

Ministerial High-Level Event on “Water Diplomacy: A Bridge for Sustainable Development and Cooperation”

Monday 22nd of September, 10:00-11:30 am
Conference Room1, UNHQ, New York

Background

Water is a critical resource underpinning economic growth and environmental sustainability. Yet, water resources are becoming increasingly strained, increasing the risk of water scarcity, as many parts of the world still struggle with it. Water diplomacy provides a platform for dialogue and collaboration. Furthermore, water diplomacy provides a platform for countries to build trust and strengthen partnerships. Maritime Corridors are critical lifelines for trade, energy and global connectivity, making their protection vital for sustainable development. International cooperation is essential in strengthening the water sector globally, and ensuring the protection of water resources. International initiatives on water have demonstrated that collaborative approaches improve water management and support the achievement of the sustainable development goals, including SDG6.

This event aims to bring together high-level officials and experts to exchange views, share best practices, and strengthen partnerships for advancing water diplomacy in support of sustainable development.

Themes

- Water diplomacy to build trust and cooperation to sustain and preserve water resources.
- Protecting water resources and maritime corridors as vital assets for sustainable development.
- Successful international initiatives that strengthen water diplomacy.

Agenda

10:00-10:30 Opening

- His Highness Prince Faisal Bin Farhan Al Saud, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- *Remarks from Multilateral Partners*
 - His Excellency Mr. Alvaro Lario, President of IFAD and Chair of UN-Water.
 - Her Excellency Mrs. Retno Marsudi, UN Special Envoy on Water (Video Statement).
 - His Excellency Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary-General of the IMO.

10:30-11:10 *Ministerial Segment*

- His Excellency Mr. Sirojiddin Muhridin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan.
- His Excellency Mr. José Manuel Albares Bueno, Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain.
- His Excellency Mr. Cheikh Niang, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Senegal.
- Her Excellency Ms. Sari Multala, Minister of Climate and the Environment of Finland.

11:15-11:30 *High-Level Interventions & Closing*

- Moderator.