Press Review

10th World Water Forum Kick-Off Meeting

Jakarta, Indonesia - 15th-16th February 2023
The World Water Council on Youtube

An Interview with Loic Fauchon, President of World Water Council

Special Dialogue - With Loic Fauchon, President of the World Water Forum

Penerimaan Delegasi World Water Council oleh Presiden Jokowi di Istana Merdeka
President Jokowi receives World Water Council delegation at Merdeka Palace

President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo received World Water Council President Loic Fauchon and his delegation at Merdeka Palace in Jakarta on Wednesday.

At the meeting, the president highlighted six themes for the 10th World Water Forum, to be held in Bali in 2024. One of them was water for people and nature.

"The President just received us, the World Water Council, and the National Organising Committee of the 10th World Water Forum in Bali in 2024. He mentioned six topics that will be discussed later at the World Water Forum, including 'water for humans and nature'," said Public Works and Housing Minister Basuki Hadimuljono after accompanying the president to the meeting.

The minister said the topic was of particular concern to the president because the world is facing a number of water crises. He therefore hopes that the 10th World Water Forum, to be held in Bali, will result in concrete recommendations.

"He sees that we are currently facing global water crises. For this reason, he hopes that the 10th World Water Forum will not only be a regular conference but will produce concrete recommendations for action," said Minister Basuki.

The Minister added that the entire 56-strong World Water Council Board and over 1,400 participants will attend the kick-off meeting on Wednesday and Thursday.
"We hope that the kick-off meeting will go well and that it will mobilise all parties. The objective is to mobilise, to get all the actors in the water sector to be more aware of the problems of water resources management," added Minister Basuki.

Meanwhile, the President of the World Water Council, Loic Fauchon, expressed his appreciation for the support of President Jokowi and all stakeholders in Indonesia in the water sector. He also invited all parties to prepare for the 10th World Water Forum in Bali.

"We have to prepare for the next World Water Forum, which will be held in Bali next year, and try to come up with new solutions, new answers that will enable us to increase access to water for billions of people," he said.

Cabinet Secretary Pramono Anung and Environment and Forestry Minister Siti Nurbaya Bakar also accompanied the President to the meeting.

**Indonesia to Focus on Six Issues for the 10th World Water Forum**

**Translation in English**

Indonesia to focus on six issues at the 10th World Water Forum

Indonesia will focus on six key issues for the 10th World Water Forum (WWF), jointly organised by the World Water Council and the Republic of Indonesia and to be held from 18 to 24 May 2024 in Bali. Speaking at the WWF kick-off meeting in Jakarta on Wednesday, WWF National Organising Committee Vice Chairman Basuki Hadimuljono set out the agenda that will guide discussions over the next 15 months.

"At this kick-off meeting, we will outline the key water resource issues, namely Water for People and Nature; Water Security and Prosperity; Disaster Risk Reduction and Management; Cooperation and Hydro-Diplomacy; Water and Innovative Financing; and Knowledge and Innovation," said Hadimuljono, who is also the Minister of Public Works and Housing (PUPR).

Measured discussions on these issues will be conducted through political, thematic and regional processes, requiring deliberations to find solutions, innovations and the implementation of action plans. The Indonesian government will actively promote WWF's programme next month when it attends the UN Water Conference in New York on 22-24 March, where it is hosting side and special events.

President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) said he hoped the 10th World Water Forum (WWF) would result in concrete recommendations to overcome the global water crisis. "These programmes must be a joint effort, with community participation and support from various stakeholders, as well as dialogue and partnerships between countries in a spirit of solidarity for the welfare of the global community," said Mr Jokowi.
Jakarta (ANTARA) - The World Water Council has praised the Indonesian government for its efforts to construct dams on a massive scale to address water resource management problems as well as help realize food and energy security.

During a meeting with Indonesian President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) at the Presidential Palace here on Wednesday, World Water Council president Loïc Fauchon praised Indonesia and described it as a leading country in dam construction.

"(This means that) Indonesia has become (a global) leader not only in politics (through the 2022 G20), but also in water resources issues."

WWF is the largest transboundary event addressing water resource issues and serves as a forum for sharing experiences and innovations to address the various challenges of global water management. Indonesia formed the National Organising Committee for the 10th WWF, composed of different ministries and supported by experts and professors in the field of water issues from renowned universities in Indonesia.

