Overview
Climate change has meant that security of all countries is inextricably bound not only to their own climate security but to that of their neighbour states, requiring a shift in diplomacy in foreign policy agendas. Climate change and an increasingly deteriorating environment is resulting in far more than water scarcity, stress on food and agricultural products, rising sea levels, and floods and droughts. They are also resulting in unexpected impacts on the integrity of the borders of countries which neighbours are at risk of climate-related crises. In order to maintain this integrity, countries in the Global North will have to increase their economic and technical support, as well as humanitarian efforts, to assist the Global South to develop strategies that help them become more resilient. Failure to do so could create problems that ultimately threaten their own interests and perpetuate a chain of reactions that will affect them one way or another.

About the Speaker
Dr. Cecilia Tortajada is Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Water Policy, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore. The main focus of her work at present is impacts of global changes on water resources, environment, food, and energy. She has been an advisor to major International institutions like FAO, UNDP, JICA, ADB, OECD and IDRC, and has worked in countries in Africa, Asia, North and South America and Europe on water and environment-related policies. She is the author and editor of more than 30 books by major international publishers. Her work has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Hindi, Japanese and Spanish languages.

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The Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF)

About the APWF

The APWF is an independent non-profit multi-stakeholder network launched in September 2006. The objective is to raise the priority of tackling water security issues highlighted in the development agenda in the Asia-Pacific region in order to improve people's livelihoods and the environment.

It works collaboratively with a wide variety of water-related organizations in the region to build capacity and enhance cooperation, while boosting investment at the regional level and beyond.

Now, the APWF is planning to hold the 4th Asia-Pacific Water Summit (the 4th APWS) in Kumamoto City, Japan in near future. In the 4th APWS, high-level delegates including heads of state and government and representatives of international organizations in the Asia-Pacific region will discuss various water-related issues. (http://apwf.org/)

The APWF Webinar Series is organized as a part of the preparation for the 4th APWS. It aims to provide the government officials of the 49 countries in Asia and the Pacific with the learning opportunities about water and water-related issues highlighted from different perspectives.

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