



6th World Water Forum

Forum Week Components

1/4

The design of the Forum Week is predicated on the following key components (see cross-references in the draft Forum Week Programme):

1. Opening

- **Component A - Opening ceremony (Integrated):** Plenary opening session that will comprise welcoming addresses from the Forum organizers and other invited speakers, followed by the King Hassan II Water Prize Ceremony. The design of this component will be fully conceptualized once the Board will have made a firm decision on the Forum Week's overall structure
- **Component B - Inspiring speeches (Integrated):** Speeches delivered by world leading personalities and institutions to set the scene of the 6th World Water Forum and inspire the work of the Forum participants. This session will start with the official launch of the 2012 WWAP report that will be held with no other sessions in parallel. The design of this component will be fully conceptualized once the Board will have made a firm decision on the Forum Week's overall structure
- *In addition, the French President proposes to hold a meeting with Head of States and Governments, and world personalities associated with the cause of water during or in parallel to the opening ceremony (decision not yet taken and format to be further defined)*

2. Technical components

- **Component C - Introductions to PFA/CS (Thematic/Regional):** Introduction sessions dedicated to each Priority for Action/Condition for Success to present the themes and launch the target-specific technical sessions that will take place on the following days.

These sessions intend to set the scene for the subsequent Technical Sessions. They will introduce the theme, outline its relation to the relevant Strategic Direction and present its key issues and barriers to overcome. They will also offer the opportunity to remind the participants of the ambitious target-driven approach chosen for the 6th World Water Forum, the need to bring out concrete solutions, and the necessity to reach/secure concrete commitments. These Introductions will be co-moderated by the thematic Core Group Coordinator in partnership with the Coordinators of the regions directly related to the theme. An estimated 4 to 5 panellist would be chosen to headline the session.

15 Introductions to PFA/CS; 2 hours each

Additionally, each region will be given the opportunity to hold one dedicated side event during the week. The event could present and promote the region.

- **Component D - Technical sessions (Thematic/Regional):** Target-specific technical sessions presenting and discussing the water community's targets and solutions for a more healthy, peaceful, prosperous and resilient blue planet.

The topics chosen for these sessions are the thematic and regional targets deriving from the 6th World Water Forum's Thematic Framework. They will cover the 12 Priorities for Action and 3 Conditions for Success. They could include integrated sessions, dedicated to thematic and regional targets that are closely linked to each other. Technical Sessions will enable interactive discussions and encourage commitments to the targets, to their actions plan and/or to solutions, as well as recommendations on follow-up and partnership building around issues. Information will be presented during the sessions in a powerful and engaging way and the sessions themselves will be as purposeful, interactive and

participatory as possible. The sessions will create a gradual build up towards the evenings' multi-stakeholders panel.

~160 Technical Sessions; 2 hours each, with possibly 4 hours for integrated sessions

- **Component E - Multi-stakeholder panel and synthesis sessions (Thematic/Regional):** PFA/CS-based Panel and Synthesis sessions collecting, integrating and bringing to a higher level the main outputs from the individual regional/technical and possibly political sessions.

At the end of the 3 central days (from Tuesday to Thursday 13-15 March), the Thematic and Regional processes in close liaison with the other processes, will organize under each of the 15 PFA/CS, a number of Multi-stakeholder Sessions to pull together the outputs from the various Technical Sessions and process/integrate those into valuable and workable contributions that can be fed into the Forum's Commitments Day (Friday) and its related policy declarations. Given that each PFA/CS will be split over two days, there will be two types of Multi-stakeholder Sessions serving different but yet complementary purposes. The first type of Multi-stakeholder Session will be scheduled on the first day of each PFA/CS and will take the form of a **panel debate** to engage a dialogue amongst prominent water actors around the most significant topics/solutions covered during the day. These panels will differ in scope, objectives and participation from both Introduction Sessions and High-Level Panels described below. The second type will occur on the second day of each PFA/CS and will consist in **synthesis sessions** where technical coordinators and other invited speakers will come together to wrap up on all the sessions completed under a given PFA/CS. These Multi-stakeholder Panels and Syntheses will allow the works of the Technical Sessions to culminate at the end of each day into meaningful events with good potential to generate momentum and media attention.

