

**Background Note**  
**Special Event of the Economic and Financial Committee of the United Nations General Assembly: “Enhancing governance on water”**

Water issues are a pivotal factor in any of the key development efforts – from achieving food security and sustainable development, adapting to climate change, ensuring basic education, reducing child mortality, empowering women – the list can be continued ad infinitum. Evidence shows that water is in all of these areas a crucial feature of success. Therefore equitable, efficient and ecological sound management of water resources has been addressed as a key factor by the international community, local communities and other actors alike.

As experience by many governments illustrates, it is not enough to create a Ministry of Water

1. How can the institutional architecture around water issues be made more effective at the international level? What role do different actors play: the governments, the private