



3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit
Yangon Myanmar 2017

Outcomes of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and Yangon Declaration: Pathway Forward

Prof.Dr. Khin NiNi Thein

Secretary of the Advisory Group (AG), HELP (Expert) Member from Myanmar
Member of the National Water Resource Committee (NWRC), Myanmar

The 11th Meeting of High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disaster(HELP), Geneva

3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit

11-12 December, 2017, Yangon Myanmar



Photo: Delegations and Representatives at the 3rd APWS in Myanmar (Myanmar News Agency)



- ◆ Host : the Republic of the Union of Myanmar & Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF)
- ◆ Program: 1) 32 Leaders Statement from Government and Non-Government in the Asia-Pacific region, 2) 10 parallel thematic sessions, and 3) Adoption of Yangon Declaration

Participants of the 3rd APWS



- **More than 700 representatives from 37 countries**
- 145 government officials from 25 countries attended as members of the delegations of the countries.
- 32 Leaders Statement from Government and Non-Government in the Asia-Pacific region

List of 37 countries

Australia, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Czech, Denmark, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, United States, Vanuatu, Viet Nam and Myanmar



Photo: Opening & Welcome Speech by H.E. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi (Credit: Myanmar News Agency)

10 Parallel thematic Sessions of the 3rd APWS

1	Reviving Hydrological Cycles: Rainwater Harvesting and Sustainable Groundwater Management	ICIMOD Ministry of Land Infrastructure, transport Japan (MLIT)
2	Governance for Sustainable Urban Water Supply	JICA, Yangon City Development Committee
3	Improving Sanitation and Wastewater Management	JSC, MLIT, Ministry of Environment, Japan
4	Water and Disasters in the Context of Climate Change: From the Mountains to the Islands	ICHARM, HELP, ICIMOD, Secretariat of Pacific Community
5	Better Governance: Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)	NARBO, UNESCO
6	Water- Energy-Food- Ecosystems nexus	FAO Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (MAFF) , Japan
7	Roles for Women and Youth	Water Mothers Myanmar, IWMI, Citizens Process of World Water Forum 8
8	Multi-Stakeholders Partnership for Regional Cooperation	GWPO, ICIMOD
9	Financing Implementation for Water-related SDGs	ESCAP APWF, ADB
10	Source to Sea (S2S) Opportunities in Asia and Pacific	S2S Action Platform, FAO

Photos from Parallel Thematic Sessions



3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit
Yangon Myanmar 2017



Water and Disasters in the Context of Climate Change: From the Mountains to the Islands

◆ 3 keynote speeches:

- H.E. Dr. José Ramos-Horta, Senior Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste,
- H.E. Mr. Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan, and
- H.E. Dr. Swarnim Wagle, Vice Chair, National Planning Commission, Nepal.

◆ 7 countries presentations from Myanmar (3 representatives from different department), Bhutan, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Sri Lanka, and Tonga

➤ Status, directions and key actions were identified under various environmental, hydro-meteorological, geographical, and socio-economic conditions.

◆ Panel Discussion

(5 panelists from GRIPS, USACE, ICMOD, SPC, UNESCO Jakarta office, Moderator: Dr. Koike, ICHARM)



Water and Disasters in the Context of Climate Change: From the Mountains to the Islands

Key Messages:

- ◆ We recognize that frequent and intensified water-related disasters, sea level rise and depletion of water resource associated with climate change are fundamental and common threats to Asia-Pacific countries.
- ◆ We need to improve our understanding of the changing society and climate, build integrated assessment capabilities, and create and share usable and actionable information for policy-making and community of practice.
- ◆ We should introduce and implement a holistic, concerted and regionally collaborative approach from the mountains to the islands to reduce water-related disaster and environmental risks intensified by climate change in the Asia-Pacific region.
- These key messages recognize the increasing threat of water related disasters in the Asia-Pacific region and seek to improve the understanding of the changing climate and society to reduce and mitigate the adverse impacts of water-related disasters and build resilience.

Outcomes of the 3rd APWS

Adoption of Yangon Declaration: The Pathway Forward



Yangon Declaration is available at:

http://apwf.org/apwf_wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Yangon-Declaration.pdf

Water Security for Sustainable Development

Yangon Declaration: The Pathway Forward



- To provide and **safe affordable drinking water and basic sanitation** for all in the region **by 2025**
- **To double investment at the regional level** to address water-related disaster and significantly increase water security
- **To advance research and development as well as education and training**
- Apply **measures tailored at local conditions** of countries and communities through **regional knowledge management**

**Call for
Actions
on**

- Sound water cycle management
- Governance and inclusive development
- Financing the implementation of water-related SDGs
- Water cooperation at all levels

Follow-up activities of the 3rd APWS

Myanmar's World Water Day 2018 Celebration (22nd February 2018)

Theme: Nature for Water

Includes

- Progress Dissemination to the Peoples of Myanmar
- Myanmar (Country level) Action Plan for “International Decade for Action, Water for Sustainable Development, (2018-2028)”



Follow-up activities of the 3rd APWS

8th World Water Forum

Introduced the outcomes of 3rd APWS from Myanmar side through:

- Keynote speech by U Ohn Win, Minister of Union Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation (NREC) in HELP Special Session (19th March)
- High-Level Panel: Revitalising IWRM for the 2030 Agenda by U Ohn Win, Minister NREC (20th March)
- Asia-Pacific Regional Process Synthesis Session: Upscale Innovation by U Htun Lwin Oo, Secretary-General, NWRC (21st March)



Way Forward of the National Water Resources Committee

- Accelerate the implementation of IWRM in Myanmar to become water efficient nation with well developed and sustainable water resources
- Implementation of follow up activities related to Yangon Declaration and
“International Decade for Action, Water for Sustainable Development”
- Community-based watershed management, conservation and restoration of wetlands, springs, and natural artesian wells
- Rain water harvesting national campaign to raise the momentum
- Enactment of National Water Law
- 360 degree Capacity Development in the Myanmar Water Sector and Young Water Professional Programme
- Implementation of AIRBM Project and IWRM learning by Doing Projects

Way Forward of the National Water Resources Committee (2)

- Strengthening cooperation with development partners and other IWRM practicing countries.
- NWRC Secretariat expansion with seconded senior governmental staff from six Key Ministries and new recruitments from the competitive market to upgrade and accelerate the NWRC activities.
- Construction of new and permanent NWRC Headquarters Building, Secretariat Office, Hydro-Informatics Center and Advisory Group Office.
- Deeper International Cooperation on transboundary rivers, water for sustainable decade (2018-28) and UN Water Convention.
- Utilization of Satellite Technology and other advanced technologies in rapid assessments and preparation for future investments.

Thank You

