



Misión Permanente de la República Dominicana ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas,  
la Organización Mundial del Comercio y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra

## Closing Remarks

### Questions and Answers about the Water Convention: Opportunities for Latin America and the Caribbean?

**December 7, 2021**

Dear colleagues:

As we have been able to appreciate during this presentation, a positive outcome may result from the construction of a transnational institutional framework, oriented towards the promotion of concertation and cooperation between countries that share water resources, with a real impact on both the countries involved and the riverside communities, as well as on the environment, their ecosystems and their Biodiversity. It is also essential for building resilient communities, able to more effectively face climate change consequences.

Concerning the projects aiming to a sustainable exploitation of these resources, these mechanisms may favor the prevalence of technical and scientific criteria, required for the promotion of a truly sustainable development.

In this sense, we take note of how the incorporation of the riverside communities into the decision making and the implementation processes, contributes to a collective mobilization and their awareness of these neighboring communities on the importance of contributing to an environmentally rational use of the water, without negatively affecting the ecological continuity of the rivers and, and though contributing to the effective preservation of fluvial ecosystems and their biological diversity, respecting the fragile balances of the habitats of these species.

In that order, open debate and broad socialization of project proposals enable a dialogue beyond community circles, strengthening cross-border dynamics and peaceful coexistence between peoples who share the same border, generating





Misión Permanente de la República Dominicana ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas,  
la Organización Mundial del Comercio y otras Organizaciones Internacionales en Ginebra

important synergies that are reflected in the benefits derived from the rational exploitation of water resources and the establishment of other paradigmatic dynamics of coexistence in these shared areas, characterized by their diversity and interculturality.

Dear colleagues, we sincerely hope that today's activity has allowed you to better understand the experience of other countries in the use of an instrument that contributes to their decision-making concerning the use and exploitation of water resources,.

Regardless of whether our countries eventually decide to opt to adhere to this instrument or whether they favor the generation and adoption of a new instrument exclusively by and for the region, we hope that a better knowledge of this convention will enrich decision-making in this regard, and nourish the exchange of ideas on the available solutions, the suitable mechanisms and the right times for their implementation.

The most important thing, it seems to us, is that these policy formulation processes incorporate a holistic vision, capable of articulating solutions that take into account the integrity of the basins and their necessary ecological continuity, when implementing future projects and adapting those existing, in order to minimize their environmental impact.

Finally, on behalf of GRULAC, the Mission of the Dominican Republic will like to thank the Secretariat of the Water Convention for their collaborative attitude and for her interest in sharing these experiences that will undoubtedly provide an important reference point in the regional dialogue that we hope to inspire, in the search for a proper mechanism to face this challenge.

Good afternoon!

