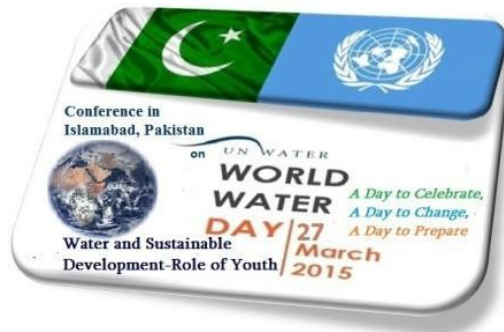


## Pakistan needs effective planning and strategies to overcome water scarcity for the future: Experts revealed on the occasion of World Water Day Conference 2015



### UN-World Water Day (March 24-27, 2015) South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan



### Side Event: “Constitutive Assembly of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water (PYPW) and Conference on Water and Sustainable Development – Role of Youth”



To mark the World Water Day Conference 2015, the Planning Commission, Ministry of Planning, Development and Reform, Government of Pakistan in collaboration with over 28 partner organization, a conference on March 27 focusing on this year's global theme, 'Water and Sustainable Development - Role of Youth for Sustainable Water Resource Management'



## UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat, **Background**

*The South-Asian Sub-Continent is home to more than one fifth of the world's population i.e. Around 1.5 billion people and water forms a part of the cultural, social, economic and political fabric of the lives of these people (World Bank, 2014).*

*In a report published in 2013, the Asian Development Bank described Pakistan as one of the most “water-stressed” countries in the world, with a water availability of 1,000 cubic meters per person per year a fivefold drop since independence in 1947, and about the same level as drought-stricken Ethiopia.*

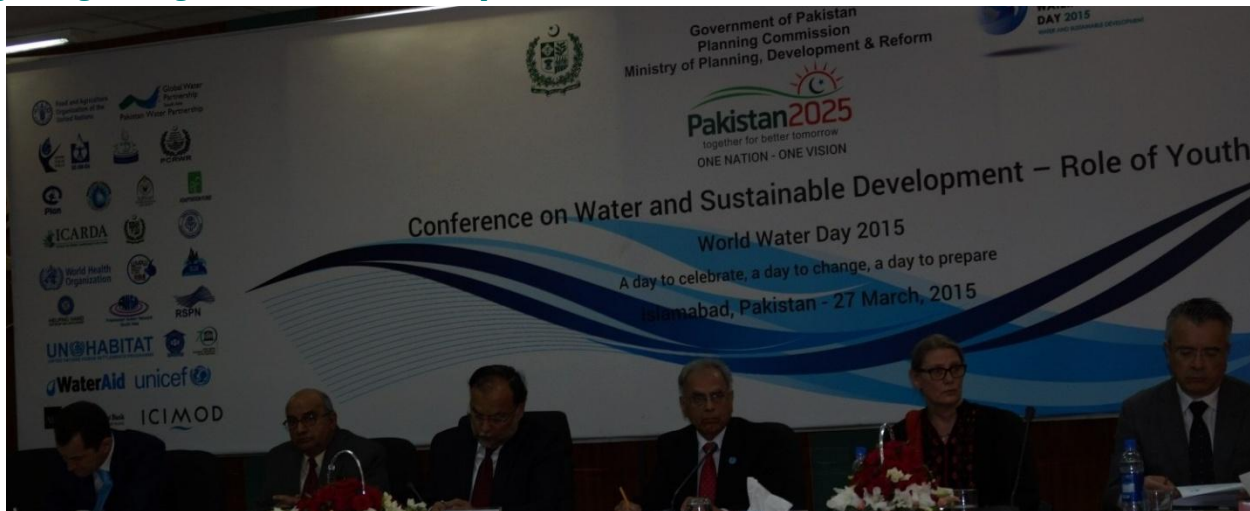
*Freshwater seems abundant, but when accounting for all the water on Earth, it's in limited supply. Just three percent of the water on our planet is fresh water. A majority of this water, about two percent of the world total, is contained in glaciers and ice sheets or stored below ground. The remaining one percent is found in lakes, rivers and wetland areas or transported through the atmosphere in the form of water vapor, clouds and precipitation. Rain and snowfall replenish freshwater sources, making it vital to know when, where and how much water is falling at any given time. We need to supports better governance approaches to adapt climate change and improved multi-Stakeholder collaboration and also we can be assured of most trustworthy partners at different levels need to act upon climate change and Water issues.*





