



KüM/12462-1/2013/Adm

Jean-François Donzier
Executive Secretary
International Office for Water (OIeau)

France

Budapest, 10 June 2013

Dear Executive Secretary,

On behalf of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), we are most delighted to officially invite you to the Civil Society Forum of the Budapest Water Summit (BWS), which will be held in Budapest, Hungary, between 9 and 10 October, 2013. We would like to foster the attendance of as many civil society organisations as possible. To that end we request your assistance in distributing this information through your network of civil organisations whose main activity relates to water and sanitation.

The principal theme of the Budapest Water Summit will be the integration of water and sanitation in the global sustainable development agenda. It will take stock of the various developments, in and outside the UN system, in the elaboration of water-related goals, post-Rio+20 development political and policy discussions. The aim of the Summit is to articulate cohesive recommendations for the UN General Assembly for setting the post-2015 development agenda on water and sanitation issues. These recommendations should correspond and respond to the multidimensional challenges that water presents. For this reason, the Summit has four forums (Civil Society, Science, Youth and Business Leaders Forum and Expo) running in parallel. Each of these forums will address the five themes outlined below, through their lenses of expertise and conclude with unified recommendations to the plenary. For more information on the Summit please visit www.budapestwatersummit.hu

The REC is working jointly with the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to organise the Civil Society Forum of the BWS, which will be representative in professional and geopolitical terms. The REC is currently in the process of collecting and generating a list of water and sanitation NGOs from various geographic areas; Africa and the Middle East, the Americas, Asia, India and Europe. For more information on the civil forum, please visit www.budapestwatersummit.hu/civil-society-forum

The Forum will be organised around five issues, namely:

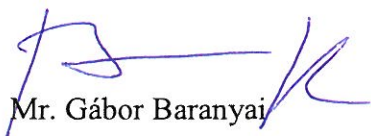
- 1) Striving for universal access to water and sanitation
- 2) Integrated water resources management for the 21st century
- 3) Good water governance
- 4) Green economy for blue water
- 5) Financing the implementation of water-related development goals.

The three pillars of sustainability will be used as a springboard to discuss each of the five issues.

We would appreciate if you could assist us in ensuring that this Forum will be both professional and representative, and thus would meaningfully and strongly contribute to the discussions about the Sustainable Development Goals.

We look forward to your participation and your assistance in circulating information about the BWS and thank you in advance for your readiness to cooperate with us. Inquiries about the civil forum can be sent directly to bwscivilforum@rec.org

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Gábor Baranyai

Deputy State Secretary
Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Ms. Márta Bonifert

Executive Director
Regional Environmental Center
for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)