

Celebration of World Water Day 2022

Groundwater: making the invisible visible

08:00 – 09:00 (GMT), Plenary Session
22 March 2022, Dakar, Senegal

Honorary Chair **H.E. Adama Barrow**, President of Gambia

Facilitators: **Ms Alice Aureli** (UNESCO), **Mr Neno Kukuric** (IGRAC), **Ms Ulrike Kelm** (UN-Water)

Opening remarks

- **H.E. Serigne Mbaye Thiam**, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senegal
- **Mr Abou Amani**, Secretary of the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme UNESCO
- **Mr Gilbert F. Hounbo**, Chair of UN-Water and President of International Fund for Agricultural Development
- **H.E. Luigi Di Maio**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy

High-level statements

- **The Hon. Carl Hermann Gustav Schlettwein**, President of the African Ministers' Council on Water, Minister of Water Resources, Namibia
- **Mr Teodoro Estrela Monreal**, Director General of Water, Ministry for the Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, Spain
- **Ms Kitty van der Heijden**, Director General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands
- **Mr Sulton Rahimzoda**, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea, Special Envoy of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan to Water and Climate Coalition Leaders
- **Mr Carlos Manuel Rodriguez**, CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF)

UN World Water Development Report: State of groundwater resources

- **Ms Michela Miletto**, Coordinator of the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme
Main findings from the UN World Water Development Report 2022 - Groundwater: making the invisible visible

Ceremony: Passing the groundwater baton

Handing over the symbol of the importance of groundwater to **Mr Loïc Fauchon**, president of the World Water Council at the presence of **H.E. Serigne Mbaye Thiam**, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Senegal.

Expert Panel: Taking stock and future challenges

Moderator: **Mr Neno Kukuric** (IGRAC)

- **Mr Rashid Mbaziira**, Executive Secretary of the African Ministers' Council on Water
- **Ms Sonja Koeppel**, Secretary of the Water Convention, UN Economic Commission for Europe
- **Ms Akiça Bahri**, Advisor to the Chief of Government of Tunisia
- **Ms Karen Villholth**, Coordinator of GRIPP partnership, International Water Management Institute

Announcement: Launch of the Groundwater Youth Network

- **Ms Carolina Tornesi Mackinnon**, Representative of the Groundwater Youth Network, President of the World Youth Parliament for Water

