



PRESS RELEASE

SECOND MINISTERIAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING – UNESCO

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## Growing governmental mobilization for “Water for Our Future”

**Paris, UNESCO Headquarters, 17 February 2015 - On 24-25 February, over 200 government representatives from over 70 countries will meet again for the Second Ministerial Preparatory Committee meeting (PrepCom II) along with international organizations and civil society representatives. In preparation for the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, PrepCom II will define the political priorities and progress towards “Water for our Future” and set the foundations for the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum’s Ministerial Statement.**

This process led by the Republic of Korea, the host country of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, and the World Water Council is considered to be one of the most important political efforts dedicated to water. Based on contributions received from each of the Forum’s 16 themes and the discussion paper compiled during PrepCom I, the draft Ministerial Statement will continue to be discussed at the second PrepCom meeting hosted at UNESCO Headquarters, in preparation for the Forum.

*“Water is going to be one of the most important –if not the most important- issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Humanity has a huge task ahead. The Forum is an amazing and the perfect agora offering the opportunity to discuss political issues related to water. We have identified the problems, we have now the solutions, the question is how we implement it and that would be the outcome of Daegu. It’s not about money, it’s about politics”, says Andras Szöllösi-Nagy, Co-chair of the Political Process Commission, World Water Council.*

Seong-ho Lee, Co-chair of the Political Process Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea says: *“The Ministerial Conference of the 7th World Water Forum will be a unique opportunity to forge a common political message of governments focusing on the inclusion of water-related goal and ensuring its implementation in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.”*

The final outcome of this common work will take the shape of a Ministerial Declaration which will be presented during the Ministerial Conference of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum on 13 April 2015 in the city of Gyeongju, Republic of Korea. The Ministerial Conference will also include a series of high-level roundtable sessions on a number of important issues.

## List of participating countries confirmed as of 13 Feb. 2015

Algeria	Kenya
Angola	Korea
Argentina	Kyrgyzstan
Australia	Latvia
Austria	Libya
Azerbaijan	Luxemburg
Bahrain	Malta
Bangladesh	Mexico
Belgium	Moldavia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Morocco
Brazil	Netherlands
Bulgaria	Nicaragua
Burkina Faso	Nigeria
Canada	Pakistan
China	Peru
Colombia	Philippines
Comoros	Qatar
Costa Rica	Russia
Denmark	Rwanda
Ecuador	Seychelles
Egypt	Sierra Leone
Ethiopia	South Africa
European Commission	Spain
Finland	Sri Lanka
France	Sudan
Gabon	Sweden
Ghana	Switzerland
Guatemala	Tajikistan
Hungary	Tanzania
Indonesia	Thailand
Israel	Togo
Italy	Tunisia
Irak	Turkey
Iran	Turkmenistan
Ivory Coast	United Arab Emirates
Japan	United States of America
Jordan	Zimbabwe
Kazakhstan	

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### **About the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum**

Necessitating two years of collaborative preparation with stakeholders from around the world, the 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum consists of 4 preparatory processes: Regional, Political, Thematic and Science and Technology, within a common framework, so as to catalyze collective action and positive change.

The 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum will also be composed of cultural events, side events, a water exhibition, and a Citizen's Forum, including a Youth and Children's Forum, to raise awareness around water issues. The 7<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum is jointly organized by the World Water Council and the Republic of Korea together with the city of Daegu and the Province of Gyeongbuk.

More information and updates are available online at:

<http://eng.worldwaterforum7.org/introduce/program/political.asp>

### **About the World Water Council (WWC)**

**The World Water Council** is an international multi-stakeholder platform organization, founder and co-organizer of the World Water Forum. The World Water Council's mission is to promote awareness, build political commitment and trigger action on critical water issues at all levels, including the highest decision-making level, to facilitate the efficient conservation, protection, development, planning, management and use of water in all its dimensions on an environmentally sustainable basis for the benefit of all life on earth. The World Water Council, headquartered in Marseille, France, was created in 1996. It brings together over 300 member organizations from more than 50 different countries.

[www.worldwatercouncil.org](http://www.worldwatercouncil.org)