



## UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement    Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente  
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде    برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



Reference: DELC/EO/2014/AK/yo

12 August 2014

It is my honour to invite you to the First International Environment Forum for Basin Organizations. As you may be aware, the Forum was organized in 2011 but had to be cancelled due to severe flooding in Thailand. The Forum is again organized by UNEP in cooperation with the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, in partnership with many relevant stakeholders and will take place from 26 to 28 November 2014 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand.

The First International Environment Forum for Basin Organizations will bring together Basin Organizations from all around the globe to work towards strengthening the governance and management of freshwater resources through the adequate consideration and integration of environmental aspects. Pressing environmental concerns, such as ecosystem conservation and climate change pose increasing challenges to Basin Organizations and in the effective management of freshwater bodies overall. The Forum will afford Basin Organizations with a platform to discuss experiences and best practices in meeting these environmental challenges, to engage with key stakeholders and to debate new approaches, build concrete partnerships and establish mechanisms for improving their capacities.

A high level segment will take place on 28 November 2014 where Ministers and heads of Basin Organizations will have a unique opportunity to define and formulate the way forward for the sustainable governance and management of freshwater basins based on the outcomes of the technical segment of the Forum. The outcomes of this segment are intended to influence relevant international processes and to stimulate further policy dialogue at relevant fora.

I sincerely hope that you will be able to accept this personal invitation to join us in guiding the Forum in identifying new and innovative policy, legal and institutional mechanisms for the sustainable management of freshwater resources.

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Executive Office

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I hope I can count on your personal participation and receive your confirmation of attendance sent to the UNEP Secretariat of the Forum at the following e-mail address, [basin.forum@unep.org](mailto:basin.forum@unep.org).

Limited funding is available to support participation from developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Yours sincerely,

Achim Steiner  
Executive Director

Enclosure: First Announcement

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