

Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Acting Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the CBD

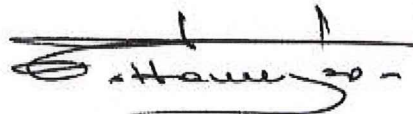
Geneva, 13 February 2020

Dear Ms. Mrema,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you in my capacity as UN-Water Chair to submit UN-Water's Input on Freshwater-Biodiversity Linkages: Response to the Zero-Draft document from the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, in reference to notification 2019-108.

As governments will review the Strategic Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity and formulate a global biodiversity framework this year, UN-Water would like to contribute to this process and add insights to the linkage between freshwater and biodiversity. The attached paper aims to provide consolidated and constructive input from the entire UN-Water membership to inform the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. This technical input paper has been endorsed by UN-Water and as such, it represents the collective position of UN-Water's 32 Members and 41 Partners.

I wish you a successful and fruitful Working Group meeting in Rome. I look forward to continuing our joint efforts to address the global freshwater and biodiversity challenges.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Hougbo".

Gilbert F. Hougbo
UN-Water Chair and IFAD President