

Speech by H.E. Joao Baptista Borges, Minister of Energy and Water of the Republic of Angola at the International High Level Conference on Water for Sustainable Development.

Your Excellences;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Angola, we would like to thank the Government of Tajiquistan and in particular His Excellency Emomali Rakhmov, the President of Republic for kindly inviting the Republic of Angola to take part to this High-Level Conference on Water and Sustainable Development and we take the same opportunity to express our congratulation to the Government and the people of this country for once again organizing an event of this magnitude, which is gathering eminent representatives of various states from all the continents, representatives of relevant organizations committed to the solution of problems globally related to water and the United Nations high representatives as co-organizers .

The presence of our delegation at this event stresses the importance that our country and in particular the President of the Republic, dedicate to the issues related to sanitation and the supply of clean water to the population living in urban as well as the rural areas, doing so in taking into consideration the role of water resource management within the framework of the Sustainable Development Objectives.

The Government of the Republic of Angola believe that the solution of problems related to water cannot be confined within the limits of the borders of each state. The challenges

concerning water availability and water resource management require absolutely the cooperation among States including the participation of regional as well as world organizations.

In that context, , we would like to point out the role that our country has been playing with regard to the management of shared water resources in the sub regions of Central Africa and Southern Africa where the Republic of Angola is inserted. We all know that the scarcity of water resource combined with the lack of water resource management is highly potential cause for conflicts between nations, even among people from different regions of the same country.

Excellences;

Good management of shared water resources can guarantee peace, food security, energy security, protection and conservation of ecosystems and biodiversity and offer resilience to climate change.

At the 8th World Water Forum held recently in the Republic of Brazil under the theme "Sharing Waters" The Republic of Angola has committed itself to share water resources, contribute to the awareness of society, at various levels, aiming at attaining of the ODS goals.

In order to insure good health and food security for the whole population and improve their economic and social situation our Government has been carrying out various initiatives aimed at increasing the population's access to safe drinking water, one of them being "Water for All" , a programme designed to bring safe drinking water to 85% of the rural area population by 2025.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We trust that the High Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", will remind to the whole world the need to keep water issues as a priority of the agendas of every government and international institutions. Recupere a chama do amor no casamento com essas dicas with the United Nations at the front line in order to build a more prosperous, socially fair and environmentally healthy and sustainable world.

Thank you very much.