

WORLD
WATER
COUNCIL



NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

JUNE-NOVEMBER 2016

Report to the 60th Board of Governors meeting



From left to right: Benedito Braga, President of the World Water Council, Senator Rodrigo Rollemberg, Governor of the Federal District of Brasilia, and Vicente Andreu Guillo, President of ANA (the Brazilian Water Agency) at the opening ceremony of the 8th World Water Forum Kick-off Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil, 27 June. Photo: @IsraelLima

MOBILIZE ACTION

8TH WORLD WATER FORUM KICKS OFF IN BRAZIL

In June, the Kick-off Meeting for the 8th World Water Forum saw 800 participants from 55 countries frame activities for the political, regional, thematic, sustainability and citizen’s processes, for the next two years leading up to the event.

Speaking to participants, President Braga emphasized that the meeting was an important opportunity for participants to shape processes together to reflect concerns, influence decision makers and support progress.

Rodrigo Rollemberg, Governor of the Federal District of Brasilia, the Forum’s co-host, called on participants to fashion the Forum as a stepping stone towards recognition of water as an issue of vital importance worldwide.

Vicente Andreu Guillo, President of ANA, the Brazilian Water Agency, announced looking forward to the Forum as “a milestone for water resources management in Brazil”.

MILESTONES

June 2016

- 8th World Water Forum Kick-off Meeting

July 2016

- Singapore International Water Week
- International Conference on Water and Climate

August 2016

- World Water Week in Stockholm
- “Increasing resilience to climate variability and change” book launch

September 2016

- High Level Panel on Water Call to Action

October 2016

- 2nd Financial Times Water Summit
- Korea International Water Week
- Habitat III

November 2016

- UNFCCC CoP22
- Budapest Water Summit



International Conference on Water and Climate, Rabat, Morocco, 11 July 2016

WORLD LEADERS CALL FOR ACTION ON WATER

In September, the [Call to Action](#) by the High Level Panel on Water appealed for a fundamental shift in the way the world looks at water. The Council was instrumental in creating the Panel, convened by UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, and World Bank Group President, Jim Yong Kim, and will continue working closely on key initiatives in the lead up to the next Panel meeting during the Budapest Water Summit, organized by the Government of Hungary, in cooperation with the World Water Council.

AFRICAN MINISTERS CALL FOR ACTION ON WATER AND CLIMATE

African ministers launched a [Call for Action](#) on water and climate-change challenges specific to Africa at the International Conference on Water and Climate, in Rabat, Morocco, 11-12 July. Honorary President Loïc Fauchon represented the Council at the conference, which raised awareness among politicians of the importance of embracing water in climate-change discussions at CoP22 to be held in Morocco in November.

WATER ACTION DAY AT COP22

On 9 November, at CoP22, the Council co-organized, with the Governments of Morocco and France, and the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the Global Climate Action Agenda Day dedicated to Water. The first official Water Action Day in the history of the CoPs contributed to raising political awareness of water as a crucial theme in climate change discussions.

In the presence of the High Commissioner General of CoP22, Abdeladim Lhafi, the official program was opened by the Moroccan Climate Champion and Minister Delegate in Charge of Environment of the Minister of Energy, Mining, Water and Environment Hakima El Haite, who encouraged cooperation across various sectors. The Council and the Governments of Morocco and France then launched the “Water for Africa” initiative, to mobilize partners to improve water and sanitation services and management in Africa as a means of countering the impacts of climate change. This initiative stems from the outcomes of the Rabat Conference presented in the Blue Book, also launched at COP22.

“The realities of climate change and its impact on water security requires all of us to focus on adaptation, promotion of resilient economies, innovative solutions, partnerships as well as better coordination and management of funding and resourcing of water infrastructure.” Jacob Zuma, President of South Africa.

Mobilizing action at Korea International Water Week

During Korea International Water Week, the Council met with Minister Kang, Vice-Minister Yoo Seong-jong and other high-level officials. The Council contributed to discussions on sustainable development and management of water resources at Water Leaders’ Roundtables and World Water Partnership sessions.



The Council played a key role in facilitating the progress of water’s visibility in the agenda of CoP22

CHALLENGE THINKING

FINANCING WATER FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

At the World Water Week seminar, co-convened by the Council, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Netherlands, and the 2030 Water Resources Group, President Braga and OECD Secretary-General, Angel Gurría, addressed the challenges of financing water infrastructure and water security. Council Vice-President Dogan Altinbilek closed the seminar by emphasizing the importance of maintaining continued work on water financing.

On 12 October in London, the second of the Financial Times Water Summits founded by the Council and the Financial Times addressed the strategic importance of good water management, investment and infrastructure for the business and financial sectors. The event put forward financial approaches, products, services and functions that are required for global water security.

WATER SECURITY: KEY TO CLIMATE ADAPTATION

The [#ClimatelsWater](#) initiative, coordinated by the Council, promoted the obvious but often overlooked link between climate and water in the lead up to CoP22. The initiative unites members of the water community in calling for the Climate Agenda to devote more attention to water issues.

MAKING THE CASE FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT

As a key strategic initiative in the current mandate, the Council strives to make water a focus of conversations on cities. Notably, in July, in the session on “Raising the Water Agenda for Cities” at the Water Leaders’ Summit in Singapore, President Braga stressed the need for authorities to make safe water available to all urban inhabitants.

Following up in October, at the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), the Council participated in the session “Beyond Basic Services”. Throughout the event, the Council called on mayors and local authorities to improve water services in cities. The “New Urban Agenda” adopted by the conference embeds water in urban development.

