

8 September 2022

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 27 July 2022 related to the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, (the "UN 2023 Water Conference") to take place from 22 to 24 March 2023, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, I have the honour to circulate herewith a draft programme of the one-day preparatory meeting to be held on Tuesday, 25 October 2022.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 75/212, paragraph 16, the aim of the one-day preparatory meeting is to finalize the themes of the interactive dialogues and other outstanding organizational matters of the UN 2023 Water Conference. Participating States will be invited to share their views on the themes of the interactive dialogues, as proposed by the cohosts of the Conference, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kingdom of the Netherlands¹. The meeting will also provide an opportunity for States to express interest in co-chairing the interactive dialogues and to take stock of the commitments for the Water Action Agenda - the expected outcome of the Conference.

The exchange of views shall be informed by a background note, prepared by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs as Secretary-General of the UN 2023 Water Conference, to be published in due course.

The meeting will be webcast live on UN <u>Web TV</u> with interpretation in all official languages. There will be no predetermined list of speakers. Delegations are expected to signal their intention to speak by pressing the microphone button when the floor is open for interventions in the meeting. Interventions will be limited to three minutes.

The preparatory meeting will be an important milestone on the road to the UN 2023 Water Conference, which, together with other sequencing events throughout the 77th session of the General Assembly, will lead up to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to be convened at the level of heads of state and government under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2023 (the "SDG summit").

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

¹ Proposal by Co-hosts for themes of the interactive dialogues of the UN 2023 Water Conference.pdf

In support to the high-level discussions of 25 October, a consultation with stakeholders will be held on 24 October 2022. The aim of the consultation is to inspire transformative solutions related to paradigm change to be considered under the key themes of the interactive dialogues. A draft programme for the consultation with stakeholders will follow in due course.

For further information, your office may contact Ms. Feryal Almuharraqi, Advisor at my Office (<u>feryal.almuharraqi@un.org</u>) or Ms. Veronika Csiszar at the OPGA77 Transition Team (<u>veronika.csiszar@un.org</u>).

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

Abdulla SHAHID

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