



Final Programme

The Fifth UN Special Thematic Session on Water and Disasters “Building Back Better towards More Resilient and Sustainable Post-COVID-19 World” June 25th, 2021

(1) Science and Technology Panel (75 minutes)

Start time: New York 5:30 am, Central Europe 11:30 am, Jakarta/Bangkok 4:30 pm, Manila 5:30 pm, Seoul/Tokyo 6:30 pm

Facilitators

- Dr. Gretchen Kalonji, Dean, Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, Sichuan University
- Prof. Toshio Koike, Executive Director, International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICCHARM)

Agenda

- [Introduction](#)
- Opening
 - [Opening Remarks by Prof. Akihiko Tanaka, President, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies \(GRIPS\)](#)
 - [Keynote Speech by Prof. Xu Weilin, Executive Vice President, Sichuan University/Director of the State Key Laboratory on Hydraulics and Mountain River Engineering](#)
- Speaker presentations
 - [Dr. Shamila Nair-Bedouelle, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO](#)
 - [Dr. Elena Manaenkova, Deputy Secretary-General, WMO](#)
 - [Mr. Ricardo Mena, Director, UNDRR](#)
 - [Dr. Blanca Elena Jimenez Cisneros, former Director-General, National Water Commission \(CONAGUA\), Mexico](#)
 - [Prof. Joy Jacqueline Pereira, Southeast Asia Disaster Prevention Research Initiative \(SEADPRI-UKM\), Malaysia](#)
- Panelist interventions
- [Wrap-up](#)

(2) Plenary Session (105 minutes)

Start time: New York 7:30 am, Central Europe 1:30 pm, Jakarta/Bangkok 6:30 pm, Manila 7:30 pm, Seoul/Tokyo 8:30 pm

Opening Remarks

- [Dr. Han Seung-Soo, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and Chair of the High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters \(HELP\)](#)
- [H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations](#)
- H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkir, President of the 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly

Keynote Speeches

- His Majesty the Emperor of Japan
- H.E. Mr. János Áder, President, Hungary
- [H.E. Mr. Emomali Rahmon, President, The Republic of Tajikistan](#)
- H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces / [Press release](#)
- [H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh](#)
- [HRH Princess Victoria, Crown Princess of Sweden, Duchess of Västergötland](#)

Thematic Messages

- H.E. Prof. Danilo Türk, Former President of the Republic of Slovenia, Chair of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace and Lead Political Advisor of the Geneva Water Hub
- [Dr. Uschi Eid, Former Chair of United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation \(UNSGAB\)/ President of the German-Africa Foundation](#)
- [Prof. Kenzo Hiroki, HELP Coordinator: Launching HELP Guiding Principles to Build Resilient Post-corona World and HELP Global Report on Water and Disasters 2021](#)

(3) High-level Panel Discussion (90 minutes)

Start time: New York 9:30 am, Central Europe 3:30 pm, Jakarta/Bangkok 8:30 pm, Manila 9:30 pm, Seoul/Tokyo 10:30 pm

Moderator

- H.E. Ms. Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, the Netherlands

Panelists

- H.E. Dr. Basuki Hadimuljono, Minister for Public Works and Housing, Indonesia / [Powerpoint presentation](#)
- Mr. Bambang Susantono, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank / [Powerpoint presentation](#)
- H.E. Mr. Kazuyoshi Akaba, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan
- Major General William (Butch) H. Graham, Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Mr. Gilbert F. Hougbo, Chair of UN-Water / President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Prof. Petteri Taalas, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) / [Powerpoint presentation](#)
- Prof. Howard Bamsey, Chair, Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- [Mr. Loic Fauchon, President, World Water Council \(WWC\)](#)
- [Mr. Ilkka Salmi, Director of Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Directorate, European Commission](#)
- [Mr. Masamichi Kono, Deputy Secretary-General, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development \(OECD\)](#)

(4) Wrap-up and closing (10 minutes)

Start time: New York 11:00 am, Central Europe 5:00 pm, Jakarta/Bangkok 10:00 pm, Manila 11:00 pm, Seoul/Tokyo 0:00 am

- [Message from “Water Dialogues for Results - Bonn 2021” by Mr. Thomas Stratenwerth, Working Group Leader, Working Group General Aspects of Water Management, Adaptation to Climate Change, Health in Climate Change, Federal Ministry for Environment, Germany](#)
- [Remarks by Mr. Liu Zhenmin, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs](#)
- Closing by Dr. Han Seung-Soo, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea and Chair of the High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP)