



SPEAKER BRIEFING NOTE

HIGH LEVEL PANEL: GLOBAL WATER GOVERNANCE
TUESDAY, 13 MARCH 2012

11:00 – 13:00

Thank you for accepting the invitation of Mr. Ben Braga, the President of the International Forum Committee (IFC), to participate in the 6th World Water Forum. Please find below the details pertaining to your High Level Panel.

HIGH LEVEL PANEL LOCATION:

Palais des Congrès (Level 1)
PC 15
Auditorium

6th World Water Forum
Parc Chanot
13008 Marseille

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Points of Contact: Joshua Newton (j.newton@worldwaterforum6.org) and Bruno Pagnoccheschi (bruno@ana.gov.br)

If an emergency arises, please contact Joshua Newton at j.newton@worldwaterforum6.org (+33.6.32.12.89.37)

TIME FOR SOLUTIONS

SESSION BRIEFING:

Tuesday, 13 March 2012, 10:45

Please report to the moderator at the Palais des Congrès (Level 1) Auditorium, **15 minutes prior to the start of your session.**

SESSION TIME:

Tuesday, 13 March 2012, 11:00 – 13:00

MODERATOR:

Mr Andras Szöllösi-Nagy, Rector – UNESCO-IHE

MODERATED DISCUSSION AMONG:

- Mr Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and Chair of UN-Water
- Mr Francisco Nunes Correia – former Minister of Environment of Portugal and President of the Portuguese Water Partnership
- Mr Wim J. Kuyken, Government Commissioner for the Delta Programme, The Netherlands
- Mr Vicente Andreu, President of ANA
- Mrs Patricia Wouters – IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science, under the auspices of UNESCO – University of Dundee

SESSION OVERVIEW:

Water and its conservation have been topics of debates, negotiations and disputes for many centuries. National and global institutions have established their own laws and regulations, signed agreements and made commitments to help face these challenges.

UN-Water, an inter-agency mechanism formally established in 2003 by the United Nations High Level Committee on Programmes, was created to promote, amongst other things, cooperation and partnership among the UN agencies responsible for global and regional water initiatives.

However, despite the numerous initiatives and events organized by UN-Water, it has been difficult to reach a general consensus on issues related to water resources management. In most cases, the parties involved agree on a set of general recommendations and non-binding plans of action.

Global water governance - and more specifically integrated water resources management - needs to be designed in such a way that it helps identify and address current challenges resulting from the impacts of climate change and other emerging issues related to water resources.

It is necessary to seek a conceptual and operational integration of water initiatives and water management, in particular, coupled with measures that can bring institutional capacity-building and autonomy to the UN-Water system.

This panel could be key to formulating concrete recommendations to address the issue of water governance. Furthermore, the conclusions of this panel could also contribute to discussions to be held during the Rio+20 conference.

SESSION FORMAT:

- ***Please arrive in the room, Palais des Congrès (Level 1) Auditorium, 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the session for briefing***
- Six panellists and one moderator.
- **No speeches or prepared statements**; moderated discussion amongst panellists.
- Opening: World Water Council Governor
- Talk show format with chairs and hand-held microphones.
- Audience Q&A: Moderator will lead the room in a town hall style Q&A. Audience members will raise their hands if they have questions, and staff in the room will run mikes to them.

SESSION LOGISTICS:

- Room capacity: 900-1200
- Open to the Press and the Forum participants
- Session Length: 2 hours