



Opening Ceremony of the 10th World Water Forum, Bali, May 20th, 2024

Loïc Fauchon, President of the World Water Council

Mr President of the Republic, Heads of State and Government,
Excellencies, Dear Colleagues and Friends,

First of all, dear Indonesian friends, on behalf of the water family members who are here today, I would like to assure you of our gratitude for your warm welcome.

Indonesia adalah Ibukota Air Dunia. Dan Bali adalah pusat air dunia selama seminggu ini.

Yes Indonesia is the World Capital of Water. And Bali the water center of the world during this week.

Teman-teman Indonesia. Terima kasih telah mempersiapkan Forum ini dengan baik dan penuh keramahan. Terima kasih dan sekali lagi terima kasih.

Yes dear Indonesian friends. Thank you for preparing the Forum with efficiency and friendliness. Thank you and again thank you.



Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is water which brings us together, it is water that unites us.

But, we have damaged this planet earth.

And we are here because, aware of this tragedy, we want to repair it and give future generations hope, desire and serenity.

We want our planet earth where humans and nature walk hand in hand for peace and prosperity.

Together, let us build the house of the future of water.

What are the challenges for water, for whom, when and how?

On a global and often local scale, we need greater volumes of water because of the growing pressure of climate effects, demographics, urbanization and rising living standards. All this is well known.

At the same time, these new water resources will have to be used more carefully. This is not an option, it's an obligation. Consume without wasting, consume better, consume less - sobriety is a must for everyone!

To achieve this, let us put our trust in engineering and technology, combined with digital innovations.

Thanks to them, we are ready to intensify "unconventional resources" such as desalination, reuse of wastewater, construction of aquatic reserves, water transfers, careful use of groundwater, and many others.

At the same time, however, we need to manage water consumption as closely as possible, track down leaks, clean up pollution and,



above all, change our day-to-day behaviour, whether for agricultural, domestic or industrial use.

Without forgetting to find the right balance between water for humans and water for nature, because biodiversity is non-negotiable – it is our survival.

This is how we will ensure water security.

In addition, if we have realized now that “Water Is politics”, tomorrow Water will be “Hydro-Diplomatics”, through security, law, financing and cooperation. Because water must unite, not divide.

Dear friends,

For years, all of us here have been messengers for water.

Yourself, President Joko Widodo, accepted my request, during the G20, to be the Water Messenger, and I thank you once again.

But being the best of messengers is no longer enough. We have to convince and persuade people that water needs even more innovation, finance and governance.

Messengers, yes of course, but also fighters and above all warriors, because we have to fight, fight peacefully, fight for the peace of water, for its security, for prosperity.

So, let us accelerate. The situation is urgent. And we are here in Bali to shout it out.

Because we are World Water Warriors.



Because this 10th World Water Forum should mark the turning point towards concrete action.

And today I am solemnly launching a Battle Cry from the World Water Warriors, in 7 main commitments :

We, World Water Warriors want to promote water security policies worldwide, at all levels of responsibilities.

We, World Water Warriors want to convince that water sobriety needs the modification of our behavior and change our habits.

We, World Water Warriors want to upscale the design and application of Nature-Based Solutions, at Basin level first.

We, World Water Warriors want to call on all countries to write the right to water in their national constitutions, Laws and local regulations. To propose that, step by step, the right to access to water becomes enforceable to all.

We, World Water Warriors want to invite you to create a "Money For Water" Coalition, to be presented at the next United Nations conference which includes sub-sovereignty and cancellation of the water debt for the poorest countries.



We, World Water Warriors want to ensure that a high proportion of the various climate funds is naturally devoted to water, not forgetting wastewater.

We, World Water Warriors want to call for international action to ensure more active, decentralized governance. Governance based on multilateral cooperation, which is also essential for strengthening the rules of mediation for rivers, lakes and basins. True hydro-diplomacy, bringing peace to the banks rather than war to the rivers.

In conclusion, I'd like to say to the people in this room and elsewhere in the world: we need you, we want new ideas to write the future of water. Be the first World Water Warriors, get involved, and especially you, the youngest, take the hand we are holding out to you.

Dan terakhir, untuk semua teman-teman Indonesia, kepada Bapak Presiden, pemerintah dan tim Anda.

Kami ingin menyampaikan bahwa ini adalah suatu kehormatan untuk bekerja sama dengan Anda dalam Tradisi Bandung. Dengan Stabilitas, solidaritas, kemakmuran, dan saya juga menambahkan, keamanan.

And finally, to all my Indonesian friends, to you Mister President, to you government and your teams.



We want to say that it is an honor to work with you in the Bandung Tradition. Stability, solidarity, prosperity and I would add security.

Ini adalah harapan saya untuk seluruh rakyat Indonesia dan seluruh dunia.

These are my wishes for all the people of Indonesia and all the peoples of the world.

Terima kasih atas Forum yang luar biasa ini.

Thank you all for this wonderful Forum.