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat,**

*As a result, it requires policy makers, researchers, advocacy groups, development professionals and civil society groups to come together on one platform and build mutual awareness and understanding of the common water resource challenges, In this connection we can achieve Sustainable Development and all its three dimensions; the Social uplift, Economic Development and Environmental up Gradation . Water is crucially important for the socio-economic sustenance and development of any country. However, its importance signifies for Pakistan that has agriculture based economy. Nevertheless, water resources of the country are subject to all kinds of quantitative and qualitative issues, which need to be addressed on war footing through research and development.*



*Pakistan is one of the most water stressed countries in the world and is rapidly heading towards becoming water scarce. Per capita water availability has sharply declined from 5,600 m<sup>3</sup> in 1947 to around 1,100 m<sup>3</sup> for a current population of approximately 180 million. This situation will be worsening as the population increases, which is expected to reach 220 million by 2025. Based on current trends it is likely that per capita water availability will decline to around 800 m<sup>3</sup> by 2025, making Pakistan a water scarce country.*





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat,**



*Pakistan is facing a number of water related challenges, which are multi-dimensional and multi-faceted. A few of those are:*

- **Water shortage (water shortfall that was 11% in 2004 will increase to 31% by 2025)**
- **Inadequate water harvesting and storage facilities (only 10% of the average annual flow)**
- **Reduction in storages capacities of the existing reservoirs due to sedimentation (0.2 MAF/year)**
- **Unutilized potentials - hill torrents, Sailaba - 18 MAF**
- **Low system efficiency (less than 40%)**
- **Conventional methods of irrigation: unlevelled basins, improper size of furrows**
- **Low land and water productivity**
- **55% below the average value for rice in Asia (1.0 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)**
- **Water productivity of wheat (0.76 kg/m<sup>3</sup>) is 24% less than the world (1.0 kg/m<sup>3</sup>)**
- **Mining of groundwater**
- **Non-existent national water policy**
- **Water logging and salinity**
- **Unmanaged rangelands/dry lands**
- **Lack of monitoring infrastructure for glaciers and trans-boundary inflows.**

*Under the visible influence of climate change, temperatures have increased in the high-mountain region of Pakistan during the last 30 years. Due to rising temperature, the glaciers have been losing their ice mass at a faster rate than ever before.*



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*High temperatures, glacier movement or weakening ice walls can cause them to burst open suddenly, flooding areas downstream. The critical role of water in Pakistan’s sustainable development, food security, human health and daily life has not been fully appreciated.*

*As a result, the protection and management of water resources has not been adequate to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Effective development and management of the country’s water resources therefore are vital to Pakistan’s overall economic development, food security and health of its population.*



## Objectives

*The intended objectives of the conference are:*

- ❖ *To sensitize on critical water issues, challenges and opportunities*
- ❖ *To engage all stakeholders with special focus on youth for sustainable water development and management*
- ❖ *To persuade the Government of Pakistan for approval of National Water Policy*





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat,**



**Expected outputs**

- ❖ *A consensus 'Islamabad Water Day Declaration 2015'*
- ❖ *MoU between World Youth Parliament for Water and Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water*





## UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Planning Commission Auditorium, Pak Secretariat,



### Intended Participants

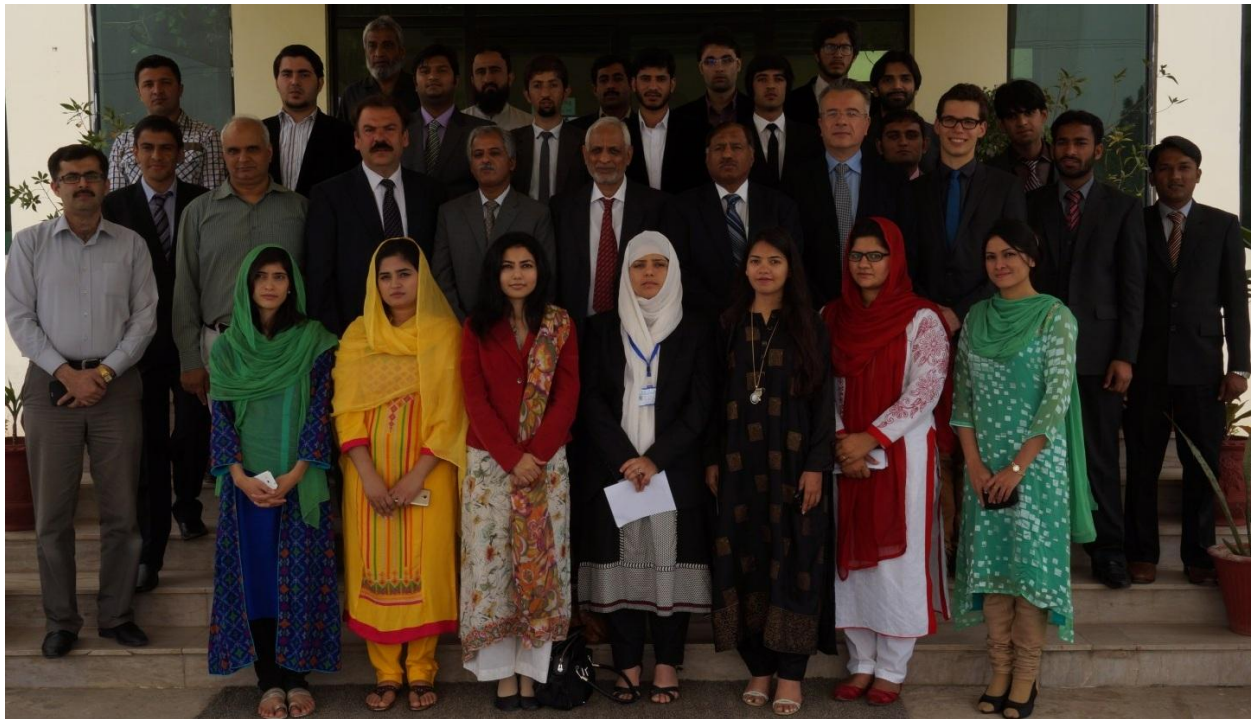
*Around one hundred, middle to top management cadre, water related experts, stakeholders and youth from institutions at the national and provincial levels will be selected in consultation with the collaborating partners.*





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources**

*The World Youth Parliament for Water is a network of young people acting for water. We are active in 71 countries, with as mission to advocate for youth participation in the water sector, and to implement concrete actions for water. We act at all levels: from our local communities, where we implement concrete actions and lay the foundations for universal access to water and sanitation, to the United Nations General Assembly, where we advocate for youth participation in the water sector.*



*Youth are an important catalyst for change. Together with other civil society groups, governments, economic actors, etc. we can reshape our future. The decisions taken today do influence directly our future, and every investment we do now to tackle water-related challenges, avoids that we have to make harder efforts in the future. That's why we call upon all of you to join us, to show the power of youth, as major actor for a water safe world.*







**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources**



***Assembly of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water***

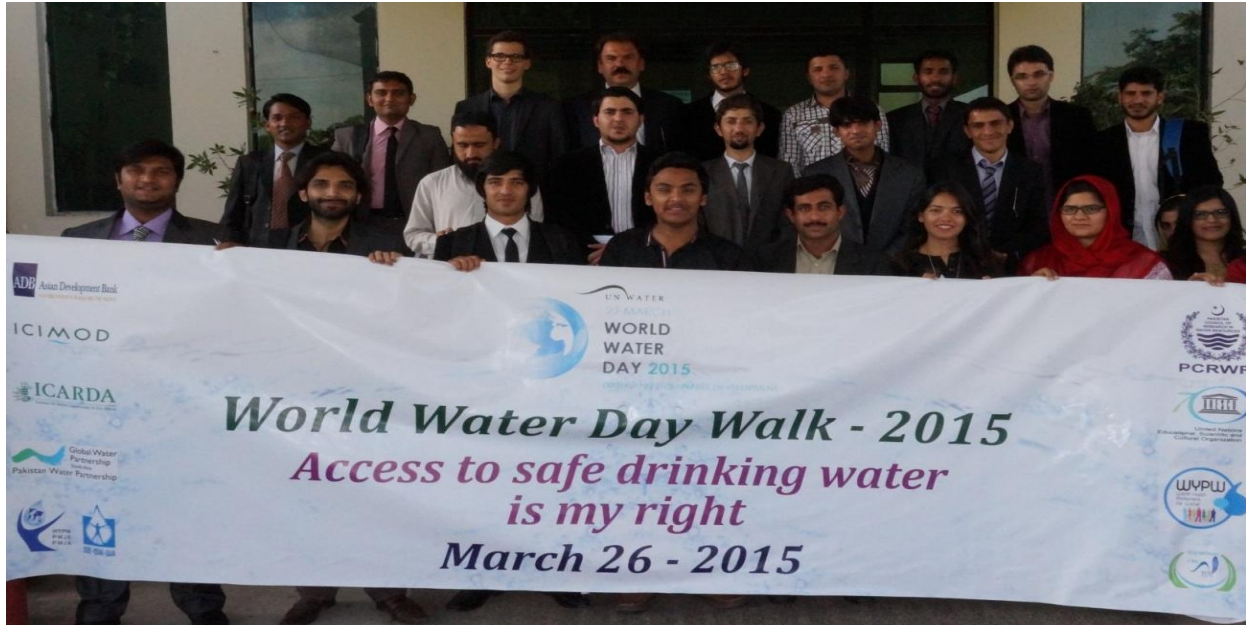
***The following were the general objectives of the Constitutive Assembly of the Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water:***

