Concept Note

Virtual Meeting

Women on the road to the 9th World Water Forum

December 2020
Background

As part of the innovations of the 9th World Water Forum for the organization of a more socially, politically, economically effective Forum, a catalyst for action for commitments on water and sanitation, the participation of women is a major concern of the Executive Secretariat of the 9th World Water Forum and the International Steering Committee.

This concern is justified by the fact that women’s employability is a shared issue that influences the socio-economic development of communities on the one hand, and that on the other hand, there are challenges in dealing with inequalities in access to water and sanitation if we know that there is a dependency between the main part of women's activities, the availability of water and access to sanitation. Indeed, as the main actors in the household, women and girls must plan their lives, household chores and their needs in particular, according to the availability and accessibility of water. In this regard, it should be noted that the differentiated needs of boys and girls are not sufficiently taken into account and that women are inadequately represented in the dialogue on water despite their crucial role in addressing water and sanitation issues. In companies too, their involvement is most often evaluated in terms of representation in terms of numbers, but their performance conditions are not sufficiently studied and we sometimes rarely see real incentive policies in this regard.

In view of these challenges, the Executive Secretariat hopes that women will be well involved in the organization of the 9th Forum so that their concerns can be brought to the highest level and that they can be taken into account in the responses to be implemented within the framework of the Forum.

The objectives of this mobilization are as follows

- Ensure a good representation of women in the preparatory process and the organization of the Forum
- Highlighting women's concerns in multi-stakeholder exchanges
- Develop initiatives to improve the living conditions of women with adequate access to water and sanitation.
- Develop initiatives for a better involvement of women in the governance of water and sanitation.
- Launch the mobilization process, the Executive Secretariat of the 9th World Water Forum is organizing a first webinar for exchanges with women's organizations and support structures.

Objective of the webinar

- Mobilize women's organizations for their good involvement in the organization of the Forum;
- Inform on the different stages and ongoing initiatives of the Forum;
- Engage women's organizations and their support structures to take part in the preparatory processes of the Forum in order to address the issues and challenges of water security for women;
- Define the strategic orientations for the mobilization of women as well as the axes of collaboration and partnership with all the organizations.

Organizers

- Executive Secretariat of the 9th World Water Forum
- Women for Water Partnership
- Network of professional women in the water and sanitation sector in Senegal
Participants

National Level
- Ministry of Women, Gender and Family
- Amicale des femmes des sociétés d'eau (AFSE) (Water Companies' Women's Association)
- Réseau des femmes professionnelles de l’eau et de l’assainissement du Sénégal
  – Network of Women Parliamentarians …

African Level
- Réseaux des femmes professionnelles de l’eau de l’AAE
- Réseau des femmes parlementaires
- Réseau des Femmes de l’Afrique de l’Ouest
  – …

International Level
- Women for Water Partnership
- UN-Women
- UNDP
- SE/9FME Partners
  …
Virtual Meeting
Women on the road to the 9th World Water Forum

Preliminary Date March, 08 2021 - Timetable: 10:00 - 11:45 AM (GMT).

To participate, register in advance through this link:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timetable</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Moderator / Speakers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:05</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Moderator: Bai-Mass Taal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:05 - 10:35</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
<td>– UN-WOMEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Women for Water Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– M. Abdoulaye SENE, ES/ 9FME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35 - 10:50</td>
<td>– Presentation of the 9th World Water Forum and the different steps of the process</td>
<td>- Executive Secretariat of the 9th World Water Forum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:50 – 11:05</td>
<td>– Presentation of the main lines of mobilization at the international level</td>
<td>- Women for Water Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 – 11:15</td>
<td>– Presentation of the main lines of mobilization at the African and national levels</td>
<td>- Women Network in Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 – 11:35</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>– Moderator – Participants-Speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:40 – 11:45</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td>– UN-WOMEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– Women for Water Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>– M. Abdoulaye SENE, ES/ 9FME</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>