Introduction

The International Colloquium on Water Law, on December 8, 9 and 10, 2017, is a project promoted by the Brazilian Federal Office of the Attorney-General, in cooperation with the State of Maranhão, in the framework of the 8th World Water Forum. The event will take place in São Luís, Maranhão, Brazil, from Thursday, November 8 through Sunday, November 10, 2017.

The colloquium is open to all those interested in water law, including students, lecturers, professors, researchers, environmentalists, and professionals involved in justice, as well as policymakers and practitioners involved in the management and governance of water resources.

The purpose of the colloquium is to stimulate discussion and exchange of ideas on water law, among judges, prosecutors, diplomats, and others involved in discussions and debates on water law. The colloquium will be a forum for the presentation of concrete case studies, experiences, and proposals for future regulations, policies, and advances in water law.

Objectives

- To foster dialogue and collaboration among judges, prosecutors, and other stakeholders involved in the management and governance of water resources.
- To develop the program for the “Subprocess of Judges and Prosecutors” at the 8th World Water Forum.
- To present the most recent advances in academia, legislation, jurisprudence, and practice in water law.
- To facilitate a robust dialogue among judges, prosecutors, and other stakeholders involved in the management and governance of water resources.
- To promote the development of innovative legal mechanisms for the enforcement of national legal and constitutional frameworks, to the extent necessary to protect the environment and the public interest.
- To foster the exchange of ideas and best practices among judges, prosecutors, and other stakeholders involved in the management and governance of water resources.

Keynote Addresses

Chair: Justice João Otávio de Noronha (National High Court of Brazil – STJ)

15:20-16:20 Keynote Addresses

- Ambassador José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho (Chief Environmental Negotiator of Brazil and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Environment, USA)
- Justice Damaris Vargas Vasquez (Supreme Court, Costa Rica)
- Justice Luis Fernando Cabral Barreto Junior (Prosecutor, State of Maranhão, Brazil)
- Justice Antônio Herman Benjamin (National High Court of Brazil – STJ, Chair, Judges and Prosecutors Subprocess, Brazil)
- Minister Reinaldo Salgado (Coordinator, 8th World Water Forum Judges and Prosecutors Subprocess, Brazil)
- Minister Izabella Teixeira (Minister of the Environment, 2010-2016, Brazil)
- Minister Marco Aurélio Bellizze (National High Court of Brazil – STJ)
- Minister Joel Netto de Souza (National High Court of Brazil – STJ)
- Justice Marco Aurélio Bellizze (National High Court of Brazil – STJ)

The event is divided into two parts: first, during the morning, at the Museum of Tomorrow (participation limited to invited specialists); and second, in the afternoon, at the National High Court of Brazil – STJ. The event will be open to the public.

The aim of the colloquium is to promote the work of the “Subprocess of Judges and Prosecutors” at the 8th World Water Forum, the cross-cutting SDG 16, which calls on States to promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies.

Among the key questions for debate at the Colloquium are accessibility to water and sanitation for all, the role of the judiciary and prosecutors in implementing water law, public participation and access to justice, the protection of the environment, and the role of the judiciary and prosecutors in implementing water law.

The colloquium is intended to promote the work of the “Subprocess of Judges and Prosecutors” at the 8th World Water Forum, the cross-cutting SDG 16, which calls on States to promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies for sustainable development, to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and to ensure sustainable cities and communities.

The colloquium will be a forum for the presentation of concrete case studies, experiences, and proposals for future regulations, policies, and advances in water law.