

2026 United Nations Water Conference

Preparatory Meeting of the President of the General Assembly, Multistakeholder Dialogue, and Stakeholder Brainstorm

9 and 10 July

Concept Note

Background

The General Assembly, in its resolution [78/327](#), decided to convene the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, co-hosted by the Republic of Senegal and the United Arab Emirates, from 2 to 4 December 2026 in the United Arab Emirates. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the resolution, the President of General Assembly has announced in [his letter dated 5 February 2025](#) to convened a one-day organization session on 3 March 2025 in the ECOSOC Chamber and a one-day meeting on 9 July 2025 in the General Assembly Hall to promote the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6 and to agree on the themes of the interactive dialogues. The Conference co-hosts have announced that an inclusive process and robust stakeholder engagement is a top priority.

Preparatory Process Informing the Themes of the Interactive Dialogues

As outlined in resolution 78/327, the 2026 United Nations Water Conference will include six Interactive Dialogues to be held in parallel with the plenary meetings. Their proposed themes have been informed by an open and inclusive preparatory process. A one-day [Organizational Session](#) was held on 3 March 2025 at the UN Headquarters in New York, where recommendations were made to the General Assembly on the possible themes of the interactive dialogues. [Additional written submissions from Member States, regional groups and the UN system](#) were invited by the Secretary-General of the Conference after the Organizational Session, complemented by stakeholder inputs received through [an online consultation](#) between 11 March and 11 April 2025. In addition, informal consultations and discussions were convened by the co-hosts starting in May 2024, including on the margins of key global milestones such as the 10th World Water Forum, Stockholm World Water Week 2024, UNGA79, Cairo Water Week 2024, COP29, UNCCD COP16 and the UN-Water 40th and 41st meetings.

Building on themes of the five Interactive Dialogues from the 2023 Water Conference and taking into consideration all the formal and informal inputs received, and ensuring the adequate attention

to all aspects of SDG 6 – including its eight targets and the Global Acceleration Framework – as well as broader links to the 2030 Agenda and its pillars, the co-hosts of the 2026 UN Water Conference have proposed the following themes, with a view to adopting them at the one-day meeting convened by the PGA:

- **Water for People:** *The human rights to water and sanitation, with a focus on gender equality and vulnerable populations, for healthy societies and economies.*
- **Water for Prosperity:** *Valuing water, Water-Energy-Food nexus, advancing integrated and sustainable water resource management, wastewater and water-use efficiency across sectors, and economic and social development.*
- **Water for Planet:** *Climate, Biodiversity, Desertification, Environment, Source to Sea, Resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction*
- **Water for Cooperation:** *Transboundary and International Water Cooperation, including Scientific Cooperation, and Inclusive Governance*
- **Water in Multilateral Processes:** *SDG 6, the 2030 Agenda and beyond, and global water initiatives.*
- **Investments for Water:** *Financing, technology & innovation, and capacity building*

Proposed Format

On 9 July, the President of the General Assembly will convene a formal plenary meeting in the morning to adopt the themes of the six interactive dialogues, followed by an informal session with statements from Member States and others.

In the afternoon of 9 July, the Co-hosts of the Conference will lead select multi-stakeholder dialogues to discuss the Interactive Dialogue themes and to promote the achievement of SDG 6.

The 9 July meeting will be held in-person and livestreamed on UN WebTV. Interpretation services will be provided in all UN official languages.

On 10 July, the co-hosts and UN-DESA will convene a stakeholder brainstorm meeting, which will be highly interactive and informal.