



# BUDAPEST • 2019

# WATER

# SUMMIT

**PREVENTING WATER CRISES**



*Press conference with the participation of H.E. Mr Peter Thomson, President of the 71st session of the General Assembly of the United Nations and H.E. Mr János Áder, President of Hungary during the Budapest Water Summit 2016*

## TIME TO ACT

Under the patronage of H.E. Mr János Áder, President of Hungary and former Member of the High Level Panel on Water, Hungary will host the Budapest Water Summit 2019 (BWS 2019), a high-profile conference and expo with the motto "Preventing Water Crises" to be held between 15 and 17 October 2019 in Budapest.

Building on the success of the Budapest Water Summits 2013 and 2016, Hungary will organize the Summit for the third time in 2019. The event held in 2013 was instrumental in developing a special goal dedicated to water management, featured today in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, whereas the conference held in 2016 focused on the implementation of the above-mentioned Agenda. The Summit in 2016 adopted a plan of action involving measures to be implemented in the next 15 years, with special emphasis on the financing gap that exists in the water sector.

The three-day conference aims to expose the urgency of tackling the challenges of the emerging water crises, building around the issues of abundant, scarce and polluted waters, including their social, economic, environmental and political consequences. The Summit will provide a platform for political decision-makers, representatives of the business and finance sectors as well as the academic community to discuss the way ahead from understanding challenges, to evaluating results attained so far and ways of getting closer to a water-secure world.

# PRAGMATIC AND SOLUTION ORIENTED

Building on previous findings and recommendations by the High Level Panel on Water and other fora, the main objectives of BWS 2019 focus on:

- How to prevent the emerging water crises;
- How to manage the crises where they cannot be prevented;
- What is missing in terms of knowledge, governance, technology, financing, regulations and institutional support?

The ultimate aim of the BWS 2019 is to help understand how water, one of the most important natural resources of the 21st century, is connected to the implementation of the interlinked and integrated Sustainable Development Agenda. The event is intended to pursue a pragmatic, solution-oriented approach open to innovative and cost-efficient technologies and methods.

## A HIGH-LEVEL EVENT IN TIMES OF APPROACHING EMERGENCY

The key challenges have already been identified, goals have been adopted, sets of recommendations to attain them have been developed, but the world is still inching closer to an increasingly frequent chain of crises triggered by water-related factors.

The Budapest Water Summit 2019 – organized by the Hungarian Government – will take place halfway between the 2018 Brasilia and the 2021 Dakar World Water Fora and will build on and contribute further to the work conducted by the United Nations, the European Union, the World Water Council, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Bank Group as well as other organizations and cutting-edge platforms.

The main policy discussions of the Summit will be accompanied by a Water Expo. The Expo is intended to focus on sustainable, innovative, environment-friendly solutions in the field of drinking water production, water treatment, water supply and water resources management. Furthermore, the Expo will provide an opportunity for exhibitors to present and discuss their innovative and sustainable technologies.

## CONTACT US

For more information, please contact the Secretariat of the organizing team at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary or visit the website of the event.

# BWS<sup>20</sup><sub>19</sub>

