

To the Permanent Representative

New York, 22 March 2014

Excellency,

World Water Day on March 22 is an important occasion to recall and celebrate the importance of water for our lives and for the planet we live on.

Water and its sustainable management are essential for human health and well-being, poverty eradication, food and energy production, social and economic development, for protecting and maintaining healthy ecosystems and for disaster risk reduction. But water is also a finite and vulnerable resource under mounting pressure from population growth, urbanization, pollution, unsustainable production and consumption patterns, and climate change.

With water challenges rapidly increasing, hindering future development and threatening current advances, complacency is not an option. A committed and forceful response is urgently needed. The deliberations on the post-2015 development agenda are our opportunity to pledge to a concrete and determined response.

On the occasion of World Water Day 2014, we therefore want to commit to a Sustainable Development Goal on water and sanitation. The water and sanitation SDG must be ambitious, with targets that take into account the unfinished business of the MDGs, as well as the emerging and future challenges. The document on the focus areas of sustainable development prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals for its ninth session earlier this month, as well as the discussions during the session itself, provide a solid basis for shaping the SDG on water and sanitation.

Being aware that many share the same vision, **we encourage all Member States to support the elaboration and adoption of such a dedicated SDG on water and sanitation** in the future discussions on the post-2015 development agenda in the Open Working Group, and beyond.

In thanking you in advance for your support in this process, we remain,

Sincerely yours

H.E. Mr. Ismael Abraão Gaspar Martins, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Garen Nazarian, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Martin Sajdik, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Abulkalam Abdul Momen, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Andrei Dapkiunas, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jean-Francis Régis Zinsou, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Benin to the United Nations

H.E. Mrs. Kunzang C. Namgyel, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Bhutan to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Sacha Sergio Llorentty Solíz, Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations

H.E. Dato Abdul Ghafar Ismail, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Der Kogda, Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Herménégilde Niyonzima, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Burundi to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Fernando Jorge Wahnon Ferreira, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cabo Verde to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Croatia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Nicholas Emiliou, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Roble Olhaye, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Xavier Lasso Mendoza, Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Mootaz Ahmadein Khalil, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Tekeda Alemu, Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Fiji to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jarmo Viinanen, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Gérard Araud, Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Harald Walter Braun, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Denis Régis, Permanent Representative of Haiti to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Motohide Yoshikawa, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations

H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Husseini, Permanent Representative of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Kairat Abdrakhmanov, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the United Nations

Mr. Kham-Inh Khitchadeth, Deputy Permanent Representative, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Kelebone Maope, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Lesotho to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Zina Andrianarivelo-Razafy, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Madagascar to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Charles P. Msosa, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Sareer, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jorge Montaña, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Od Och, Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Milorad Šćepanović, Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Kyaw Tin, Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Marlene Moses, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Nauru to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Karel Jan Gustaaf van Oosterom, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Masood Khan, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations

H.E. Dr. Caleb Otto, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Palau to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Robert Guba Aisi, Permanent Representative of the Independent State of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Oh Joon, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Ali'ioaiga Feturi Elisaia, Permanent Representative of the Independent State of Samoa to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Karen Tan, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Singapore to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. František Ružička, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Andrej Logar, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Slovenia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Elmi Ahmed Duale, Permanent Representative of the Somali Republic to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Román Oyarzun Marchesi, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Paul Seger, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Mahmadamin Mahmadaminov, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Norachit Sinhaseni, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations

H.E. Mrs. Sofia Mesquita Borges, Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Mahe'uli'uli Sandhurst Tupouniua, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Tonga to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Richard Nduhuura, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uganda to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Tuvako Nathaniel Manongi, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Le Hoai Trung, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations