High-Level Panel
Global Observatory for Water and Peace
and its regional partner the
Pole Eau Dakar

The High-Level Panel on the Global Observatory for Water and Peace (GOWP) will facilitate dialogue between politicians, diplomats, actors from the water as well as from the peace and security sector, will launch the first report of the Global Observatory for Water and Peace and will present the Pole Eau Dakar- the West-African regional partner to the GOWP.

The GOWP and its annual analytic report is a direct implementation of the recommendations of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace made in its report “A Matter of Survival”. The session intends to bring together for the first-time actors from the four High-Level panels on water to discuss how the report of the GOWP can further their respective action and strengthen synergies of vision. It intends to further stakeholders’ engagement by engaging as well at the regional level with the partners of the Pole Eau Dakar, which will follow up on the recommendations of the 9th World Water Forum.

Guiding questions:

- How can the development of a network of like-minded actors that put the emphasis on neutrality, multilateralism and science-policy interface like the GOWP contribute to the Water and Peace agenda?
- What are the developments to date globally, regionally, and nationally in terms of endorsing and using the potential of water for better cooperation?
- How can the safe space assist in bridging different perspectives of a water related tension and the use of water for peacebuilding?
- How can bottom-up approaches be better integrated into the water and peace dialogue and how can the GOWP contribute to strengthen this approach?
- How will the PED assure the follow-up – in particular in Africa- of the major initiatives in Dakar22, and report these developments to the 2023 UN water conference.
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Date: 22 March 2022
Time: 10.45 am – 12.15 pm (90 min)
Location: Room 202 CICAD, Diannadia (Dakar), Senegal

Tentative Programme

Opening session:
Dr. Danilo Türk, former President of Slovenia and Chair of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace (3’)
H.E. Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Minister of Water and Sanitation of Senegal (7’)

Presentation of the Report of the GOWP
François Münger, Founder of the Geneva Water Hub and former Director General (7’)

First Panel discussion: reflections on the pertinence of the GOWP to their work, and how its report could be of use to them, as all jointly prepare for the 2023 UN conference and beyond.
Jennifer Sara, Global Director for the World Bank Group’s Water Global Practice, and representative of High-Level Panel on Water (4’)
Mr. Dario Soto-Abril, Executive Secretary and CEO, Global Water Partnership Representative of Water and Climate Coalition (4’)
Prof. Kenzo Hiroki, Coordinator of the High-Level Panel on Water and Disasters, Professor, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) (4’)
Mme Inmaculada Paniagua Brieva, Technical Advisor for Middle East and Asia, AECID, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, Spain (4’)
Mr. Antti Rautavaara, Senior Adviser in Development Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland (4’)
H.E. Christian Frutiger, State Secretary Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland (4’)

Dr. Rashid Mbaziira, Executive Secretary of the African Ministers’ Council on Water (4’)

Moderation: Dr. Danilo Türk, former President of Slovenia and Chair of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace

Transition “Voices of Rivers, Way of Peace”
François Münger, and Jean Willemin, Geneva Water Hub (5’
Presentation of the Pole Eau Dakar

Mr. Niokhor Ndour, Coordinator Pole Eau Dakar (7’)

Second Panel discussion: focus on the Pole Eau Dakar and its follow up on the implementation of the Forum recommendations, and role as a regional partner of the GOWP.

Mr. Hamed Diane Semoga, High Commissioner of the OMVS (3’)

Mr. El Hadji Lansana Fofona High Commissioner of the OMVG (3’)

Mr. Abdoulaye Sene, Executive Secretary of the Forum (3’)

Mr. Bougonou Kouassivi Djeri-Alassani, Interim Director of the Centre for water resources management of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (3’)

Mr. Jean Bosco, Executive President, Eau Vive International (3’)

Ms. Diarra Sene, Young Professionals Association of Water and Sanitation in Senegal (AJPEAS) (3’)

Professeur Alioune Kane, Professor, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD) (3’)

Moderation: Dr. Mark Zeitoun, Director General of the Geneva Water Hub

Concluding session

Dr. Mark Zeitoun, Director General of the Geneva Water Hub (5’