

Special Rapporteur  
on the human rights  
to safe drinking water  
and sanitation  
Pedro Arrojo-Agudo



Newsletter

May 2021

Sneak preview:

## HRC report on planning and vision

### PLANNING AND VISION, 2020-2023

Sneak peak of the report to the human rights council by the Special Rapporteur on the Human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, Pedro Arrojo-Agudo

During the month of May (and previous months), I have been working on my first report on the vision and planning for the first three years of my mandate from 2020 to 2023. I will present the report to the September session of the Human Rights Council.

Since I started my role as the Special Rapporteur, I tried to speak to as many people as I can. I held several listening exercises to inform my report on planning.

- [Dec consultations](#)
- [Bilateral meetings](#)
- [Open Dialogue](#)
- [Call for input](#)

#### PREPARATION



DECEMBER CONSULTATIONS

BILATERAL MEETINGS

OPEN DIALOGUE EVERY WEDNESDAY

CALL FOR INPUT

#### THE GLOBAL WATER CRISIS

##### STRUCTURAL FLAWS



Unsustainability



Poverty

##### AGGRAVATING FACTORS



Climate  
change



Covid-19



Degrading  
democratic  
governance

In the report, I address the root causes of Global Water Crisis which lie at the confluence of two major structural flaws in our development model: the flaw of unsustainability and the flaw of poverty, inequality and discrimination. Furthermore, I discuss three factors that aggravate and deepen this global crisis.

Building on the first two mandate-holders, my aim is to clarify the close link between the realization of the human rights to drinking water and sanitation and the recovery of the good state of aquatic ecosystems and also to clarify how to promote democratic water governance under a human rights approach in different contexts.

## HISTORICAL PRIORITIES OF THE MANDATE



Save the date:

## Upcoming Activities

I am convening three public consultations to discuss with everyone on my report to the UN General Assembly.

Registration is now open:

- 14 June 4-6 p.m. CEST [English](#)
- 15 June 4-6 p.m. CEST [Spanish](#)
- 17 June 10-12 p.m. CEST [French](#)

**#COMMODIFICATION  
#FINANCIALIZATION  
#HUMANRIGHTS  
#WASH**

Report to #UNGA76  
by Special Rapporteur on the  
human rights to safe drinking  
water and sanitation,  
Mr. Pedro Arrojo

**PUBLIC  
CONSULTATION**  
14 June 4-6PM CEST (English)  
15 June 4-6PM CEST (Spanish)  
17 June 10-12PM CEST (French)

**#COMMODIFICATION  
#FINANCIALIZATION  
#HUMANRIGHTS  
#WASH**

Risks and impacts on the  
human rights to safe drinking  
water and sanitation derived  
from the commodification and  
financialization of water

**ONLINE  
PRE-DISCUSSION**  
27 May 2021 - June 2021

Before the public consultations, I invite everyone to participate and share their views in a pre-discussion.

See my 10 questions for the [pre-discussions](#).

May 2021

## Activities of the Month

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Newsletter

[April Newsletter](#)

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# Who's who in WASH?

PARTNERING WITH ORGANIZATIONS WORKING ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION



Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation  
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Forward to [New report](#) by UNICEF and WHO – ‘Affordability of WASH must be defined and tracked if 2030 Global Goals are to be met’

**Who's Who in WASH? Partnering with international and regional organizations**

[See](#) two-pager summaries introduce salient work of these organizations and the way forward for collaboration

**1 May 2021**

[Thirst for Justice & Global water Crisis](#)

**25 May 2021**

Valuing Water: The United Nations World Water Development Report 2021

**28 May 2021**

[EN FINIR AVEC LA VISION ÉCONOMIQUE DE L'EAU](#)



28 May 2021

[Video message](#) on Menstrual Hygiene Day

Communication

## Letters to States

[Belarus \(9 March 2021\)](#) Information received regarding the interruption of the water supply to "Novaya Borovaya" district in Minsk for political reasons, as retaliation for residents' participation in anti-Government protests and activities. Response received [17 May 2021](#).

[Chile](#), [Sweden](#), and [Boliden Mineral AB](#) (23 March 2021) Information received concerning the long term and continuing exposure of residents in the city of Arica in northern Chile, to huge amounts of hazardous waste, containing toxic chemicals produced by a Swedish company called Boliden Mineral AB and deposited in vicinity of the community in 1984-1985. Response received : [Chile](#), [Boliden Mineral AB](#)

Follow the mandate!



The [website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights](#) remains the number one place to discover the mandate's past and upcoming activities.

The mandate is also present on major social media platforms [Twitter](#) and [Youtube](#) (@SRWatSan), where it actively engages with the global community on issues related to the human rights to water and sanitation.