



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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**HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WATER-RELATED GOALS AND TARGETS  
OF THE 2030 AGENDA**

**STATEMENT BY H.E. DR KATRIN EGGENBERGER  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JUSTICE AND CULTURE**

**CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY**

Mr. President,

I am honored to speak before the General Assembly today, on a topic that requires urgent action by the international community. Water is the basis for all life on earth and therefore a key factor for sustainable development. SDG 6 on “ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” is thus not only a goal for itself. But it is also closely interlinked to almost all other SDGs. I am concerned that despite our joint commitment the world is off-track to meet SDG 6 targets. Billions of people lack safely managed drinking water and sanitation. And estimates suggest that 700 million people could be displaced due to scarcity of water by 2030. With less than 10 years to implement the SDGs, this meeting should be a wakeup call for all of us to take responsibility and, more importantly, to take action.

As a country with very privileged access to high-quality drinking water, we do our share in meeting the water-related SDGs. We have been implementing a flagship project called “Waterfootprint Liechtenstein”. It was launched in 2017 and its principle is simple: “Use tap water! Donate drinking water!” Everyone in Liechtenstein can participate: With the donation of 55 Swiss Francs, one person in a developing country gets access to safe drinking water for one year. The concept of the initiative is simple. The project’s effects are far-reaching:

- Refraining from buying bottled water means reducing plastic waste and avoiding the production of greenhouse gases.
- The “Waterfootprint” raises awareness for responsible and sustainable consumption and production, and
- It increases development perspectives for countries with less safe access to clean drinking water.

I am especially proud that the State, all Municipalities and all major private companies in Liechtenstein are part of this project. Until today, about 36’000 Waterfootprints have been generated. Almost every inhabitant of Liechtenstein has provided access to safe drinking water to another person in a less developed country. In doing so, we also uphold the 2030 Agenda’s motto of leaving no one behind.

I thank you.