Dialogues: Request for inputs

From NSL-Director <NSL-Director@fao.org>

Date Tue 4/15/2025 8:07 AM

To Ruoshi Geng <ruoshi.geng@un.org>; Stephanie Rambler <rambler@un.org>

Cc FAO-LO-New-York (FAOLON) <LON-Registry@fao.org>; Halka Otto [FAO] <halka.otto@fao.org>; Li, Lifeng (NSL) <Lifeng.Li@fao.org>; Nora Berrahmouni [FAO] <nora.berrahmouni@fao.org>; Dubler, Nathalie (NSLDD) <nathalie.dubler@fao.org>; Gillet, Virginie (NSLD) <Virginie.Gillet@fao.org>; NSL-Director <NSL-Director@fao.org>; ODG-Registry <ODG-Registry@fao.org>; Beth Bechdol [FAO] <DDG-Bechdol@fao.org>

 1 attachment (325 KB)

25-00535 USG Letter_ECESA Plus_UNWC2026 input to interactive dialogues.pdf;

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to refer to your communication dated 21 March 2025, with the invitation to submit recommendations for the Dialogue themes of the 2026 United Nations Water Conference.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) participated in the organizational session held on 3 March 2025 at the United Nations headquarters in New York and would like to reiterate its recommendations for the themes for the Dialogues. Namely, the Organization would like to emphasize the key role of water for agriculture and agrifood system transformation and the role of agrifood systems in solving major water-related challenges.

Agriculture accounts for 72 percent of global freshwater withdrawals. FAO is convinced that the crucial role of water in agrifood system transformation should therefore be given a prominent place in the Dialogue themes for the 2026 United Nations Water Conference. However, only 13 percent of actions submitted to the global Water Action Agenda, the main outcome of the UN 2023 Water Conference, are related to agriculture. This could be strengthened by including additional agriculture and food-related commitments, and FAO stands ready to further contribute to this process.

As highlighted by several Member States during the above-mentioned organizational session, sustainable agriculture and food security provide significant entry points to climate change's impacts on hydrological cycles, promoting the circular economy through the use of non-conventional water resources, as well as strengthening equitable access to water resources through water governance.

Best regards,

Office of the Director

Land and Water Division (NSL)

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From: Ruoshi Geng

Sent: Monday, 24 March, 2025 13:08

Cc: Stephanie Rambler

Subject: ECESA Plus Principals - Letter from Mr. LI Junhua, USG DESA - Themes of the 2026 UN Water Conference Interactive Dialogues: Request for inputs

Importance: High

Dear colleague,

Please find attached a letter from Mr. LI Junhua, Under-Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, inviting your organization's substantive input to recommendations for the themes of the Interactive Dialogues of the **2026 UN Water Conference** (<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2026>). These inputs would supplement any interventions made during the 3 March organizational session for the Water Conference.

Grateful if you could send your contributions to Ms. Stephanie Rambler (rambler@un.org) and Ms. Ruoshi Geng (ruoshi.geng@un.org) by 11 April 2025. Further information is detailed in the attached letter.

High regards,
Division for Sustainable Development Goals

Division for Sustainable Development Goals

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