The 8th World Water Forum was one of the points discussed during the Ministry of Environment Managers’ Meeting, held this Monday (3rd) at the Brazilian Water Agency (ANA), in Brasilia. Ricardo Andrade, 8th World Water Forum Executive Director, presented the preparatory activities for the world’s largest water-related event, to be held on March 18th to 23rd, 2018, in Brasilia.

After the presentation, the Minister of Environment, Sarney Filho, complimented the initiative. “Today we had the opportunity to hear everything the 8th Forum Executive Committee has been doing in the preparatory processes and I can say we are more and more integrated with this process, as our agendas are similar”, he stated.

Edson Duarte, Secretary of the International Articulation and Environmental Citizenship of the Ministry of Environment, said that organizing the World Forum is strategic for Brazil. “All the attention in the world will be turned to us. That’s why we need to have a critical view of the variables of our situation until 2018”, he observed. “It is necessary, for instance, to consolidate and strengthen our river basin committees”, he concluded.

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South America creates an agenda to structure Regional Process

The 8th World Water Forum was presented during the Brazilian National Water Resource Council Plenary on this Thursday (29th) at the Ministry of Environment, in Brasilia. During the meeting, Project Legacy Towards the 8th Forum was also announced, which intends to identify improvements for water management in Brazil.

The coordinator of the World Forum Executive Committee, Rogerio Menescal, provided details on the event structure to the participants and on the works to be carried out in the preparatory stage. According to him, the goal is to have advisors mobilized to encourage popular participation in the Forum in the states they act. “Advisors are opinion makers and potential multipliers in their institutions” he stated.

Menescal also took the opportunity to call the attention to platform “Your Voice”, which has debates open to the entire population until August 13th (click here and see how to participate). Inputs will help design the thematic sessions of the 8th Forum, which will be held in Brasilia on March 18th to 23rd, 2018, and expects to gather 40 thousand people from 160 countries.

South America National Committees for UNESCO’s International Hydrological Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (Conaphis) left the Water Forum with the task to build a roadmap and present a draft until August containing relevant water issues in their countries. These will be inputs to South America Sub-Regional Process of the 8th World Water Forum. The meeting was held last week at Inhotim Museum, in Brumadinho, Minas Gerais.

According to Ney Maranhão, Director of the Brazilian Water Agency (ANA), the debates leveled out the actuation of Conaphis in the design of this Sub-Regional Process. “It was important for us to reflect about the products and outcomes of the 8th World Water Forum preparatory process”, he declared. “South American countries were working with their own roadmaps, and not with a unified agenda”, he completed.

Conaphis’ proposal, when concluded, will be submitted to a public consultation coordinated by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to receive inputs from various actors. The content will be part of the Americas Report, which also includes Central America, North America, Mexico and the Caribbean. The report will be presented during the World Water Week, in Stockholm, Sweden, from August 27th to September 1st.

“The ISC [International Steering Committee] determined at the meeting in Cancun, held in May this year, that the regional sub-processes from around the world should arrive in Stockholm with a list of sessions planned for the 8th World Water Forum”, explained Maranhão.
Political Process’ Preparatory Meeting is held in Brasília

Aiming at aligning the action strategies to determine the design of the Political Process during the 8th World Water Forum, representatives of the Political Sub-Processes – National Governments, Local and Regional Authorities, Parliamentarians, and Judges and Prosecutors – were gathered in a meeting this Wednesday (5th) at the Brazilian Water Agency (ANA) in Brasilia.

During this meeting, the representatives spoke about the preparatory activities of each sub-process. The goal is to enhance the engagement and mobilization with each theme to encourage their active participation in the Political Process discussions at the 8th World Water Forum.

The National Political Process Coordinator, Minister of Foreign Affairs Reinaldo Salgado, representing the National Governments Sub-Process, and Ana Carolina Lorena, of the Presidency of the Republic, representing the Local and Regional Authorities Sub-Process, called for the participation of mayors and local authorities, especially those from South America, as the Forum will be held for the first time in the Southern Hemisphere.

With regard to the Parliamentarians Sub-Process, Félix Domingues, of ANA, detailed their preparatory event agenda and added that the goal is to have at least 150 parliamentarians in the 8th Forum debates in 2018. Danilo Garrido, of Brazil’s Superior Electoral Court, representative of the Judges and Prosecutors Sub-Process, pointed out that the court is seeking inputs from partners to plan the scope of actions related to the themes involving the Judiciary Branch.

By mid-August, each sub-process is expected to have drafted a preparatory event plan or minutes proposing actions to be taken during the 8th World Water Forum. The outcomes will be presented during the World Water Week, to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, from August 27th to September 1st. “The intention is to have a clear idea of the works to be conducted within the scope of each Political Sub-Process”, concluded Reinaldo Salgado.

The Political Process’ preparatory agenda still has two more meetings planned to gather all four sub-processes: one in October and another in February 2018.

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The 8th World Water Forum wants to hear you

A new round of debates begins on Your Voice runs until 08/13

You do not need to be an expert to participate. You Voice is an open online consultation platform where people around the world can collaborate and influence the Forum discussions.

We would like to organize a democratic event, in line with the theme of this edition: “Sharing Water”.
Representatives of the 8th World Water Forum Executive Secretariat attended a videoconference with the World Water Council (WWC)’s Communication Committee this Friday (30th). The purpose of this meeting was to finalize the organization of the group’s activities for the 62nd WWC Board of Governors’ Meeting, which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, on July 7th and 8th.

The main topics discussed at the meeting were the production of content for institutional channels, website updates, outcomes of communication actions in social networks, and the WWC participation in the 2nd Stakeholders Meeting, a Forum’s preparatory event.

In addition to these topics, Ricardo Andrade, World Water Council Governor, member of the Communication Committee and 8th World Water Forum Executive Director, took the opportunity to remind that WWC’s support is essential to give publicity to the Forum. “We need to work together with the WWC on an international communication strategy that enables us to drive the attention of people from all five continents towards the world’s largest water-related event.”

The Committee’s members approved the proposal for higher levels of engagement of the WWC’s Communication Committee with the 8th Forum Secretariat. Another videoconference will be held with the group after the meeting in Kenya.

WWC Governors, the Committee members, Irfan Aker, Prithvi Raj Singh and Ricardo Andrade attended the videoconference. Tom Soo, Alba Glass, and 8th Forum Secretariat members, Rogério Menescal, Carolina Andrade and João Freire, also attended this meeting.

This newsletter is an official publication of the 8th World Water Forum Secretariat, produced by the event’s communication team.