Agenda Item (title): Update on the planning for World Water Day and World Toilet Day 2019
Background Brief
30th UN-Water Meeting – 31 January and 1 February 2019 – Rome, Italy

Background Brief prepared by: Task Force on World Water Day and World Toilet Day 2019

Main Issues of this Agenda Item:

- Update on the planning of World Water Day and World Toilet Day 2019

Introduction / Background / Rationale (less than 200 words please)**:**

The World Water Day campaign on the theme of 'Leaving no one behind is underway and the Task Force is working towards the three objectives as outlined in the workplan (4.2.1_Annex1). The campaign is coordinated by OHCHR and UNHCR on behalf of UN-Water and the Task Force consists of Aquafed, CEO Water Mandate, FAO, ILO, SWA, UCLG, UNCCD, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UNU, UN Women, WaterLex and WSSCC.

Progress Update (less than 200 words please)**:**

Since the last UN-Water Meeting, SWA and UCLG have joined the Task Force to-respectively-strengthen the link between the campaign and the SWA Sector Ministers Meeting (SMM) and reaching objective 3 on engaging local and regional authorities. The SMM theme will be aligned with the campaign theme as will Global Handwashing Day, World Water Week and the Global Summit on Leaving no one behind. The International Forum on Water Scarcity in Agriculture will also be held on World Water Day in Cabo Verde. Campaign resources and activities (digital material, website, social media kit, public activation, celebrity support) are all either ready or being finalized. The Task Force is seeing a strong interest from the public in queries about the theme and the activities.

To further assist countries in organizing their national activities for the observance of World Water Day, the Task Force, together with Canada and the Friends of Water Steering Group, will organize a briefing for the Permanent Missions in New York on 15 February (4.2.2_Annex2). One month later, the pivot event will take place in Geneva on 19 March during the Human Rights Council and feature the launch of the World Water Development Report (4.2.3_Annex3).

Given the thematic alignment between World Water Day and World Toilet Day and other international processes, the Task Force sees many opportunities to continue a strong engagement throughout the year. In Stockholm, an event with a focus on World Toilet Day will be organized and the Task Force is also exploring further opportunities to work towards objective 2 (*Help policy makers understand that the lack of water and sanitation contributes to leaving people behind and promote a change in policies and regulations to include a human rights based framework)* such as during the UNECE Regional Forum for Sustainable Development and the Budapest Water Summit.

Proposed Action by UN-Water, if any:

Proposed Draft Decision, if any (less than 100 words please)**:**

Annexes :

4.2.1_Annex1_Workplan_WWD_2019
4.2.2_Annex2_Concept _Note_New_York_briefing
4.2.3_Annex3_Draft_Agenda_Pivot_Event