

Asia Water Council (AWC)
Jaejin Han, Executive Director

My name is Jaejin Han, Executive Director of the Asia Water Council, which is a global water cooperation platform representing 176 members across 26 countries in Asia.

We have been actively engaged in the 2023 UN Water Conference, dedicating ourselves to the interactive dialogues and side events, contributing to the achievement of SDG 6. It is a great honor to join this important discussion preparing for the 2026 UN Water Conference.

We believe that this conference must be more than a declaration; it should be a tangible turning point where political commitments are translated into concrete actions within the framework of the Water Action Agenda.

To proactively address the complex challenges posed by climate change and water crises, we emphasize the critical importance of inclusive and innovation-driven governance.

In this context, we highlight four key elements:

First, project-based, practical cooperation;
Second, effectively leveraging digital innovations, including AI and smart technologies;
Third, connecting regional experiences with global discussions;
And fourth, ensuring institutionalized participation of youth and local communities.

We hope these elements will be reflected in the structured interactive dialogues of the 2026 Conference, so that discussions move beyond words and lead to measurable and sustainable outcomes aligned with the goals of the Water Action Agenda.

The Asia Water Council fully supports this journey and will work closely with the UN and member states to contribute to achieving SDG6.

Furthermore, the 4th Asia International Water Week (AIWW), AWC's flagship event, is scheduled to take place in the Philippines in 2027. This event will be closely aligned with the agendas of the 2026 UN Water Conference and the World Water Forum, serving as a regional platform to translate global commitments into local actions. We sincerely invite your attention and support for this important milestone.

Thank you.