30 Panel/Synthesis Sessions; 2 hours each

3. Cross-cutting components

- **Component F - High Level Panel (Integrated):** Integrated High Level Panels building on the contributions from the different Multi-stakeholder Panel/Synthesis sessions to give more depth and visibility to cross-cutting and critical themes identified by the four commissions, analyzed by the Bureau and approved by the IFC Board.

In partnership with other high-level actors (such as Ministers, Parliamentarians, Local Authorities, heads of NGOs, CEOs, heads of UN agencies/departments, etc.), the four commissions will contribute perspectives to High Level Panels on cross-cutting themes that have proven to be of central interest in the preparation of the World Water Forum and that are not specific to one PFA/CS. These panels would be complementary to the Multi-stakeholder panel sessions described above. They would be attended by Forum registrants, moderated events addressing themes that are not fully covered by individual PFA/CS and elevating the level of participation in order to build momentum and garner media attention. The basis of interaction would come from the regional and thematic sessions, which have contributed to the cross-cutting themes, but would seek to create wider, multidisciplinary linkages and inspire out-of-the-box thinking.

Undetermined number of High Level Panels; 2 hours each

- **Component G – Water Debates (Integrated):** Highly visible and mediatized interactions between high-level stakeholders on critical and strategic issues/solutions. Due to the high visibility of these debates, the issues to be discussed in this component and the people to be invited should be carefully discussed by IFC members and a decision taken during the IFC Board meeting in October.

These "Water Debates" will focus on creating a space for participants with divergent views to be able to express those points of view on a given topic/solution in the presence of a media personality who can direct the discussion for the benefit of the audience. It is important, however, that, in order to have a fruitful exchange, all sides of an issue/solution be fairly represented and given the opportunity to express themselves. This will be the first time such an event will take place at the Forum and will serve to confront opinions that participants wish to discuss in a productive and forward-looking way. Half of the Water Debates are proposed to be televised events and the other half to be open sessions for

Forum registrants and the public in general. The facilitator will be key in encouraging constructive, respectful and informed debate. By promoting interactions and convergence of diverse viewpoints, this public event will give its full meaning to the concept of "World Water Forum".

4 Water Debates; 1.5 hours each

4. *Political components*

- **Component H - High Level Roundtables (Political):** Closed roundtables organized by a lead government(s) and in some cases supported by international organization(s) (IOs) on topics that can potentially contribute to other intergovernmental processes (UNFCCC COP17, Rio +20, etc).

The Political Commission will propose a series of topics slated for High Level Roundtables where not only Ministers will be invited, but also Parliamentarians and Local Authorities, high-level representatives from NGOs, private sector and UN organizations. The model will follow that of the 5th World Water Forum with the main responsibility of the organization of the Roundtables to be given to one or more lead governments with the support of the IFC. The ideal scenario would be to have Roundtables that can make a substantive contribution to an ongoing intergovernmental process. The outcomes of these discussions could potentially feed into the Forum commitments towards the end of the Forum week, complementing the official statements earlier in the week.

10 Roundtables of 4 hours; Morning Tuesday 13 March

- **Component I - Regional Trialogues (Political):** Regional "Trialogues" between Ministers, Parliamentarians and Local/Regional Authorities based on the regional targets. Coordinated by the Political Commission with support by the Regional Coordinators and the IFC Secretariat.

The Trialogues will act independently of each political sub-process whereby each region will choose to focus on 1 of the targets they have been working on through their own Regional Process. For each target, one Minister, Parliamentarian and Local/Regional Authority will be chosen to participate in interactive panels to discuss how solutions they have developed can be disseminated and utilized throughout their respective regions. The solutions explored in these sessions will be more multilevel governance in nature.

4 Regional Trialogues; 2 hours each

- **Component J - Ministerial Conference (Political):** Four options have been presented to the Political Commission as to potential outcomes for the Ministerial Process. These include (1) a Thematic "Detargetified" Declaration, (2) a Strategic Priority Actions and Conditions of Success Declaration, (3) a Plan of Action based on the Istanbul Water Guide and (4) a United Nations Forum on Water. The Political Commission has yet to discuss/propose which option should produce the best results and the specific format will be detailed after the prepcom meetings of December 2011 and February 2012. Any of the above four options will lead to the release of the Forum Ministerial Declaration which will take place in the afternoon on Tuesday 13 March..

