Symposium on women and water security
UNDESA, ESCWA, Pacific Water Research Centre

10 May 2018  Beirut

François Münger, director
Natasha Carmi lead water adviser
Sustainable and equitable access to water resources is a major global challenge of the 21st century.

Our main water resources are transboundary. The world's 263 transboundary lakes and rivers cover nearly half of the Earth's land surface and it’s a total of 145 nations whose territory are included in international basins.

99% of all accessible fresh water on the planet is found in aquifers, 270 of the biggest aquifers are transboundary worldwide (UNESCO).

In the past years, there have been more and more warnings about the possibility of water conflicts and water shortage coupled with poverty and societal instability could weaken intra-state cohesion and fuel inter-state conflicts.
Vision

Water is also a tool for collaboration and an instrument of peace.

Experience shows that in many situations, rather than causing open conflict, the need for water sharing generates also cooperation. Despite the complexity of the problems, water disputes can be handled diplomatically and even, water sharing can become a field for collaboration in conflict situations. It is with this positive vision that the Geneva Water Hub and the High Level Panel on Water and Peace have been established.

Blue Diplomacy
Geneva Water Hub was established to help prevent water related conflicts and to promote water as an instrument of peace and cooperation.
Geneva Water Hub Education

Web Open Source Resources
- Policy Briefs
- Monthly Water Maps
- Case Studies
- Thematic annotated bibliographies

Geneva Water Hub Certifying Courses at the University of Geneva
- Distance learning course on International Water Law and the Law of Transboundary Aquifers
  - Hydrology
  - Right to Water Access
  - Hydrodiplomacy
  - International Water Law
  - Next session June 4-16 2018

Massive Open Online Courses
- Water Resources Management and Policy
- Ecosystem Services: A Method for Sustainable Development
- International Water Law

20’000+ students trained in 3 years
Global Strategic Platform

Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace
Global High-Level Panel on Water & Peace

A two years initiative launched by 15 co-convening countries on 16 Nov. 2015 in Geneva with the following goals:

▪ Develop a set of proposals to strengthen the global framework to prevent and resolve water-related conflicts
▪ Facilitate the use of water as an important factor of building peace.
▪ Enhance the relevance of water issues in national and global policy making.

With the support of:

the Geneva Water Hub, Secretariat of the Panel
and
the Strategic Foresight Group

as observer
Co-convening Countries and Panelists

Chair
Dr. Danilo Turk, former President of the Republic, Slovenia

Vice Chairs
Mr. Mansour Faye, Minister of Water and Hydraulics, Senegal
Dr. Alvaro Umaña Quesada, former Minister of Energy and Environment, Costa Rica

Members (by order of nomination by co-convening country)
Prof. Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Professor of Law at University of Geneva, Switzerland
Dr. Claudia Patricia Mora, former Vice Minister for Water and Sanitation, Colombia
Dr. Pascual Fernández, former State Secretary for Water and Seashore, Spain
Prof. Andras Szöllösi-Nagy, former Rector of UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education, Hungary
His Royal Highness Prince Hassan bin Talal, Jordan
Mr. Yerlan Nyssanbayev, Vice-Minister of Ministry of Agriculture, Kazakhstan
Mr. Mike Allen Hammah, former Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, Ghana
Mr. Ciarán Ó Cuinn, Centre Director of Middle East Desalination Research Centre, Oman
Mr. Andres Tarand, former Prime Minister, Estonia
Mr. Thor Chetha, Secretary of State of Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology, Cambodia
Mr. Franck Galland, Managing Director of Environmental Emergency & Security Services, France
Mr. Abdelaziz Ameziane, General Engineer of Ministry of Water, Morocco
Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace

Geneva 11/2015

Dakar 03/2016

Costa Rica 11/2016

Amman 05/2017
Water as an asset for peace

Insight on key recommendations

A MATTER OF SURVIVAL

Report of the Global High-Level Panel on Water and Peace
Group of Friends on Water and Peace:

UNOG Missions of 40 countries
Geneva Water Hub

Global Strategic Platforms

- Scientific Research Network
- Global High Level Panel on Water & Peace
- Group of Friends on Water & Peace
- Art for Water & Peace
- Global Hydrometry Support Facility with WMO
- Facilitation (intersectoral & transboundary)

Geneva Water Hub Functions

- Education & Knowledge
- Think Tank
- Networking

OUTCOMES

IMPACTS
The Symphony for Water and Peace
developed in parallel of the work of the High Level Panel

Mich Gerber
Switzerland

Naissam Jalal
Syria

Alune Wade
Senegal

Carlos Guzman
Costa Rica

Tarek Younis
Jordan

The Blue Peace orchestra
THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION