

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. Houngho**, 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.

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

