

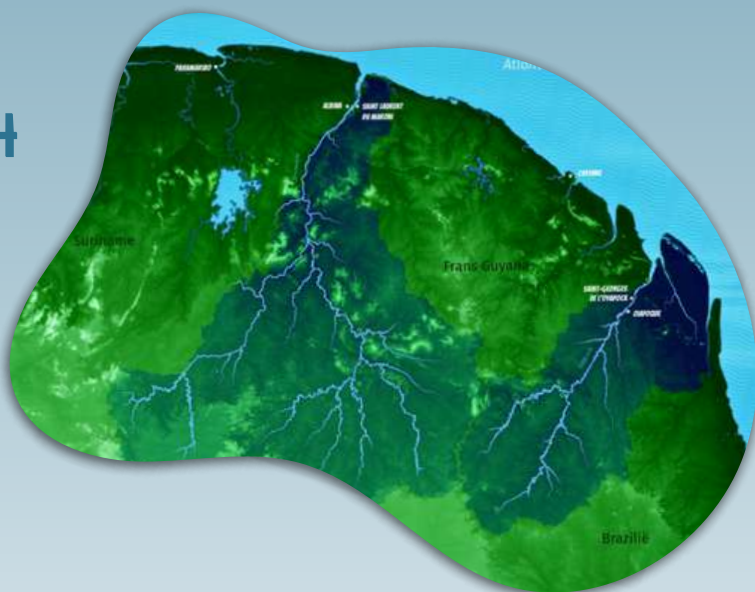
# TRANSBOUNDARY RIVER BASINS CONFERENCE IN THE GUIANAS

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



31 October - 2 November 2024

Paramaribo - Suriname



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# Water is our shield !



**Water makes us who we are.  
Everywhere, without water, there is no health, no socio-economic  
development, and no future in common.  
It is an universal and essential asset to our human societies.**

**In the Guiana Shield, water represents even more. For the populations of  
neighboring countries and territories, it is a link, a ferment of identity, a way  
of transport and communication. Water offers great opportunities to  
strengthen cooperation and dialogue.  
It is both a long-term ambition and a daily necessity.**

**To meet the challenges of 2024, water is our shield: climate change, loss of  
biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, access to essential services, agriculture,  
energy: water protects us, so let's protect it !!!!**



**Mr Nur Mohamed, Minister of Public Works, Suriname  
Mr Serville, President of Fr. Guiana Territorial Collectivity  
Mr Clécio Luis, Governor of Amapá State**



## **PROGRAM OF THE CONFERENCE**

**31 OCTOBER 2024**

**08.30 am - 5.30 pm : Technical visit**

**1 NOVEMBER 2024**

**09.00 am - 12.15 pm : Round tables**

**02.00 pm - 6.00 pm : High level Conference**

**07.30 pm - 09.00 pm : Cocktail**

**2 NOVEMBER 2024**

**09.00 am - 12.00 pm**

**Working Groups Maroni  
River Basin**

**09.00 am - 12.00 pm**

**Working Groups Oyapock  
River Basin**

## **VENUE**

**Royal Torarica**

**Kleine Water St 10, Paramaribo, Suriname**







## **30 OCTOBER 2024**

### **Arrival of delegations**

- Maroni delegation: Flight Apentina-Godoholo - Stoelmanseiland – Paramaribo
- French Guiana delegation: Bus Cayenne 8.00 AM - St-Laurent 12.00 - Paramaribo 4.00 PM
- Brazilian delegation: Flight Belem - 31.10.24 - 00.45 AM - Paramaribo 02.30 AM

## **31 OCTOBER 2024**

### **Technical visit at Prof. W. J. van Blommesteinmeer**

*Water and energy nexus is a joint preoccupation for all countries of the Guiana shield : how to produce enough energy to ensure socioeconomic development, while sustainably protecting natural resources? Case-study on hydroelectricity dam of Brokopondo, put in operation in 1964, with a surface area of approximately 1560 km<sup>2</sup> and a production capacity of 180 MW.*

