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Energy is essential for the extraction, treatment and distribution of water. And water is indispensable for the production, distribution and use of energy. Integrated approaches to energy and water solutions are therefore crucial if we are to achieve both goals.

That is why the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Itaipu Binacional jointly launched the “Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network” in December 2018.

This multi-stakeholder Network is a global platform for all stakeholders – to design and implement the integrated approach to SDG 6 and SDG 7 – in support of all SDGs and global climate objectives.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, I am pleased to launch the Global Knowledge Platform on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions.

This on-line platform will provide a valuable mechanism. Users will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences related to sustainable water and energy solutions. It is designed to enhance sharing of data, analysis, tools and best practices. Users will also have the opportunity to discuss innovative technological options to enhance resilient and sustainable recovery from COVID-19.

Moreover, forthcoming UN conferences will provide major opportunities to enhance integrated approaches. These include:

- the High-level Dialogue on Energy,
- the Global Sustainable Transport Conference,
- the UN Ocean Conference,
- the Food Systems Summit, and
- the Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Indeed, as a global hub on integrated water and energy solutions, the Knowledge Platform can be a valuable resource for such global gatherings.

Excellencies,

The current crisis is an unprecedented wake-up call.