

## 23rd Meeting of the Group of Friends on Water and Peace

*International Geneva's Contribution to the 2026 UN Water Conference: Advancing Water for Peace  
Across the Six Interactive Dialogues*

The **23rd Meeting of the Group of Friends on Water and Peace** will focus on how International Geneva can contribute to the outcomes of the 2026 United Nations Water Conference, to be held in the United Arab Emirates in December 2026 and co-hosted by Senegal and the United Arab Emirates.

As the international community enters the final years of the [Water Action Decade \(2018–2028\)](#) and accelerates efforts towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6, the [2026 UN Water Conference](#) represents a critical opportunity to strengthen political momentum, mobilize action, and advance integrated approaches to water governance. At a time of growing water stress, climate impacts, humanitarian crises, and geopolitical tensions, water must be recognized not only as a development and environmental priority, but also as an enabler of peace, resilience, human dignity, and cooperation.

To support this objective, the [Geneva Water Hub](#), in partnership with [TRENDS Research & Advisory](#) and the [Pôle Eau Dakar](#), has prepared a **policy brief examining the six Interactive Dialogues of the 2026 UN Water Conference through a “peace” lens**. The brief identifies opportunities to integrate peace-responsive, human rights-based, and nexus-oriented approaches across the Conference agenda and highlights how water can contribute to cooperation, prevention, resilience, peacebuilding, and social cohesion.

The meeting will provide an **opportunity to present the policy brief to Member States and Geneva-based stakeholders and to gather reflections on how International Geneva can contribute to the Conference's outcomes**. Representatives from the peacebuilding, humanitarian, and human rights communities will be invited to offer perspectives on the recommendations contained in the brief and on the added value that Geneva's unique ecosystem can bring to global water governance discussions and the integration of peace in them.



### Guiding Questions:

- What perspectives and expertise can International Geneva contribute to the 2026 UN Water Conference?
- How can peace-responsive approaches strengthen the outcomes of the six Interactive Dialogues of the Conference?

- How can humanitarian, peacebuilding, and human rights actors work together to advance more coherent and inclusive approaches to water governance?
- How can the 2026 UN Water Conference strengthen the role of water as an enabler of cooperation, resilience, human dignity, and peace?
- What recommendations from International Geneva should be conveyed to the co-hosts of the Conference and reflected in its outcomes?