

AFRICA AND EUROPE:

COLLABORATION FOR CLEAN WATER FOR ALL

The 10th Africa Day International Conference takes place under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Slovenia, His Excellency Mr Borut Pahor, and within the framework of the Bled Strategic Forum. Slovenia's annual high-level Africa event seeks to improve policy outcomes for citizens in Europe and Africa based on mutual understanding and strengthened cooperation between the two regions. The event is co-hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, the London-based Chatham House Africa Programme and the European Commission.

Expert discussions at the conference will examine collaborative links between Africa and Europe in accelerating progress on a comprehensive approach to water that contributes to the peace-development-humanitarian nexus. This resource is critical for socio-economic development, stability and the protection of ecosystems everywhere, but competition for water is increasing as populations grow and the consequences of climate change take effect. Sustainable Development Goal 6 aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Three years into the Decade for Action on Water for Sustainable Development, expert discussions at this conference will examine avenues through which African-European collaboration can foster greater progress towards and effectiveness of SDG 6.

09.00 – 10.00 Welcome and Keynote Addresses

HE Mr Borut Pahor, President of the Republic of Slovenia

HE Mr Cyril Ramaphosa*, President of the Republic of South Africa

HE Dr Anže Logar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Slovenia

HE Ms Aissata Tall Sall*, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, Republic of Senegal

HE Mr Pekka Haavisto, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Finland

HE Ms Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission

Short video messages by:

HE Ms Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission

HE Mr Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Portugal

HE Mr Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France

Chair: **Ms Natalia Al Mansour**, Head, Department for Africa and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

10.00 – 11.15 Session 1 – Commitment, Collaboration and Governance for Faster Water-Related Results at Scale

Keynote speaker

Hon. Carl Hermann Gustav Schlettwein*, Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform, Republic of Namibia; President, African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)

Panel

Delivering Impactful Urban Water Management

Alderman Ms Xanthea Limberg, Councillor, City of Cape Town, South Africa; Chairperson, Cape Town Water Advisory Resilience Committee

The Role of Civil Society in Water Resource Management

Ms Sareen Malik, Executive Secretary, African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation

EU-Africa Cooperation towards a Comprehensive Approach to Water

Ms Carla Montesi, Director for Green Deal, Digital Agenda, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission

Multilateral Engagement for Sustainable Water Policy

Ambassador Ms Anita Pipan, Director-General for Multilateral Affairs and Development Cooperation, Slovenia

Chair: **Bob Dewar CMG**, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

11.15 – 11.30 Performance of African diaspora artists (pre-recorded video)

11.30 – 12:45 Session 2 – Cooperation for Water Infrastructure: Financing, Management, Innovation

Keynote speaker

Mr Oswald M Chanda, Acting Director, Water Development and Sanitation, African Development Bank

Panel

Digital Collaboration on Water and Sanitation

Mr Matjaž Ivačič, Director, GeoCodis, Slovenia

The Potential of Hydropower Generation

Mr Matej Mirič, Integration Engineer, Litostroj Power, Slovenia

Delivering Secure Water Treatment for Hydration and Processing

Mr David Sodnik, Director and Owner, Valter skupina, Slovenia

Engineering Solutions for Water Access and Wastewater Disposal

Ms Malani Padayachee-Saman*, CEO, MPAMOT, South Africa

Chair: **Mr Ante Milevoj**, Senior Consultant, Slovenian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

12.45 – 13.00 Session 3 – Creativity as a Driver of Sustainable Development

Ms Angela Martins*, Head of the Cultural Division, African Union

Ms Aleksandra Maria Tor*, Political Officer at the Political, Press and Information Section, Delegation of the European Union to Ethiopia

Chair: **Ms Petra Kežman**, Head of the Department for Public Diplomacy and International Cooperation in Culture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

13.00 – 13.30 Closing Remarks

Mr Ibrahim Nouhoum, Co-founder, International African Forum, Slovenia

Ambassador Mr Matjaž Šinkovec, National Coordinator for Relations with African Countries and Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

Dr Gita Honwana Welch*, Associate Fellow, Africa Programme, Chatham House

Mr Koen Doens, Director-General, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission

Ambassador Dr Stanislav Raščan, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

Chair: **Ms Natalia Al Mansour**, Head, Department for Africa and the Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia

13.30 – 13.45 Performance of African diaspora artists (pre-recorded video)

**Denotes speaker TBC*