2 PrepComs, 5-6 December 2011; 2-3 February 2012 and Ministerial Conference

- **Component K – Local/Regional Authorities Conference (Political):** The Local/Regional Authorities' Process will have a three-fold focus that builds on the results of the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul. Efforts will be made to (1) strengthen the participation around and promotion of the Istanbul Water Consensus (IWC) through exchange, awareness-raising and mobilization of Local/Regional Authorities; (2) implement the IWC and (3) convene the "Champion" Cities of the IWC to strengthen the work being done by these cities. (Pending further discussion of the Political Commission)

1.5 days

- **Component L - Parliamentarians' Water Conference (Political):** The Parliamentarian Conference to be held in Marseille will build on the outcomes of the Parliamentarian Process initiated at the 4th World

Water Forum that highlighted the need to strengthen the role played by parliamentarians and parliaments in the adoption and implementation of water-related laws and budgets, as well as their legitimacy and political weight in the shaping of water-related policies at regional and national levels. With this aim in mind, the Parliamentary Conference will further develop the idea of a global parliamentary network to foster cooperation and partnerships between national and regional parliaments, parliamentary organizations and other related organizations. This parliamentary network will materialize during the Forum through the (1) organization of a Parliamentarians' Water Conference where parliamentarians from across the globe will share ideas and experiences for improved water-related legislation, budgets and regulations that will culminate in the presentation of the "Parliamentarian Solutions for Water", (2) the official launch of the "Water Legislation Helpdesk" and (3) the creation of a Guide for Water Budgets. (Pending further discussion of the Political Commission)

1 day

5. Commitments and Closing

- **Component M - Commitments' Day (Integrated):** the design of this component will depend upon the decision made by the Board regarding the Forum Week's overall structure.
- **Component N - Closing Session (Integrated):** Plenary session presenting and promoting the main outcomes on key solutions/commitments resulting from the 6th World Water Forum and its preparatory processes and building on the Forum Ministerial Declaration released earlier in the week. It will also comprise the Kyoto World Prize Awards followed by the Forum's Closing Ceremony.

The delivery of these outcomes and session could be supported by four flagship documents (to be confirmed):

- *6th World Water Forum Stakeholder Declaration*, prepared by the stakeholders of the 6th World Water Forum (either by Theme or by Major Group; to be decided) so as to have their voice incorporated in official Forum outputs. It is in principle a document that makes a call for action, based on the culmination of commitments/solutions of the Forum's Processes, and looking towards the 7th World Water Forum in 2015;
- *Forum Statement*, document prepared by the IFC along with other key high-level participants of the Forum (to be determined/discussed) and which takes into consideration all of the outputs of the Forum and places the principal messages into a concise, strong statement;
- *"Marseille Framework for Action: the World commits for water"* (*working title*), that collates and promotes the full array of commitments made before and during the Forum Week and provide a more concrete foundation of pledges and recommendations to implement and monitor follow-up actions;
- *6th World Water Forum Solutions Kit* (*working title*), which, if possible, adds value to the Framework by compiling and presenting in an attractive manner the Forum's most promising solutions discussed and confirmed during the preparation phase and the Forum itself.

6. Side-events

- **Component O - Side Events:** meetings organised by the participants themselves (NGOs, governments, private companies, International Organisations, etc.) and held in Parc Chantot in parallel, between and/or after official sessions, providing an opportunity for the participants to freely discuss issues that have not been fully covered during the official Forum sessions.

The side-events will be open to all Forum participants and will mainly be organised during lunch breaks and evenings. Depending on the relevance of the topics and space capacity, a limited number of longer side-events might be organized in parallel to other sessions. Side-events will serve as platforms to present latest projects, solutions and to network with other participants in a convivial atmosphere. They must not be commercial in nature. Side events can also be socially-oriented, such as cocktail parties or receptions.

~100 side-events; 1-3 hours each

7. Roots & Citizens components

- The nature and contents of these components are still under discussion within the Roots & Citizens Commission and will be presented later to the Board.