Agenda Item (title): **UNESCO International Water Conference, 13-14 May 2019**
Background Brief
30th UN-Water Meeting – 31 January and 1 February 2019 – Rome, Italy

Please send this document and any annexes to leanne.burney@unwater.org
no later than 28 December 2018

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Main Issues of this Agenda Item:

- Announcement of the organization of the UNESCO International Water Conference on 13 and 14 May 2019, at UNESCO HQs in Paris, France

Introduction / Background / Rationale (less than 200 words please)**:**
The UNESCO International Water Conference was announced by the Director-General of UNESCO during the last session of the Executive Board.
The Conference will constitute the high-level segment of a full week of events dedicated to water challenges. While the Division of Water Sciences is being responsible of the logistics and the convergence of the programme of the event, the Conference is to be organized in coordination and with the direct involvement of all sectors of the Organization.

This Conference, entitled "Leveraging intersectorality for sustainable water security and peace", will provide a platform for the gathering of stakeholders and the encounter of disciplines. Together, they will highlight the need for an intersectoral approach to the governance and management of water resources, with the aim of providing economically, socially and environmentally sustainable solutions and contributing to water security and peace.

The UNESCO International Water Conference will promote a cooperative process to encourage broad and concerted commitment in support of the implementation of a comprehensive response to water and sustainable development challenges at the local, national and international levels. In order for the process to effectively operate and for collaboration to grow, participation will be diverse and will include government representatives, policy and decision makers, corporate executive officers, entrepreneurs, innovators, representatives of international organizations, scientists, donors, and civil society at large.

Progress Update (less than 200 words please)**:**
Invitations were sent to the Member States and partners.
The website of the UNESCO International Water Conference will launch on 1st February 2019.

Proposed Action by UN-Water, if any (less than 100 words please)**:**
To propose potential areas of involvement.
To pass the invitation to UN-Water members and partners.

Proposed Draft Decision, if any (less than 100 words please)**:**
Not required

Annexes (if any)**:**

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