



BRIDGING
DIVIDES
FOR WATER

March 16-22, 2009

Second Announcement Summary

March 2008

What will the 5th World Water Forum Bring to the World?

The 5th World Water Forum's overarching theme, *Bridging Divides for Water*, has been conceived to make this Forum a turning point for water management in the world. This Forum must truly be different, and the organizers hope to achieve this by making the preparation of the Forum both open and participatory, and focusing on action.

The 5th World Water Forum organizers will build on many of the achievements and components of the previous Fora, but will also innovate with a fresh new approach. This Forum will more than ever before be focused on priority issues emphasizing multi-stakeholder interaction. Thousands of individuals and organizations from all over the world will take part in the preparatory process.

The Forum's political process will employ a new dynamic of interaction with the thematic and regional processes, the outputs of which will become an essential input into the political component. This political process will involve local and national governments as well as parliamentarians, thus ensuring greater political commitment.



Participate and let your Voice be Heard

Opportunities for your organization to substantively contribute to the Forum's topics and sessions have been built into the preparatory process, and are described in the 2nd Announcement. Take this opportunity to ensure your voice

is heard and help broaden the perspectives, ideas, experiences and potential solutions to be discussed at the Forum. We invite you to contribute actively to the 5th World Water Forum's preparatory process to ensure that the event is a success in terms of bringing water and its subsequent benefits to all.

Oktay Tabasaran, Secretary General

Contribute to the Preparatory Process

An open invitation has been extended to you to take part in the Forum's preparatory process and to contribute your action-oriented solutions to water issues. Your expertise, experience and ideas are needed.

The 5th World Water Forum is unbiased: it is built upon open dialogue, accepts and tackles challenging issues and enables participants to discuss freely and come up with common solutions. Consult the Forum web site and start to contribute: www.worldwaterforum5.org. All proposed contributions will be considered for incorporation into the development of the sessions.

Dates to Remember

May 2008: Opening call for contributions to the Forum.

Twelve Ways to get Involved

- Contribute to the development of a session: indicate what you would bring to the debate
- Get involved in the regional process: contact your regional coordinator
- Organize your involvement through your major group
- Participate in the Youth World Water Forum: share your ideas and experiences with your peers and act together now for the future
- Join the Virtual Meeting Space: find the most up-to-date information, exchange ideas, improve the Forum with your input
- Participate in the Water Expo or the Fair: present your achievements to the water world
- Propose an activity in the learning centre: offer training to Forum participants during the Forum
- Contribute to the Global Water Education Village: offer educational activities to children who visit the Forum
- Raise awareness: propose a film or documentary for the International Water and Film Event
- Be a candidate for a Prize: highlight your action, life's work, legislation or awareness-raising contribution
- Inform on water issues: all media are invited to cover the event
- Take part in the Forum week: register your participation

Overview of the Major Forum Components

Themes and Topics

Theme 1 - Global Change & Risk Management

- Topic 1.1 Adapting to Climate Change
- Topic 1.2 Water-related Migration, Changing Land Use and Human Settlements
- Topic 1.3 Managing Disasters

Theme 2 - Advancing Human Development and the Millennium Development Goals

- Topic 2.1 Ensuring Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All
- Topic 2.2 Water for Energy, Energy for Water
- Topic 2.3 Water and Food for Ending Poverty and Hunger
- Topic 2.4 Multiple Use and Functions of Water Services

Theme 3: Managing and Protecting Water Resources and their Supply Systems to Meet Human and Environmental Needs

- Topic 3.1 Basin Management and Transboundary Cooperation
- Topic 3.2 Ensuring Adequate Water Resources and Storage Infrastructure to Meet Agricultural, Energy and Urban Needs
- Topic 3.3 Preserving Natural Ecosystems
- Topic 3.4 Managing and Protecting Surface, Ground, Soil and Rainwater

Theme 4: Governance and Management

- Topic 4.1 Implementing the Right to Water and Sanitation for Improved Access
- Topic 4.2 Improving Performance Through Regulatory Approaches
- Topic 4.3 Ethics, Transparency, and Empowerment of Stakeholders
- Topic 4.4 Optimizing Public and Private Roles in Water Services
- Topic 4.5 Institutional Arrangements for Efficient and Effective Water Resource Management

Theme 5: Finance

- Topic 5.1 Sustainable Financing for the Water Sector
- Topic 5.2 Pricing Strategies as a Tool for a Sustainable Water Sector
- Topic 5.3 Pro-poor Financing Policies and Strategies

