



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8 March 2018

Excellency,

Pursuant to my letter dated on 17 November 2017 and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 71/222 of 22 December 2016, Member States decided to proclaim the period from 2018 to 2028 the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, I have the honour to share with you the provisional programme of the launch Event of the Decade, to be convened on 22 March 2018, at the United Nations Headquarters.

It is my hope that this high-level event will attract the highest possible level of participation from your Government.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Lajčák', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Miroslav Lajčák

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

LAUNCH EVENT

International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 2018-2028

22 March 2018

UN General Assembly, UN Headquarters

Draft Provisional Programme

9:50-10:00	Presentation of a short video from the High-Level Panel on Water entitled “Water’s Promise: Making Every Drop Count”
10:00-11:00 General Assembly Hall	<p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák, President of the United Nations General Assembly • H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations presenting the Action Plan of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028 • H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President of the Republic of Tajikistan Initiator of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 2018-2028 and presenting the report “Making Every Drop Count: An agenda on Water Action” on behalf of the members of the High-Level Panel on Water • Mr. Armando Perez <i>aka</i> Mr. WorldWide • Miss Autumn Peltier, civil society representative
11:00-13:00 General Assembly Hall	Plenary
15:00-16:30 Trusteeship Council Chamber	<u>Panel 1:</u> Contribution of the Water Decade to the implementation of water related SDGs: addressing challenges and seizing opportunities through strengthening cooperation and partnerships

	<p>Moderator: Mr. Sirodjidin Aslov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mrs. Sigrid Kaag, Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands • H.E. Mr. Gugile Nkwinti, Minister of Water and Sanitation of the Republic of South Africa • H.E. Mr. Danilo Türk, Chairman of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace and former President of the Republic of Slovenia • Ms. Priscilla Achapka, Executive Director Women Environmental Programme • Sadhguru, Founder of the Isha Foundation <p>Interactive discussion</p>
16:30-17:55 Trusteeship Council Chamber	<p>Panel 2: Role of relevant stakeholders in mobilizing necessary resources for the implementation and follow-up of water related SDGs</p> <p>Moderator: H.E. Mr. Gilbert Hounbo, Chair of UN-Water and President of IFAD</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Mr. Péter Szijjártó, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary • H.E. Dr. Mohamed Asim, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives • H.E. Ms. Elsa Galarza, Minister of Environment, Peru (tbc) • Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs • Ms. Mariet Verhoef-Cohen, President of Women for Water Partnership <p>Interactive discussion</p>
17:55	<p>Closing remarks <i>[In the event the plenary segment continues on 23rd March 2018 to accommodate the list of speakers, the closing remarks by the President of the United Nations General Assembly will be delivered in the General Assembly Hall, following the conclusion of the plenary segment.]</i></p>