- ❖ Bring together the 25 Founding Members of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water***
- ❖ Brief the 25 Founding Members about the existing forms of youth engagement in water***
- ❖ Sector in other countries, and internationally***
- ❖ Adopt the Founding Act of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water***
- ❖ Agree on the way forward for Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water: Action Roadmap, next General Assembly, upcoming events and***
- ❖ Adoption of Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water Founding Charter***



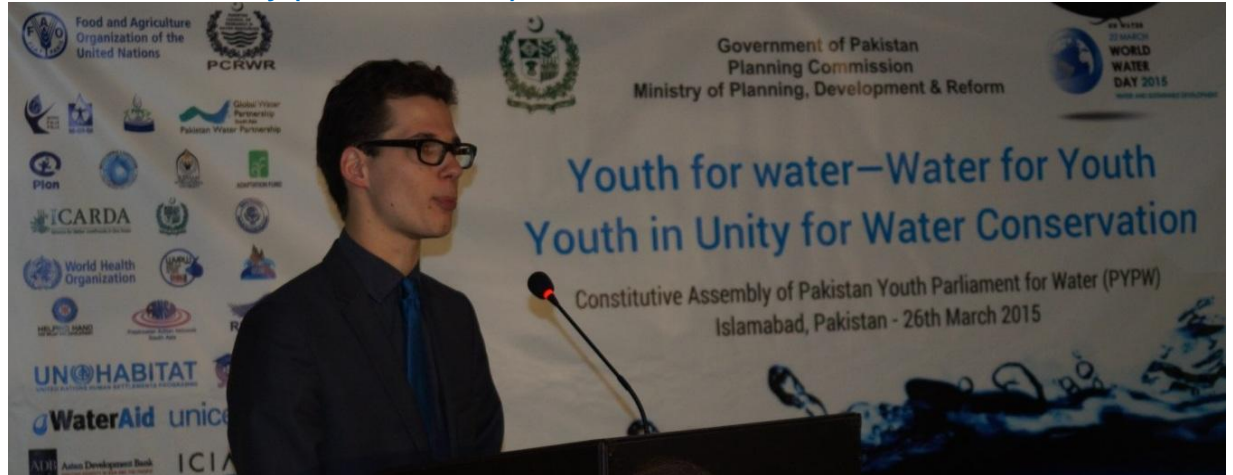


**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources**





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources**



*Mr. Bart Devos, President of World Youth Parliament for Water (WYPW), said that water security improves food security so top priority should be access to water for all and water security for Pakistan and region.*



*Dr. Akhter Ali, Senior Water Specialist, ABD, Philippine was the Chief Guest of the event. He urged on water quantity, quality and management. Cooperation Attaché of French Embassy, Mr Olivier Huynh-Van addressed the gathering.*





**UN-World Water Day (March 26, 2015) Pakistan Council of Research in Water Resources**



*Ms. Mukta Akter, Youth Focal Point, GWP-South Asia presented a paper on “Youth involvement the prime mover in Sustainable Water Management for South Asia” in the event.*





**UN-World Water Day (March 24, 2015)  
UNITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**





**UN-World Water Day (March 24, 2015)**  
**UNITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**





**UN-World Water Day (March 24, 2015)**  
**UNITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**





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**UN-World Water Day (March 24, 2015)**  
**UNITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**







**UN-World Water Day (March 25, 2015)  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**





**UN-World Water Day (March 25, 2015)**  
**INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY- South Asia Islamabad, Pakistan**



*I would like to thank you once more for your participation, valuable inputs and energy you put into this project, much appreciated!*

*We look forward to support Pakistan Youth Parliament for Water in the direction of deliver future strategy to reduce poverty through IWRM.*

*With my very best personal Regards,*

*Muhammad Raza Ali Gandapur*