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**2023 WATER
CONFERENCE**

**NEW YORK
22-24
MARCH
2023**

The Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations, the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security and the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme have the honour to invite all delegations to the high-level side event on:

“Partnerships and Cooperation for Water:

The main findings of the United Nations World Water Development Report 2023 and experiences from the countries”

Wednesday, 22 March 2023 from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm

Venue: UNHQ, Conference Room 5

Please use this link to register [RSVP](#)

Description:

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is the UN system’s main authoritative report on water, providing decision-makers with the critical knowledge and the tools necessary to formulate and implement sustainable water policies and actions. Launched annually on World Water Day (March 22nd), this year’s edition, entitled “Partnerships and Cooperation for Water”, is uniquely poised to inform and inspire the dialogues and deliberations scheduled to take place at the UN 2023 Water Conference. Building on the report’s findings, this side event will highlight relevant experiences at local, regional and national levels in Italy as well as in other countries. Nearly every water-related intervention involves some kind of cooperation: occurring across local to global scales, through formal and informal arrangements, water partnerships bring together a variety of stakeholders with different objectives and perspectives.

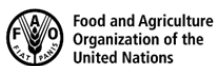
Organized by:



The side event consists of three sections:

- i) Institutional Opening, which includes remarks from Italian Minister of Environment and Energy Security H.E. Gilberto Pichetto Fratin, from Deputy Director General of UNESCO Mr Xing Qu and the UN Water Vice Chair Mr Johannes Cullmann, and the presentation of the WWDR2023's main messages and findings to inspire the discussion to follow;
- ii) Panel (1) with the UN WWDR's lead authors (Panel-1), where the UN agencies and other organizations expand on sectoral aspects related to interactive dialogue theme IV;
- iii) Stakeholders Panel (2), a cross-sectoral discussion that focuses on concrete experiences at local, regional and national level of partnership and cooperation from Italy and other countries, including gender and youth-inclusive partnerships and cooperation, and cross-sectoral examples from Italy's voluntary commitments for the Water Action Agenda. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation in partnership with FAO-Mountain Partnership, Republic of Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Tunisia and Aga Khan Agency for Habitat, present the initiative "AQUA TEAM for Sustainable Development", Italy's commitment to the Water Action Agenda. A Q&A session will follow the panel discussions.

Representatives from **EU, UN-Water (FAO, UNIDO, UNEP, UNESCO-IHP), OECD, FAO-Mountain Partnership, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Tunisia, the AKAH – Aga Khan Agency for Habitat, and the World Youth Parliament for Water** will participate in the side event.



Side Event ITALY - UNESCO: Partnership and Cooperation for Water

Agenda

Opening: Master of Ceremony: Mr. Abou Amani, Director, (Division of Water Sciences and Secretary of the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme), UNESCO

Minister Mr. Gilberto Pichetto Fratin [Italy, Ministry of Environment and Energy Security]

Deputy Director General Mr. Xing Qu (Assistant-Director General a.i. for Natural Sciences), [UNESCO]

UN-Water Vice-Chair, Mr. Johannes Cullmann [WMO]

Welcome and UN WWDR 2023 presentation by Ms. Michela Miletto [UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme]

Panel 1: UN for Partnerships and Cooperation:

Chair/Facilitator: Mr. Engin Koncagul [UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme]

Panelists:

- FAO [Ms. Sasha Koo-Oshima, Deputy Director Land and Water Division]
- UNIDO [Mr. Stephan Sicars, Director, Division of Circular Economy and Environmental Protection]
- OECD [Mr. Xavier Leflaive, Principal Administrator, Water Team, Environment Directorate]
- UNEP [Ms. Lis Bernhardt, Programme Officer, Freshwater and Marine Branch]

Panel 2: Member States and Institutions for Partnerships and Cooperation

Chair/Facilitator: Mr. Engin Koncagul [UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme]

Panelists:

- Kyrgyzstan – Mr. Turarbek Kanaev, Head of Department of International Cooperation [Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision]
- Tunisia – Mr. Hamadi Habaieb, Director General [Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries]
- World Youth Parliament for Water – Ms. Carolina Tornesi MacKinnon, President
- Aga Khan Agency for Habitat - Mr. Deo Raj Gurung, Chief Scientist [Division of Research and Technical Assessment - AKAH]
- Italy and FAO-Mountain Partnership – Livio Spadavecchia, Counsellor [Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation]

Q&A session

Closing Remarks:

Ms. Marjeta Jager, Deputy Director-General for International Partnerships [European Commission]