Theme 6: Education, Knowledge and Capacity Development

- Topic 6.1 Education, Knowledge and Capacity Development Strategies
- Topic 6.2 Water Science and Technology: Appropriate and Innovative Solutions for the 21st Century to Address the Needs of Society
- Topic 6.3 Using the Assets of Professional Associations and Networks to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals
- Topic 6.4 Data for All
- Topic 6.5 Water and Culture

Regional Process

In line with the spirit of “bridging divides”, for the 5th World Water Forum stakeholders in each region will:

- Identify a number of water-related issues based on the Forum’s programme framework;
- Shorten the list to consider the most serious issues;
- Report on the solutions encountered for discussion during the week of the 5th World Water Forum.

The regional inputs, which will ultimately feed into the political outcomes of the Forum, will be developed through a number of regional coordination meetings. The regional processes will thus produce a substantive contribution to both the thematic and political processes.

The regional processes are neither homogenous in design, nor in implementation. Each region is coordinated by a specific organization or group of organizations that aims to bring together the various stakeholders from all sectors and corners of the region. For more details on how to contribute to your regional processes and to follow their progress, please refer to the 5th World Water Forum website, www.worldwaterforum5.org, or write to regions@worldwaterforum5.org.

Political Components

The 5th World Water Forum will strive to establish dialogue among and between four political groups, namely Heads of State / government, local elected officials, parliamentarians and ministers. These four groups will meet, along with participants at the 5th World Water Forum, to discuss “Water Management Adaptation Strategies for Global Changes, including Climate Variability/Change”.

A meeting of Heads of State/Government with a limited number of invitees will headline the government segment of the Political Process. The outcome of this meeting will be a short “Appeal” covering general principles and values.

The Ministerial Conference is one of the main events of the Political Process. Targeting the Ministers in charge of water, it will also be open to all relevant Ministers. The Ministerial Conference will prepare an action agenda through a full-fledged preparatory process.

Parliamentarians will discuss and prepare recommendations for a better implementation of water laws and treaties. These outputs will be used to feed the dialogues with national and local governments.

The Local Authorities process will produce the “Istanbul Urban Water Consensus;” a non-binding document of principles designed to strengthen the commitment of mayors and to bring the issues faced by Local Authorities to the attention of governing bodies, legislators, and the international community.



Major Groups of Agenda 21

The organizers of the 5th World Water Forum will make special efforts to encourage the participation of the Major Groups of Agenda 21 (i.e. women, youth and children, business and industry, local governments, science and technology, workers and trade unions, indigenous people, farmers and NGOs). For more details, please write to majorgroups@worldwaterforum5.org.

Youth World Water Forum

The Youth World Water Forum, organized by an international group of youth organizations with the support of local counterparts, allows young people to experience the challenges of organizing a Forum. The Youth Forum runs parallel to the Forum itself and its participants, coordinating with their peers from all around the world, keep a constant and dynamic interaction between the sessions of the two Fora. Check the www.worldwaterforum5.org web site for the latest information.

World Water Expo

The World Water Expo will be an inclusive space in the 5th World Water Forum venue for the participation of companies related to water that wish to present

their services, products, activities and works. This component aims to allow the expression of water entrepreneurship, and effectively bridges the supply with the demand for innovation and new water technologies. More information will be available at www.worldwaterforum5.org or by e-mail: expo@worldwaterforum5.org.

Water Fair

The Water Fair will be an open venue for the presentation of different types of cultural, social and educational activities on water-related subjects. Multi-stakeholder activities for the Water Fair which seek to create a festive yet reflective atmosphere at the Forum's main venue include a poster exhibition, the "International Water and Film Event" (www.riec-iwfe.org or www.i-s-w.org), the Global Water Education Village (gwev@worldwaterforum5.org), a Learning Centre, networking spaces, side-events, water-related performances, a photo exhibition, and ethnic manifestations on water themes, amongst others. More information will be available at www.worldwaterforum5.org or by e-mail: fair@worldwaterforum5.org.

Register in the Virtual Meeting Space - Join the Preparatory Process

The 5th World Water Forum organizers have created the Virtual Meeting Space using the latest innovative technologies to bridge divides between those interested in improving water management in the world. This space will be pivotal to your participation in the Forum, throughout the preparatory process, during the event itself and its follow-up. It will ensure that you are able to find the most up-to-date information on all Forum-related issues and processes, and help you to exchange ideas with other professionals from around the world.

