

WATER, CLIMATE AND DEVELOPMENT: LINKING UP DEVELOPMENT AGENDAS AND PUTTING WATER SECURITY FIRST



Time: December 6, 6.30-8.00 pm

Place: Room Águila, Cancun Messe

The IPCC states that ‘water and its availability and quality, will be the main pressures on, and issues for, societies and the environment under climate change’.¹ Climate change impacts through the hydrological cycle will be most severe in many of the least developed and most vulnerable regions of the world, not only because some of the most extreme weather impacts are predicted in those areas, but also because these countries often lack the institutional governance and economic arrangements to build long-term resilience to climate change.

To a great extent, therefore, climate change adaptation is about good water management. And good water management should be at the heart of good development. In the interests of long-term water security, the integration of climate change, development and water agendas is crucial. This in turn depends on a good and comprehensive outcome from the climate change negotiations, which promotes the integration of the water, climate and development ‘worlds’, with appropriate finance provided to this end.

This side event will demonstrate links between water, human development and climate change, discuss policy responses for COP 16, and explore financing water-related adaptation.

Speakers and Panelists include:

- Mr. Anders Berntell, Water and Climate Coalition, Executive Director, Stockholm International Water Institute
- Mr. Maas Goote, Head of Delegation, the Netherlands (tbc)
- Ms. Kulthoum Omari, HBF Sustainable Development Programme Manager
- Dr. Letitia A. Obeng, Chair of Global Water Partnership
- Dr. Ursula Schäfer-Preuss, Vice President, Asian Development Bank (tbc)
- Mr. Bai Mass Taal, Executive Secretary of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW)
- Mr. Rolando Castro, Freshwater Action Network (FAN)

Contact information for Side Event:

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¹ IPCC Technical Paper on Water and Climate Change, p 7, <http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/technical-papers/climate-change-water-en.pdf>