5th Gathering of the Geneva Water Community

Countdown to Upcoming UN Water Conference and Briefing by Co-Chairs of the Interactive Dialogues

To the attention of Permanent Representative + Expert.

The Permanent Missions of Bangladesh and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, alongside the UN Water, are organizing the final gathering of the Geneva Water Community before the upcoming United Nations Water Conference. The details of the event are as follows:

Date : Thursday, 26 November 2026
Time : 1030-1200 hours
Venue : Room VIII, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva

This informal network serves as an umbrella platform bringing together Geneva-based Member States and International Organizations around our shared commitment to advancing the global water agenda. It seeks to strengthen Geneva's engagement with, and contribute to shaping, global water-related processes, particularly in the lead-up to the 2026 UN Water Conference, co-hosted by the United Arab Emirates and Senegal. During last two years, with the generous support and active engagement of many of you, we have convened a series of gatherings to exchange views on the rationale, modalities and imperatives of keeping water high on the global agenda. The 2026 Water Conference centres around six interactive dialogue themes with respective co-chairs:

Water for people : Ghana and Switzerland
Water for prosperity : China and Spain
Water for planet : Egypt and Japan
Water for cooperation : Finland and Zambia
Water in multilateral processes : Germany and Mexico
Investments for water : France and South Africa

As the countdown to Abu Dhabi has started, we wish to gather one final time on the Conference's occasion to hear about progress on and prospects for the interactive dialogue themes and to exchange on priorities. ***Interventions from the floor are kindly requested to be kept under 3 minutes.***

Programme

1030-1035 hrs - Welcome remarks by moderator (*Moderation by* Bangladesh)
1035-1040 hrs - Opening by the Kingdom of the Netherlands
1040-1045 hrs - Remarks by 2026 UN Water Conference co-chairs UAE/Senegal (TBC)
1045-1115 hrs - Briefings by the co-chairs of Interactive Dialogue Theme
1115-1145 hrs - Interactive discussion from the floor on expected Conference outcomes
1145-1150 hrs - Remarks by the UN Water
1150-1155 hrs - Sum up by moderator
1155-1200 hrs - Light refreshments