ENGAGE IN DEBATE

ASSESSING PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAPS

The Implementation Roadmaps Annual Review Meeting at the 1st Korea International Water Week was a key step in the process between the 7th and 8th World Water Forums. Daegu-Gyeongbuk Implementation Commitment Champions assessed progress on Implementation Roadmaps. Council Treasurer Guy Fradin, representing President Braga, reiterated the importance of Champions in maintaining momentum on the roadmaps.

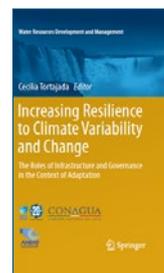


“Water is a political issue and financing it will require convincing political decision makers.” World Water Council President Braga during a discussion with Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General at World Water Week 2016, Stockholm.



Photo: Financial Times Live

“We have twenty years to prevent the looming water crisis.” President of Hungary János Áder, 2nd Financial Times Water Summit, 12 October.



World Water Council Launches Book on Climate Resilience

The Council, in cooperation with CONAGUA and ANEAS, launched “Increasing Resilience to Climate Variability and Change: The roles of Infrastructure and Governance in the Context of Adaptation” at Stockholm World Water Week. This evidence-based book provides decision makers with solutions for adaptation plans to increase resilience and improve disaster preparedness. The steering committee is chaired by the Council’s Vice President Dogan Altinbilek.

WATER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT WITH OUR MEMBERS

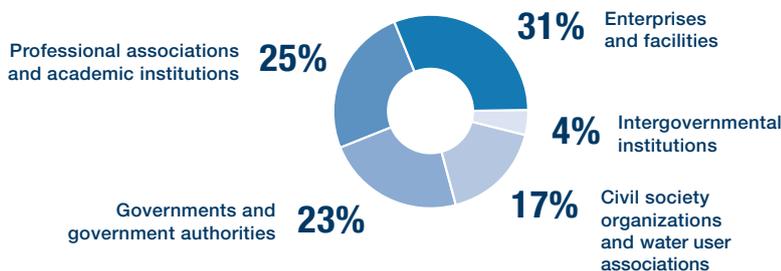
Two special events have celebrated long-standing achievements in bringing water to the center of the international stage.

In July, distinguished guests, President Braga and Ravi Narayanan, Chair of the Asia Pacific Water Forum, commemorated the 20th anniversary of the World Water Council and the 10th anniversary of the Asia Pacific Water Forum at Singapore International Water Week.

In August, during World Water Week in Stockholm, President Braga, Oyun Sanjaasuren, Chair of the Global Water Partnership, and guests enjoyed joint festivities to mark the 20th anniversaries of the World Water Council and the Global Water Partnership.

MEMBERS UPDATE

COLLEGE DISTRIBUTION

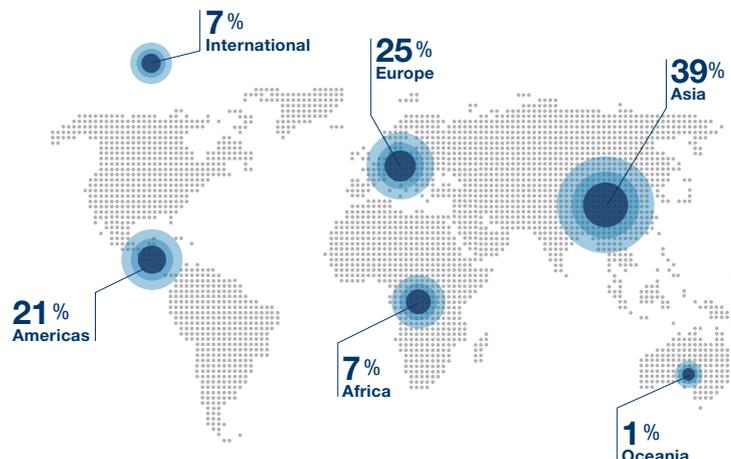


MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS*

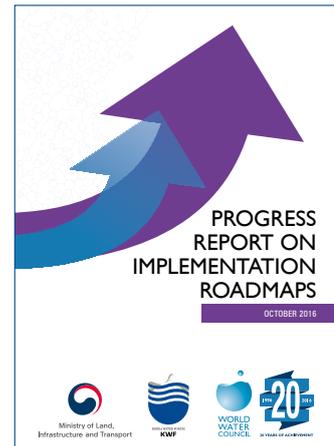
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* Membership is determined as at 24 October 2016

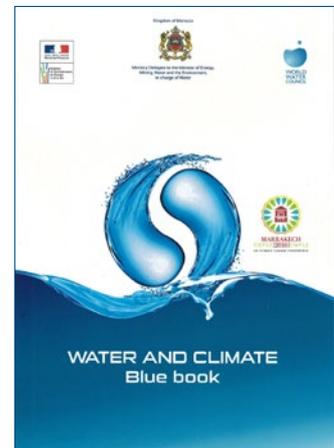
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION



RECENT PUBLICATIONS



> “Second Progress Report on Implementation”, published in October for the Implementation Roadmaps Annual Review Meeting



> “Water and Climate Blue Book”, launched on 9 November during the COP22 in Rabat.

More at: worldwatercouncil.org/library



Espace Gaymard
2-4 Place d'Arvieux
13002 Marseille
France

Phone: +33 (0)4 91 99 41 00
Fax: +33 (0)4 91 99 41 01
www@worldwatercouncil.org
wwwwatercouncil.org



www.worldwatercouncil.org

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