- 8.00 - 8.30 am : Welcoming participants at Royal Torarica Hotel, Paramaribo (Main entrance)
- 8.30 - 10.30 am : Transport to Afobaka (4 buses 28 persons)
- 10.30 - 11.00 am : Presentation of water level and rain monitoring instrument at Brokopondo
- 11.00 - 11.30 am : Transport to Stuwdam
- 11.30 - 12.00 am : Activities at Stuwdam, water quality monitoring (WLA and OEG)
- 12.00 - 1.00 pm : Transport from Stuwdam to Ston Eiland Resort
- 1.00 - 2.00 pm : Lunch on the field
- 2.00 - 3.30 pm : Technical dialogue on water, energy and climate change (IEPA, WLA-MDS)
- 3.30 - 5.30 pm : Transport back to Paramaribo, Torarica Hotel





# **1 NOVEMBER 2024**

- 8.30 - 8.50 Reception and badges - Royal Torarica Hotel - Ball Room
- 8.50 - 9.00 Welcoming participants - Mr Nurmohamed - Minister of Public Works

## **09.00 - 10.30, *Ball Room***

### **Round table 1A - Local challenges for water resources in the Guiana shield: a socio-cultural point of view**

*This round table will focus on human challenges faced by populations in relation to water resources in the Guiana Shield. The sequence will bring together representatives of Amerindians and Maroon populations, and will allow a discussion on essential services (health, drinking water supply, sanitation, waste management) and priorities from the point of view of communities. It will also put emphasis on the perspective of national parks for sustainable management of natural resources, in accordance with expectations of local populations.*

- 9.00 - Mr Lesina - Ndyuka Head Captain - Suriname
- 9.10 - Mrs Jeanjacque - Extraordinary Secretary of Indigenous People of Amapá (SEPI)
- 9.20 - Mr Van Der Pijl and Mr Apouyou - Grand Customary Council - French Guiana (GCC)
- 9.30 - Mrs Soekhoe - Head of Planning and Research - Suriname Water Company (SWM)
- 9.40 - Mr Cambou - Chief of Department Natural and Cultural Heritage - Fr. Guiana Amazonian National Park (PAG)
- 9.50 - Mrs Colares - Head of Amapá Central - Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity (ICMBio)
- 10.00 - Questions and answers
- 10.20 - Conclusion

**Moderation and conclusion:**

**Mr Deie - Mayor of Papaïchton, President of Fr. Guyana Amazonian Park (PAG)**





**09.00 - 10.30, Banquet Hall Room**

## **Round table 1B - Climate change, aquatic biodiversity and water resources in the Guiana Shield: road to COP 30**

*In the context of the preparation of the Conference of the Parties n°30 (COP 30) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), that will take place in Belém, in 10-21 November 2025, this round table will address joint challenges of the Guiana Shield in terms of :*

- mitigation (reduction of emission, fight against deforestation, green and blue carbon)*
- adaptation (frequency and intensity of extreme events like floods and droughts ; impacts on ecosystem services and biodiversity, nature based solutions and no-regret measures).*

*Participants, from institutions and universities will adopt a long-term approach and a regional point of view.*

- 9.00 - Mr Bhaggoe - Sub-director of Innovation - Ministry of Public Works, Suriname**
- 9.10 - Mr Kardec - Amapá Institute for Scientific and Technological Research (IEPA)**
- 9.20 - Mr Marras - Head of Hydrology - General Directorate of Territory and Sea (DGTM)**
- 9.30 - Mr Radjindredath - Policy Advisor - Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Suriname (ROM)**
- 9.40 - Mrs Paulino - Rector - University of Amapá State (UEAP)**
- 9.50 - Questions and answers**
- 10.20 - Conclusion**

