



Youth for Water and Climate
La Jeunesse pour l'Eau et le Climat
La Juventud por el Agua y el Clima

Declaration of intention of support for “Youth for Water and Climate” Initiative

Building on the adoption of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 agenda, We, representatives of Youth organizations and networks, international organizations, scientific and technical research institutes, local government authorities, development banks, foundations, private businesses and non-governmental organizations confirm our will to work for the inclusive transition towards an engaged and active Youth, able to address Climate Change and Development issues and to contribute to UN SG A. Guterres' wish in Cairo on February, 15th, 2017: *that new generations will be able to do what the present generation has not been able to do, [...] in order to allow for peace to prevail in our world.*

We

- **emphasize the need to ensure sustainable management of natural resources**, inclusive economic and social development and the safeguarding of material heritage in a changing climate causing exceptional threats to these objectives,
- **note that Youth represents more than 50% of the world's population** and is more exposed than other age groups to poor conditions of living, regarding in particular water and food insecurity, health, employment, disaster risks,
- **recognize the role of Youth in innovating and creating new ways** of producing essential goods and services and new business models likely to address their challenges in a constantly evolving environment,
- **wish to unleash the potential of Youth** to meet the SDGs 2030 while limiting Climate Change and its effects for future generation,
- **recall that allowing all human beings to meet their development needs**, including maintaining their dignity through decent jobs, in the place where they live, will contribute to limit migrations which happen when any track of hope in the future is gone,
- **recall that intergenerational collaboration is a win-win deal** that will allow Youth and more Seniors benefit from the combination of the experience and knowledge of Seniors and the energy and creativity of Youth for a better world,
- **acknowledge that increasing the contribution and benefits of Youth** in the development and climate agendas is a major challenge for public policies,

– **acknowledge that the 4 areas identified by Youth representatives in their White Paper presented at COP 21 in Paris**, Water and Agriculture, Water and Health, Water Scarcity and Water-related risks, reflect key challenges where Youth want to and can contribute to address the challenges posed by Climate to their lives and sustainable development,

– **emphasize the need for robust monitoring and assessment** systems in order to properly guide our actions,

– **wish to facilitate the participation of Youth** at large in becoming vectors of positive change in all sectors of our societies, daily life, social interactions, economics, natural resources sustainable management,

– **recall the importance of financing and distribution programs** to support development and adoption of new practices and mobilization of stakeholders at all levels, seeking an efficient use of existing financial mechanisms in the areas of development and climate, in particular water resources management,

– **remain convinced that action and commitment** on the part of all actors will enable the promotion of implementation of adapted policies and the channeling of appropriate funding to the different components of the Initiative.

We fully support the "Youth for Water and Climate" Initiative.

We recognize, in regard to our respective missions and mandates, the need:

- i: **to strengthen our policies, our tools and our actions** to foster sustainable and inclusive empowerment of Youth in addressing Climate and Development challenges through improved water resources management,
- ii: **to support a participatory approach to building innovative solutions and their adoption** for the benefit of Youth and the general population, notably by means of capacity building and resources mobilization specifically targeting Youth, and
- iii: **to share our projects, actions, experiences and results** in this area, through a common platform and to organize at regular intervals meetings for discussion and stock-taking.

We commit to put in place a formal governance structure through an inclusive and transparent process, guaranteeing fair participation by the various stakeholders, and taking into consideration the need to collaborate with existing, relevant initiatives by seeking synergies with them around Youth's role in addressing Water and Climate challenges, wherever possible.

Place

Date

Organization

Name/Function

Signature