Draft programme
EU Water Conference, 20-21 September 2018
Halle E, Museum Quarter, Vienna
Thursday, 20 September

8.30 Registration, coffee
9.30 Opening
  • Elisabeth Köstinger, Austrian Minister for Sustainability and Tourism
  • Video message from Karmenu Vella, European Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
  • Michel Dantin, Member of the European Parliament

Moderators: Günter Liebel, Director General for Water Management, Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism, Austria and Veronica Manfredi, Director, European Commission, DG Environment

10.30 Coffee
11.00 Europe's waters today
  • Ronan Uhel, Head of Natural System and Sustainability, European Environment Agency
  • Anders Finnson, Chair EurEau WFD Working Group
  • Bettina Doeser, Head of Unit, European Commission, DG Environment
  • Q&A session

Moderator: Veronica Manfredi, Director, European Commission, DG Environment

12.30 Lunch
14.00 Agriculture and sustainable water management
  • Valentin Opfermann, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development
  • Harold Kingston, Farmer based in the South-West region of Ireland
  • Elena Lopez-Gunn, Independent consultant, ICatalist
  • Niels Peter Nørring, Chairman, COPA-COGECA
  • Q&A session

Moderator: Manuel Sapiano, Water Director, Malta

15.30 Coffee
16.00 Restoring our rivers
  • Martine Rohn-Brossard, President Rhine Commission
  • Otto Pirker, Chair Working Group Hydro, Eurelectric
  • Martina Mlinaric, Chair Living Rivers Europe / WWF
  • Peter Kristensen, Project Manager, Water and Marine Unit, European Environment Agency
  • Q&A session

Moderator: Jo Halvard Halleraker (NOR, Lead TG HYMO)

17:15 How to cope with the challenge of floods
  • Ben Wichers Schreur, Senior Researcher, Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute
  • Heide Jekel, Head of Division, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety
  • Gheorghe Constantin, Water Director, Romania
  • Q&A session

Moderator: Ivan Zavadsky, Executive Secretary International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River

18.30 End of day 1. Networking Cocktail
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8.30  Coffee
9.00  Tackling chemical pollution in our waters
- Steven Van De Broeck, European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)
- Olivier Gras, French Ministry for an ecological and solidary transition
- Caroline Whalley, Project Manager Water, and Marine Unit, European Environment Agency
- Q&A session

Moderator: Marjan van Giezen, Deputy Water Director, The Netherlands

10.00 Water financing and investments
- Xavier Leflaive, Principal Administrator, OECD
- Dominique Gatel, Vice President - Public Affairs / Water, Veolia
- Maria Felisbina Quadrado, Head of Department, Portuguese Environment Agency
- Q&A session

Moderator: Patricia Lopez, Danube Water Program leader, World Bank

10.45 Coffee
11.15 EU water legislation – fit for purpose?
- Lourdes Alvarellos, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Environment
- Sergiy Moroz, Senior Policy Officer, EEB / Living Rivers Europe
- Jean-Paul Lickes, Water Director, Luxembourg
- Oldřich Vlasák, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, rapporteur on water reuse, Councillor of the City of Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
- Q&A session

Moderator: Veronica Manfredi, Director, European Commission, DG Environment

12.45 Closing and conclusions
- Veronica Manfredi, Director, European Commission, DG Environment
- Günter Liebel, Director General for Water Management, Federal Ministry of Sustainability and Tourism

13:15 End of conference. Lunch