



# Ensuring water and sanitation for all

■ Mexico calls upon the governments and decision-makers of all nations to join in solidarity with the Global Water Initiative. This is to ensure that water as a resource acquires the social, political and scientific clout to promote water security as a priority on the global stage.

To achieve this, countries will need to combine efforts and create appropriate policies – informed by scientific and technological knowledge – that improve the capacity management of water resources, in terms of both quantity and quality.

To this end, Mexico's National Water Commission (Conagua) has proposed creating an Intergovernmental Panel on Water. This would be a group comprising experts from UN Member States, specialising in water-related issues.

President Peña Nieto presented the proposal to the UN General Assembly in 2014. It was welcomed at the seventh World Water Forum in South Korea in 2015.

The aim is to support: coalition-building to mobilise governments, private sector and civil society around water; decision-making in water-specialised global institutions; and the establishment, for the first time, of a water regulatory framework as a universal axis with resilience at the forefront of a new global approach to disaster management.

An Intergovernmental Panel on Water would support the work of the post-2015 development agenda, which

includes a Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 6) solely dedicated to water ("Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all").

The post-2015 agenda is committed to strengthening international cooperation, recognising that sustainable development can be achieved only through an alliance between governments, civil society and the private sector to ensure the wellbeing of present and future generations.

Water flows across the 2030 development agenda. Ultimately, access to water and sanitation is not only a matter of dignity and human rights, it is central to achieving all of the objectives that governments around the world have just adopted.

More than ever before, water security is an urgent priority for the development of nations. ■

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