

MESSAGE FROM HONOURABLE SERIGNE MBAYE THIAM,
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION,
 DURING THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 9th WORLD WATER FORUM DAKAR

**“Nothing that has been done and said here in
 Diamniadio will be in vain”**

"(...) Be convinced, nothing that has been done and said here in Diamniadio will be in vain, let alone put away. With self-sacrifice, we will bring together the results of the forum at the heart of the global water agenda, in particular at the 2023 UN conference on water. We will implement them in our territories, our homes, our fields, our rivers, our factories, in nature and in all our activities; in short, at any time and any day."



It is this conviction that led the Head of State, President Macky SALL, to decide to give substance to the resolution for the convening of The International High-Level Panel on Water Investments in Africa.

1. On August 12, 2021, the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW), the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Global Center for Adaptation (GCA) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP) responded to the call and adopted a resolution for the convening the international high-level panel on water investments for Africa.

On behalf of H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, Chairman of the African Union; I hereby announce the official launch of **The International High-Level Panel on Water Investments in Africa.**

2. The objective of the panel is to develop **Actionable pathways to mobilising USD 30 billion annually til 2030, for implementing the Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) and close the existing water investment gap in Africa.**

3. The convenors of the panel have nominated five African sitting heads of states to join the panel from each sub-region of Africa: Central Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa, Western Africa, and Southern Africa; with Co-Chairs:

a. **H.E Mark Rutte**, Prime Minister of The Kingdom of the Netherlands, in his capacity as co-host of the UN 2023 International Decade for Action on Water for sustainable development.

b. **H.E Hage Geingob**, President of the Republic of Namibia in his capacity as host country of the Presidency of AMCOW, and

c. **The Alternate Co-Chair of the panel, H.E Jakaya Kikwete**, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the GWPSA-Africa Coordination Unit which is the host of the Joint Secretariat for the convenors of the panel.

4. The panel will be composed of sitting Heads of States from Africa and developed countries. The convenors of the panel will also be represented in the panel. The full list of panel members will be made available later.

5. In the coming few months, President Macky SALL will convene the first meeting of the expert group.

6. In conclusion, I call on African governments, development partners, development finance institutions, and water sector stakeholders assembled here today to seize the opportunity presented by the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments to elevate the agenda of water to the highest levels of decision making.

Such a momentum commits us to the creation of a collective intelligence that is conducive to the development of perspectives and actions that are truly transformative of the water and sanitation situation from local to Global level.

This is the meaning of the Dakar Declaration, a * Blue Deal for water security and sanitation for peace and development * as well as the Pôle Eau de Dakar.

With this objective, I would like to congratulate the next organizers of the 10th edition of the World Water Forum, the Republic of Indonesia, with whom Senegal maintains excellent bilateral relations. I would like here to show them our support and our best wishes for total success.