

## CONCEPT NOTE

### MEETING OF ELECTED OFFICIALS AND PARTNERS OF THE CONFERENCE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE 8TH WORLD WATER FORUM (BRASILIA, MARCH 2018)

#### Background

Every three years, the World Water Council co-organizes the World Water Forum with a host city and country. The 8th edition of the World Water Forum will take place in Brasilia (Brazil), from 18 to 23 March 2018. Organized in the framework of the 8th World Water Forum and held under the title of "Sharing Water", the International Conference of Local and Regional Authorities on Water is dedicated to water management issues and the challenges faced by local and regional governments.

The Conference is specially designed for mayors, governors, municipal officials, urban planners, operators and international organizations who are committed to sustainable water management.

The Conference aims to:

- Increase international mobilization of local and regional authorities for water and sanitation while advocating for more subsidiarity, with means and tools, to achieve their missions;
- Provide local and regional authorities with opportunities to exchange with each other, and with other political actors, such as ministers, parliamentarians, judges, water experts and other stakeholders, to identify and develop concrete solutions to address the challenges they face;
- Help cities and regions understand and contribute to the implementation of the water aspects of numerous international agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

In order to strengthen the Local and Regional Authorities (LRA) Conference and its preparatory process, the following organizations decided to enter into a partnership: The United Nations Settlements Programme through its Global Water Operators Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA/UN-Habitat), Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the Secretariat for Federative Affairs (SAF) of the Presidency of the Federative Republic of Brazil, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Confederação Nacional de Municípios (CNM) and the World Water Council (WWC).

#### Objective of the meeting of Hangzhou

It will help to prepare inputs and to:

- Become aware of the process and modalities of the Conference of Local and Regional Authorities at the 8th World Water Forum in Brasilia in March 2018;
- Validate and propose themes to be addressed at the Conference;
- Validate the political document of the Conference;
- Mobilize local and regional leaders to attend the Conference.