



14 May 2020

Excellency,

We, the Permanent Missions of Canada, Finland, Hungary, Japan, Kenya, the Netherlands, Portugal, Singapore, Tajikistan and the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs in cooperation with UN-Water have the honour to invite you to participate in the High-level Event entitled "Accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda through water, sanitation and climate action" to be held virtualy on 29 May 2020 from 09.00 am to 11.00 am (EST).

The current pandemic situation and its devastating impact on human security in the world showed the interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, which also means that no Goal can stand on its own and water is at the heart of the Agenda.

Water plays an essential role in all three dimensions of sustainability; environmental, economic and social. As water is a resource that is often shared by many countries - water holds immense potential for cooperation and dialogue.

The UN resolution 73/226 on the Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development," 2018-2028 emphasizes the importance of the nexus between water and climate, and notes with concern that climate change is one of the factors that can exacerbate global water stress and the need for climate adaptation strategies to address water issues.

This High-level virtual event within the framework of the Water Action Decade will allow the Member States along with the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to discuss water, sanitation and climate-related actions in support of the implementation of the Decade of Action and to highlight the role of WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) in addressing COVID-19.

A draft programme and the concept note are attached for your kind consideration. Please kindly confirm your participation, <u>here</u>. Participants will be able to register and automatically receive a response with the WebEx details.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

To all Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York, NY