

## Statement by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)<sup>1</sup>

**Delivered by: Dr Martina Klimes Ingmansson**  
**Senior Manager/Advisor for Climate, Water, and Peace**

Preparatory Process for the 2026 UN Water Conference  
Delivered on July 9, 2025

**Excellencies, colleagues and friends,**

Water is not just a sector — **it is a driver of peace, resilience, and sustainable development.**

SIWI and ICWC congratulate the co-chairs and welcome the inclusive process behind the six proposed Interactive Dialogues. We are especially encouraged to see World Water Week recognized as a key platform and remain committed to strengthening it ahead of 2026. We urge that water's full systemic role be reflected across the Dialogues — particularly its connection to **climate adaptation, food systems, urban resilience, and macroeconomic stability.**

This includes the enabling role of water in Dialogue 3, “*Water for the Planet*”, where green water, atmospheric flows, and hydrated soils are part of a planetary system that transcends boundaries. Recognizing water as a common global good is essential to global stability and resilience. Water must be seen not only as a resource under pressure, but as a strategic asset for cooperation and progress.

### **We Must Step Out of the Water Box**

The process must also break silos. The 2026 agenda should align with global frameworks on **climate, biodiversity, and finance.** Initiatives like the Water for Climate Pavilion and European Water Resilience Strategy **offer critical bridges between sectors and summits** from COP30 to the post-2030 SDG agenda.

### **Water Diplomacy is a Strategic Tool for Peace and Resilience**

Informal dialogues, joint research and capacity development, can help foster trust and shared solutions. SIWI stands ready to support efforts that bridge divide and strengthen regional stability.

### **Inclusion Must Be Real, Not Symbolic**

**Youth, Indigenous Peoples, women, and local communities** must help shape both process and outcomes.

**Excellencies,**

The road to 2026 **must empower transformative action.** SIWI is committed to advancing this with **knowledge, partnerships, and convening power.**

Thank you.

[END]

---

<sup>1</sup> Statement on behalf of SIWI and ICWC (International Centre for Water Cooperation)