



# The 2018 Brasília Declaration of Judges on Water Justice

**Official Virtual Side Event**  
 Saturday 18 March 2023 - 7:00am-9:45am (EST)  
*Simultaneous Translation available in English, French, and Spanish*



## ORGANIZING PARTNERS

The Global Judicial Institute on the Environment – GJIE in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, International Association of Judges – IAJ, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law – WCEL, UNEP Law Division and International Council of Environmental Law – ICEL

## OVERVIEW

This Side Event, featuring diplomats, legal scholars, and Supreme Court justices from around the world, will discuss the contents and implications of the 2018 Brasília Declaration of Judges on Water Justice, a main product of the 8th World Water Forum. The Declaration is the result of many months of discussion and cooperation among Supreme Court Justices and senior judges from over 50 countries. Although it is not a negotiated document, it has already been cited by several Supreme Courts in major water cases. It addresses key issues of water law and justice, particularly in light of the pollution, biodiversity and climate crises. The Declaration organizes in ten principles the most relevant legal aspects of water from an environmental and human rights perspective. It is one of the most powerful specific legal contributions toward a roadmap for the implementation of SDG 6 and other related provisions.

## PROGRAM

In the first High-Level Panel of the program, experts, diplomats, and legal scholars will analyze the Declaration. In the second High-Level Panel, Supreme Court Justices will review the key points in the Declaration from the perspective of their regions.



### 7:00-7:35 Opening

- Antonio Herman Benjamin**  
 (Justice, National High Court of Brazil – STJ; President, Global Judicial Institute on the Environment)
- José Igreja Matos**  
 (Chief Justice, Court of Appeal of Porto, Portugal; President, International Association of Judges – IAJ-UIM)
- Ambassador João Genésio de Almeida Filho**  
 (Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations in New York)
- Christina Voigt**  
 (Chair, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law; Professor, Public and International Law, University of Oslo)
- Patricia Kameri-Mbote**  
 (Director, UNEP Law Division)
- Nicholas Robinson**  
 (Professor, Pace Law School; Chair Emeritus, IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law – WCEL; Governor, International Council of Environmental Law)

### 7:35-7:40 Introduction

- Denise Antolini**  
 (Professor, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i; Side Event Academic Co-Coordinator)

### 7:40-8:30 First High-Level Panel THE DRAFTING PROCESS OF THE 2018 BRASÍLIA DECLARATION OF JUDGES ON WATER JUSTICE

- Chair:  
**Damaris Vargas Vasquez**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Costa Rica)
- Co-Chair:  
**Maria Filomena Singh**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Philippines)
- Speakers:  
**Antonio Herman Benjamin**  
 (Justice, National High Court of Brazil – STJ; President, Global Judicial Institute on the Environment)
- Nicholas Bryner**  
 (Professor, School of Law, Louisiana State University; Side Event Academic Co-Coordinator)
- Arnold Kreilhuber**  
 (Deputy Director, UNEP Law Division)
- Scott Fulton**  
 (President Emeritus, Environmental Law Institute)
- Rhiannon Tereari'i Chandler-Īao**  
 (Post-JD Research & Teaching Fellow, Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law, William S. Richardson School of Law)

### 8:30-9:20 Second High-Level Panel THE 2018 BRASÍLIA DECLARATION OF JUDGES ON WATER JUSTICE: AN OVERVIEW BY SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

- Chair:  
**Sapana Pradhan Malla**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Nepal; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Speakers:  
**Ricardo Lorenzetti**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Argentina; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Syed Mansoor Ali Shah**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Pakistan; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Nambitha Dambuza**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of South Africa; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Alfredo Gutierrez**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Mexico; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Fabien Raynaud**  
 (Justice, Conseil d'État, France; Member of the GJIE Board)
- Christian Whata**  
 (Justice, High Court of New Zealand and Member of the New Zealand Law Commission)
- Keith Lindblom**  
 (Lord Justice, Court of Appeal of England and Wales; Member of the GJIE Board)

### 9:20-9:40 Closing Keynote Address

- Chair:  
**Justice Andromache Karakatsanis**  
 (Justice, Supreme Court of Canada)
- Speakers:  
**Justice Norma Norma Piña**  
 (Chief Justice of Mexico)
- Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago**  
 (Secretary of Climate, Environment and Energy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil)

### 9:40-9:50 Side Event Outcomes

- Denise Antolini**  
 (Professor, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai'i)

### 9:50-10:00 Closing Remarks

- Ayman Cherkaoui**  
 (Deputy Chair WCEL; Director - Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training)
- Montserrat Abad Castelos**  
 (Professor of Public International Law, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; Vice Chancellor, International Council of Environmental Law)
- Antonio Herman Benjamin**  
 (Justice, National High Court of Brazil – STJ; President, Global Judicial on the Environment)



## REGISTRATION COMING SOON

UN Water Web site:  
<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>

Side Event web site:  
<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023/events/side>

Webinar Registration Link: \_\_\_\_\_ [WCEL]

Website for additional information:  
<https://www.iucn.org/our-union/commissions/world-commission-environmental-law>

### Internal Timetable for Partners, Speakers:

UTC-time	New York	Brasília	New Orleans	Honolulu	Oslo	Nairobi	Casablanca	Madrid
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 11:00:00	Sat 7:00 am *	Sat 8:00 am	Sat 6:00 am *	Sat 1:00 am	Sat 12:00 noon	Sat 2:00 pm	Sat 12:00 noon *	Sat 12:00 noon
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 12:00:00	Sat 8:00 am *	Sat 9:00 am	Sat 7:00 am *	Sat 2:00 am	Sat 1:00 pm	Sat 3:00 pm	Sat 1:00 pm *	Sat 1:00 pm
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 13:00:00	Sat 9:00 am *	Sat 10:00 am	Sat 8:00 am *	Sat 3:00 am	Sat 2:00 pm	Sat 4:00 pm	Sat 2:00 pm *	Sat 2:00 pm
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 14:00:00	Sat 10:00 am *	Sat 11:00 am	Sat 9:00 am *	Sat 4:00 am	Sat 3:00 pm	Sat 5:00 pm	Sat 3:00 pm *	Sat 3:00 pm
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 15:00:00	Sat 11:00 am *	Sat 12:00 noon	Sat 10:00 am *	Sat 5:00 am	Sat 4:00 pm	Sat 6:00 pm	Sat 4:00 pm *	Sat 4:00 pm
Saturday, March 18, 2023 at 16:00:00	Sat 12:00 noon *	Sat 1:00 pm	Sat 11:00 am *	Sat 6:00 am	Sat 5:00 pm	Sat 7:00 pm	Sat 5:00 pm *	Sat 5:00 pm