**Moderation and conclusion:**

**Mr Penafort, Amapá State Secretary of External Relations (SECRICOMEX)**



**10.30 - 10.45**  
**Coffee break**



## **10.45 - 12.15, Banquet Hall Room**

### **Round table 2A - Territorial development, bioeconomy and aquatic environments: a new model?**

*Water resources and aquatic biodiversity are at the same time crucial assets and potential victims of economic pressures in the river basins of the Guiana shield, with increasing pollution in water bodies. Example of illegal gold mining, among others, call for a better regional coordination. With local authorities and institutions, this round table will discuss the existing pressures, options and experiences to define a sustainable path to economic development, according to singularities of the region (existence of strategic natural resources, limited accessibility and transport, reduced market internal demand for local production in each country, lack of alternatives at local level, high biodiversity and environmental richness requesting). Speakers will also exchange on nature-based solutions, bio-economy and regional cooperation for tackling common challenges.*

- **10.45 - Mr Lafontaine - Director - Guiana Development Innovation (GDI)**
- **10.55 - Prof. Huisden, PhD - Anton de Kom University of Suriname (AdeKUS)**
- **11.05 - Mr Bourguignon - French Development Agency (AFD)**
- **11.15 - Mr Silva - Director - President - Amapá Research Foundation (FAPEAP)**
- **11.25 - Mrs Charles - President of West Guiana Inter-municipality (CCOG)**
- **11.35 - Questions and answers**
- **12.05 - Conclusion**

**Moderation and conclusion:**

**Mr Kadosoe, Director of Research and Innovation, Ministry of Public Works, Suriname**





**10.45 - 12.15, Ball Room**

## **Round table 2B - Contributing to achievement of SDGs: experiences and recommendations**

*The BIO-PLATEAUX initiative is listed as a commitment of the Water Action Agenda, prepared in the framework of the United Nations 2023 Water Conference (22-24 Mar 2023, New York). This action pretends to contribute, at its level, to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in the Guiana shield.*

*For SDG n°6 and n°15, challenges are shared by all the territories, which requires exchanges of experience. The session will discuss the status of SDGs implementation in the region, and suggest recommendations for SDG n°6.5 ("By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate").*

- 10.45 - Mrs Bradley - Permanent Secretary for the Surinamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MBIBIS), International Business and International Cooperation
- 10.55 - Mr Tardieu, PhD - Secretary General - International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)
- 11.05 - Mrs Videira - Vice-Rector - University of Amapá State (UEAP)
- 11.15 - Mrs Pinheiro - Environment Secretariat of Amapá State (SEMA)
- 11.25 - Mrs Asadang - Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Natural Resources of Suriname (MNH)
- 11.35 - Questions and answers
- 12.05 - Conclusion

**Moderation and conclusion:**

**Mr Bernard, Head of Latin America, Africa and South-East Asia Department, International Office for Water (IoWater)**



**12.15 - 2.00**

**Lunch, Pool terrace**



**2.00 pm, *Ball Room***  
**High level Conference, plenary session**

**2.00 - 2.45 pm**  
**Opening speeches**



***Mr Riad Nurmohamed, PhD***  
***Minister of Public Works – Suriname***



***Mr Clécio Luis***  
***Governor of Amapá State – Brazil***  
***(video)***



***Mr Jean-Paul Fereira***  
***Vice -President of French Guiana Territorial Collectivity***



***Mr Nicolas de Bouillane de Lacoste***  
***Ambassador of France in Suriname and in Guyana***



***Mr Chandrikapersad Santokhi***  
***President of the Republic of Suriname***



**2.45 - 3.30 pm,**

## **Testimonies of the evolutions of water resources in the Maroni and the Oyapock river basins**

*Maroni and Oyapock river basins are firstly living places for populations. Representatives of Amerindian and Maroon communities will share their vision about the evolution the water resources, and the consequences these transformation have on the daily life.*

- **Mr Glunder - Aluku Granman - Suriname**
- **Mrs Jeanjacque - Extraordinary Secretary of Indigenous People of Amapá (SEPI)**
- **Mr Pelenapin - Wayana Head Captain - Suriname**
- **Mr Lesina - Ndyuka Head Captain - Suriname**
- **Mr Van Der Pijl and Mr Apouyou - Grand Customary Council of French Guiana (GCC)**
- **Mr Forster - Paramaca Granman - Suriname**