Exchange & Access

- Find information on sessions and outputs, organizations involved, preparatory meetings and a "Water - who's who";
- Help improve the 5th World Water Forum by participating in on-line surveys;
- Exchange ideas with others on the Forum's themes, topics and sessions through discussion fora, and find answers to your questions (or answer others' questions) about water-related and Forum-related issues;
- Contribute to or consult the Water-Wiki, a web-based encyclopaedia on the Forum themes;
- Create RSS feeds for the 5th World Water Forum's website to make sure that you have the latest information on Forum related-issues that most interest you.

Register & Update

- Submit your proposals for contribution to the Forum;
- Book a stand in the Water Expo and Fair, or present your candidature for the various water prizes;
- Register your participation in the 5th World Water Forum week;
- Update your data, including your personal profile, areas of expertise and water-related activities: actions, programmes, events, reports and articles, which would then be searchable by other system users.

Collaborate & Contribute

For members of working groups involved in preparing the 5th World Water Forum sessions, the Virtual Meeting Space is also the entry point to a password-protected collaborative portal, providing access to a new world of collaboration beyond geographical, time and languages barriers. Some of the functionalities include:

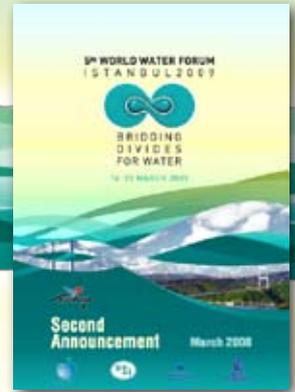
- Access to your personal homepage with related information on your working group's activities;
- A place to produce documents with the other members of your working group and to store them in a joint space;
- A real-time chat to easily communicate with members of your working group;
- An agenda and work planner for your group's collaborative work.





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Consult the full version of the
2nd Announcement on-line!
www.worldwaterforum5.org

Registration and Accreditation Process

To register for the 5th World Water Forum, please complete the registration form, which includes hotel and tourist activities, as well as an on-line payment facility. The form is available through the Virtual Meeting Space of the 5th World Water Forum's website, in the registration section. Online registration and prior payment will mean that on-site accreditation should be fast and efficient. Participants may also register at Atatürk airport and on-site at the Feshane Registration centre.

Visa Information

The co-organizers of the 5th World Water Forum have facilitated the procedure to obtain a visa in order to attend the Forum. Upon receiving confirmation of their registration, participants, if they wish, can receive a letter of invitation by e-mail. Up-to-date information on the detailed visa process is available on the website of the 5th World Water Forum.

Journalist accreditation for the 5th World Water Forum

Registration for journalists during the 5th World Water Forum will be open and available in the virtual press room at www.worldwaterforum5.org.



What Room Does Water Have in a Changing World?

This is the question to which humankind, in spite of itself, must provide answers in a context of global changes. This 5th Forum is designed to propose, first and foremost, political solutions based on dialogue, on the capacity to listen and on mutual respect. We call on you to participate in this 5th World Water Forum, a forum of openness and tolerance. You are invited; you will be warmly welcomed.

Loïc Fauchon, World Water Council President

Water Prizes

Four prestigious water prizes will be awarded on the occasion of the 5th World Water Forum. These prizes, with differing objectives, scopes, and financial rewards all recompense outstanding contributions to the world of water. For more details on the application procedure and terms of reference for these prizes, please visit: www.worldwaterforum5.org.

King Hassan II Great World Water Prize

The King Hassan II Great World Water Prize is an international award carrying the theme of "Cooperation and solidarity in the fields of management and development of water resources".

Kyoto World Water Grand Prize

The Kyoto Grand World Water Prize aims to honour a distinguished individual or organization whose grassroots activities work towards addressing critical water needs of communities and regions.

"Compromiso México" Water Prize

This prize rewards the best local public policies that have had a positive impact on the drinking water, sewerage and sanitation services of their constituencies.

Turkish Prime Minister's Water Prize

This prize is to be awarded to journalists who make a significant contribution to a better diffusion and global understanding of key water issues..

Green Forum Initiative

The Green Forum Initiative is one of the innovative processes being implemented for the 5th World Water Forum. This initiative aims to reduce the environmental footprint, including waste and emissions, resulting from the preparation and organization of the event.