Session n°43378
Cooperation on Nature-based Solutions for Adaptation in the basins of lakes, rivers and aquifers
Monday 6th September 2021, 14:00 - 15:30
Hall 8 – Room 7 Cévennes
Simultaneous interpretation: ENG/ FRENCH/SPANISH
**Session description**

Climate change primarily affects water with unpredictable rainfall patterns, aquatic ecosystems degradation, altered river flows, sea level rise-induced salinization of coastal groundwater, more frequent and intense floods and droughts. Water-related disasters represent about 90% of all natural disasters.

Ecosystem-based Adaptation addresses this issue with Nature-based Solutions (NbS). It uses biodiversity and ecosystem services to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change. As water flows and doesn't stop at borders, this approach should be implemented through cooperation at the scale of (transboundary) basins.

Through case studies from around the world, the audience will be invited to question conventional climate change solutions and the associated risks of maladaptation, to explore the range of “no-regret” Nature-based Solutions mobilized and the interest to carry out this approach across borders at the scale of the basins of lakes, rivers and aquifers.

**Draft session program**

14h00: Introduction by IUCN - ROWA (5 min)
- Mr. Ali Hayajneh, Programme Manager "Water and Climate Change", IUCN Regional Office for West Asia

14h05: Keynote speaker (10 min):
- Mr. Robert Y. Dessouassi, Executive Director, Volta Basin Authority

14h15: Poll + questions & answers (10 min):

14h25: Panel (40 min)

Panelists:
- Mr. Thierry-Emmanuel Ratovoniana, Technical Director General, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Madagascar
- Mrs. Marie-Christine Huau, Chief Strategy officer for Climate & Water, Veolia
- Dr. Marwan Al Raggad, Executive Director- Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Development and Management
- Dr. Maha Al Zu’bi, Researcher on Agriculture Water Solutions, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

15h05: Questions & answers (20 min)

15h25: Conclusion (5 min)
- Mr. Eric Tardieu, Secretary General, International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)