

# Integrated Water Resources Management at the basin level, a core concern of the next World Water Forum

#IWRM #Basins #WaterManagement #Resource #BorderCooperation #InternationalCooperation #ClimateChange #Governance #WaterSafety #Data #Peace #GreenFinance

The International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), a recognized actor of the international water community, is a strategic partner for the promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at the 9th World Water Forum (WWF) in Dakar, which will be held from 21 to 26 March. Co-organised by Senegal and the World Water Council, this event will include, for the first time in the History of the Forums, a high-level political segment dedicated to basins during which the "Dakar Action Plan for River, Lake and Aquifer Basins" will be launched.

With its partners, INBO is mobilizing to make the 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the WWF, focused on "Water Security for Peace and Development", a real space for diagnosis, but also a place for actions proposals and commitments of the States, international organizations and actors of the civil society.



INBO, which has been carrying out ambitious actions for joint and sustainable management of water resources, at the level of basins since 30 years, will organize and participate in more than 20 exchange sessions on water security and climate, IWRM at basin level, cooperation and water data sharing.

**General Programme** 

# IWRM in the spotlight

For this 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the WWF, INBO is particularly involved in the organization, animation and management of the "basin segment" which echoes its actions priorities. Platforms for multi-stakeholder dialogue and models of good water governance, the local, national or transboundary basin organizations are indeed peacemakers and accelerators of sustainable development.

The United Nations, the European Union, the World Bank, the international basin networks and the government representatives will be there, on Thursday 24 March (Oval Room), to make this panel a high point of exchange in order to strengthen the basin management model. A review of the achievement of the dedicated targets (6.5.1 and 6.5.2) of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) n°6, for clean water and sanitation, will be made.

The session will be led by Mr. Eric Tardieu, General Manager of the International Office for Water (OiEau) and INBO Secretary General, and by Mr. Mohamed Fawzi Bedredine, Regional Coordinator of the Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS), an intergovernmental development organization which, 50 years ago, set itself the task of reducing the vulnerability of the economies of the Member States to climatic hazards and external factors; of preserving the balance of the basin's ecosystems; of contributing to the food self-sufficiency of the populations and to the economic and social development of the Member States; and of securing and improving the incomes of these populations.

Basin Segment Programme "Extending into the territories of 19 countries, the Danube is the world's most international river basin. Comprising 14 of these countries plus the European Union, the ICPDR is well aware of the tremendous value of cooperation in water resources management at basin-wide level, and of its importance to achieving the objective of "Water security for peace and development", the overarching theme of this year's 9th World Water Forum. I am honoured of the opportunity to share our experience and testimony during the high level panel of the "basin segment" dedicated to transboundary cooperation!"

Mr. Ivan Zavadsky, Executive Secretary International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)

## A call for signature for the Dakar Action Plan for river basins

The mobilization of INBO and its members also aims at adopting the "Dakar Action Plan for the basins of lakes, rivers and aquifers" during the "basin segment". It will constitute the operational declination of the Dakar Declaration "A Blue Pact for Water and Sanitation Security for Peace and Development", adopted by the Heads of State, Government and international institutions, during the Forum.

For the United Nations Water Conference in New York in March 2023, this Action Plan aims to mobilise the main stakeholders in basin management (basin organisations and committees, ministries, donors, water users' associations, etc.) to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs by strengthening cooperation, planning, the legal and institutional framework of basin organisations, and the search for innovative financing.

"INBO, which is chaired by the Kingdom of Morocco since its last General Assembly held in Marrakech in October 2019, is strongly mobilized for the success of the World Water Forum of Dakar. Morocco itself, organiser of the first Forum in 1997, will be present and active through a large delegation.

There are many issues at stake, which justify strengthening more integrated governance and combating the silo approaches that still persist too often: adapting to climate change and extreme phenomena that are becoming more frequent, strengthening pollution control actions, building greater solidarity between upstream and downstream, between cities and rural areas, establishing a fairer economic distribution of the costs of mobilising water resources between all uses, better combinations to be built between conventional and non-conventional water resources, etc.

I am pleased that for the first time during a Forum, we can organize in Dakar a segment dedicated to basins, thanks to the work led by INBO, OMVS, OMVG, UNECE and Switzerland, and many other partners. We place this day in the political horizon of the United Nations Water Conference in March 2023: "Accelerating by the basins and for the basins", this is the message and the objective of the Dakar Action Plan for the basins, which I invite you to support in large numbers!"

March 2023 is tomorrow! Our mobilization must be organized now to set up the next steps after Dakar, to define the priorities and to identify the relays of our action in view of the New-York Conference. The Dakar Action Plan for basins must be useful for Africa and on an international scale. I am counting on your mobilisation, and I confirm my conviction that the basin management that we are defending allows us to move forward, and even to accelerate!"

HE Mr. Nizar Baraka, INBO President and Water & Equipment Minister, Kingdom of Morocco

Dakar Action Plan for river basins

#### **International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)**

Created in 1994, INBO is a non-profit association under French law. This platform for exchanging knowledge and experience has 192 Member-Organizations (basin organizations, governmental administrations in charge of water, bi or multilateral cooperation organizations) and Permanent Observers, present in nearly 90 countries.

### **International Office for Water (OiEau)**



OiEau is an association under French law, created in 1991 and recognised as a public utility. Its main objective is to develop skills for better water management at all scales, and it puts its 4 fields of expertise (Support & Cooperation, Training & Educational Engineering, Data & Information Systems, Coordination of stakeholders' networks) at the service of various customers and partners (local authorities, consulting firms, EPCI, etc.). OIEau is INBO's Permanent Technical Secretariat.