



# GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION

## WATER DAY

### PRESS CONFERENCE

#### 9 November 2016

#### Introduction

Climate change is a global reality caused mainly by economic activities. Climate change has direct impacts on natural resources, ecosystems and societies, with water being particularly affected.

Following the 2014 United Nations Summit on Climate Change in New York, where a water specific goal was included in the 2030 world agenda for sustainable development, the water issue has gained prominence in the climate agenda.

While water considerations are strongly present within the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), access to financing remains a challenge for water-related projects.

In this context, different initiatives were launched during COP 21, among them:

- The Paris Pact on water and adaptation to climate change in the basins of rivers, lakes and aquifers;
- The Business Alliance for Water and Climate;
- The Megacities Alliance for water and climate;
- "Climate Is Water".

To highlight the importance of water and to mobilize all the stakeholders, an international conference on water and climate, was organized in July 2016, entitled: «Water security for a climate justice». This conference was the occasion to launch the call « Water for Africa », which has been widely endorsed by African countries, cooperation agencies and international institutions.

The call "Water for Africa" has served as basis for the new initiative, also "Water for Africa", to be launched in Marrakech during COP 22. This initiative aims to raise awareness among the international community about specific African challenges, which are related to potable water and sanitation services, food security, and water infrastructure deficit. **The voice of Africa** will be highlighted in Marrakech during the water events.

The recommendations and conclusions from this international conference will be presented as the Blue Book during COP 22.

#### Objective

This water action day will be dedicated to the water sector, to discuss the relationship between water issues and climate change-positioning and to raise its profile in the relevant negotiations.

This conference day aims particularly to:

- Launch new water initiatives: "Water for Africa", "The Parliamentary initiative", and "The Delta Coalition";
- Provide an update on water related initiatives launched earlier;
- Submit a new proposal to the UNFCCC, bringing new engagements and improving the existing financial mechanisms;
- Enable dialogue between the Parties and the Non Parties around various topics related to water and climate change.



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WATER ACTION DAY  
9 November 2016**

**09.00 - 10.00**

**Speakers :**

- **Hakima EL HAITE**, Morocco's High Level Champion for the climate,
- **Charafat AFAILAL**, Minister delegate in charge of water, Government of Morocco
- **Sylvie LEMMET**, Ministry of the Environment, Energy and the Sea, Government of France
- **Roberto RAMIREZ de la PARRA**, World President of INBO
- **Dogan ALTINBILEK**, Vice-President of the World Water Council