The kick-off meeting, which was also the first stakeholder meeting and attended by 1,300 delegates from 56 countries, aimed to provide essential information to mobilise and engage stakeholders in the WWF process until the forum officially starts in March next year. The event will continue with regular pre-summit discussions and workshops to find concrete solutions, with strong innovation, to solve the world’s water problems and set the stage for a successful 10th WWF.
“Earlier, when I spoke with President Jokowi, I said that Indonesia is a world champion in dam construction,” he remarked.

Dams are urgently needed to reserve water because the need for resources will increase amid growing demographics and increasing climate change, Fauchon added.

After accompanying President Widodo in receiving a delegation from the council, Public Works and Public Housing (PUPR) Minister Basuki Hadimuljono said that the council also strongly supports Indonesia as the host of the 2024 World Water Forum (WWF)

“They (the council) really support and appreciate Indonesia as the host (of the WWF). (This means that) Indonesia has become (a global) leader not only in politics (through the 2022 G20), but also in water resources issues,” he added.

During the meeting, Widodo emphasized that water issues have become a global problem faced by many countries, since water is one of the main sources for realizing food security, he continued.

“Water can generate energy and (help cultivate) food. Thus, certainly, water is a fundamental (resource). That is why Indonesia has built 61 dams, and this attempt has been very much appreciated by the World Water Council,” the PUPR minister noted.

Hence, food security will be one of the six main topics that will be discussed at the 2024 WWF, he informed.

Currently, the kick-off meeting for preparations for the WWF is being held from February 15 to 16, 2023, at Jakarta Convention Center (JCC).

Hadimuljono is targeting to attract one thousand participants to the meeting.

The 10th World Water Forum will be held from May 18–24, 2024, and will be themed “Water for Shared Prosperity.”
10th World Water Forum Kick-Off Meeting: a push to make water issues a major global agenda

Jakarta - Indonesia is set to host the World Water Forum with the kick-off meeting on 15-16 February 2023 at the Jakarta Convention Center. The event brought together more than 1,400 participants from various stakeholders in the field of water management as an introduction to the 10th World Water Forum to be held in Bali from 18 to 23 May 2024.

President Joko Widodo presented an important agenda to be prioritised in the organisation of the 2024 World Water Forum. Namely, water conservation efforts, availability of clean water and sanitation, food and energy security, and mitigation of natural disasters such as floods and droughts.

"These agendas must be a joint work, people's participation and cooperation of different parties, dialogue and partnership between countries carried out in a spirit of unity for the welfare of the peoples of the world," President Jokowi explained in his video remarks.

The President of the World Water Council (WWC), Loic Fauchon, said that the issue of water is very important, as water is the only element that cannot be reproduced by humans. He therefore called on all politicians and government officials to no longer ignore the importance of water management.

"For high-level international organisations and governments, we want them to put water at the top of their agenda. We feel that water is not a priority," said Fauchon.

PUPR Minister Basuki Hadimuljono, as vice-chairman of the 10th World Water Forum National Organising Committee, said the World Water Forum is the largest platform on water resources where all water stakeholders at all levels participate to share their experiences and innovations to address the various global water management challenges. Through this kick-off meeting, six key water resources issues will be addressed through policy, thematic and regional processes.
"At this 10th World Water Forum, stakeholders at all levels must take the initiative and responsibility to take immediate, bold and concrete action. We need a change in attitude, awareness at all levels, initiative, responsibility, collaboration, solidarity and funding at all levels.

Minister Basuki said that the keyword of the 10th World Water Forum is "water is political". Government attention to water issues in each country is essential to be able to deal with all current water-related problems, such as water scarcity and water-related disasters.

"Stop ignoring water. Don't ignore this water problem. In Europe, there is also a water shortage due to climate change and countries do not have reservoirs. It's because of politics, they have experts but they don't do it. Whereas here in Indonesia, in 10 years, we have built 61 dams," said Minister Basuki.

Also present were Senegalese Minister of Water and Sanitation Serigne Mbaye Thiam, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy Sandiaga Uno, Bali I Governor Wayan Koster, DKI Jakarta Acting Governor Heru Budi Hartono and the World Water Council Board of Directors (Yul)