**3.30 - 3.45 pm**

## **Coffee Break**

**3.45 - 4.30 pm**

## **Presentation of Round table conclusions**

*Moderators of the round-tables of 1st November (Morning) will detail the most important conclusions delivered by each session, as take home messages for participants of the Conference.*

- **Mr Deie - Mayor of Papaïchton, President of Fr. Guiana Amazonian Park (PAG)**
- **Mr Penafort - Amapá State Secretary of External Relations (SECRICOMEX)**
- **Mr Sergio Kadosoe - Director of Research and Innovation, Ministry of Public Works**
- **Mr Bernard - Head of Latin America, Africa and South-East Asia Department, International Office for Water (IoWater)**

*Moderator : Mr. Tardieu, PhD - Secretary General  
International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)*



**4.30 - 5.40 pm**

## **Case-studies: examples of concrete solutions**

*Moderator : Mr. Tardieu, PhD - Secretary General  
International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)*

*The BIO-PLATEAUX Conference aims at promoting existing solutions, developed by territories, in order to tackle the shared challenges. This sequence will show some examples :*

- Principle of subsidiarity, adapted territorial solutions for drinking water and sanitation*  
**04.30 - Mr Lecante - President of French Guiana Water and Biodiversity Committee (CEB)**
- 1 million trees : experience of reforestation project in Suriname*  
**04.40 - Mr Ilahi - Senior Policy Officer - Ministry of Public Works, Suriname**
- Transboundary awareness raising with schools : water and waste in the Oyapock basin*  
**04.50 - Mrs Moraes and Mr Correa - Oiapoque municipality**
- Innovation: opportunities offered by spatial hydrology for knowledge on water resources*  
**05.00 - Mrs Gauthier and Mr Picot, National Center for Spatial Studies (CNES)**
- Natural capital of the Guiana shield: joint estimate, main challenges, pressures and potential cooperations*  
**05.10 - Mr Kelle, Executive Office Manager, World Wildlife Fund (WWF)**
- A strategy for water and sanitation in isolated areas of the Amapá State*  
**05.20 - Mr Amanajas - President - Director of Amapá Water and Sanitation Company (CAESA)**
- Proposal of a common decision support system : towards a regional Observatory?*  
**05.30 - BIO-PLATEAUX focal points (Suriname, Fr. Guiana, Brazil)**





**5.50 - 6.05 pm**

## **Sequence of signatures**

*The BIO-PLATEAUX Conference will promote concrete progress for cooperation on water resources in the Guiana Shield, based on preparatory dialogues among partners, with signature of two important documents :*

- *Administrative arrangement for the strengthening of knowledge on water resources and their uses in the Maroni watershed (France-Suriname)*
- *Joint Declaration in support of the establishment of a Regional Observatory on transboundary water resources and aquatic biodiversity of the Guiana Shield, a decision support system*

**6.05 - 6.15 pm**

## **Closing speech**

- *Mr Riad Nurmohamed - Ministry of Public Works - Suriname*

**6.30 - 7.00 pm**

## **Press Conference**

**7.30 - 9.00**

## **Cocktail reception - Torarica Pier**

*Posters about challenges of the Maroni and the Oyapock river basins*





**2 NOVEMBER 2024**

**08.30 am - 11.30 am Technical working groups : Maroni  
*Banquet Hall, Royal Torarica***

- *WG 1: « Climate change and risks (floods and droughts) »*
- *WG 2: « River pollution, water quality monitoring and aquatic biodiversity »*
- *WG3: « Essential services: water supply, sanitation, waste »*

**08.30 am - 11.30 am Technical working groups : Oyapock  
*Ball Room, Royal Torarica***

- *WG 2: « River pollution, water quality monitoring and aquatic biodiversity »*
- *WG3: « Essential services: water supply, sanitation, waste »*
- *WG 1: « Climate change and risks (floods and droughts) »*

**09.00 am - 11.00 am Customary Authorities Meeting  
*Ball Room, Royal Torarica***

- *Meeting with customary authorities of Maroni and Oyapock rivers on water resources challenges and local responses at territorial level. Participants from Suriname, Brazil and Fr.Guiana.*

