Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Kingdom of the Netherlands

Gobierno de COLOMBIA

United Nations Secretary-General's
Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation

WORLD WATER COUNCIL

# Ministerial Luncheon on

# Tackling Water Risks to Ensure a Sustainable Future

Hosted by the Governments of Colombia, the Netherlands and Switzerland together with the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation and the World Water Council, and with the participation of UN-Water

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013, 1:15-3:00 p.m.**
**UN Headquarters, South Terrace Dining Room**

*Chair*

Michel Jarraud, Chair of UN-Water and Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization

*Introductory keynote speeches*

- **Didier Burkhalter**, Vice-President and Foreign Minister of Switzerland
- **Lilianne Ploumen,** Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands
- **Patti Londoño,** Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs of Colombia
- **Juanita Castaño**, member of the United Nations Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation
- **Benedito Braga,** President of the World Water Council

*Moderated roundtable discussion*

Ministers and high-level representatives of Governments, NGOs, the private sector, financing institutions, international organizations and academia will discuss around the following questions:

- How can we mitigate water-related threats to economic prosperity, human health and political stability, and reduce our vulnerability to water-related disasters? What governance failures do we need to address?
- At the same time, how can we harness the potential of water to foster development and economic growth?
- How can we ensure that water remains a catalyst for cooperation? What role can the United Nations water conventions play in enabling more effective transboundary cooperation?
- How can the post-2015 framework and universal SDGs respond to water-related risks in order to ensure a sustainable future?
- What partnerships will be needed?

Interventions should last not more than 2 minutes. Participants in the discussion are invited to share good practices and key factors of success to prevent and reduce water-related risks and ensure sustainable development.

*Closing remarks*