



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### South Africa to host United Nations World Water Day Summit and Expo

08 March 2017

The Department of Water and Sanitation in partnership with the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Government and United Nations Water is hosting World Water Day Summit and Expo from 22-24 March 2017 at the iNkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal.

The Summit will be attended by President Jacob Zuma, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the Heads of State Committee on the United Nations (UN) High Level Panel on Water and will use the opportunity to launch the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of UN's World Water Development Report.

This report focuses on the critical role of wastewater management for vibrant economies, resilient societies and the maintenance of healthy environments.

President Zuma will also present a Declaratory Statement on roll-out activities of the High Level Panel on Water at domestic, regional and global level.

The Summit will provide South Africa with an opportunity to outline progress that the country has made in meeting water and sanitation goals since 1994 and will also be a platform for sharing knowledge and experience on risks in water provision induced by drought and climate change.

It will be held under the theme ***“Water and Sanitation is a Human Right”*** in line with the South African government's calendar of activities that sees March celebrated as a Human Rights Month.

Following a Cabinet meeting last week, South African Government issued Cabinet Statement endorsing the event and further reminded water users to continue to conserve water to ensure sustainability of water supply.

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation and KwaZulu-Natal Cogta**

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