The view of municipal sewage has shifted recently, from a waste to be treated and disposed of, to a resource that can be processed for recovery of energy and renewed supply of drinking water. As renewable energy, it can be directly used in wastewater treatment, reducing the facility’s dependency on conventional electricity. As a new source of water, it reduces the dependency on the environment. Thus, wastewater can contribute to the realization of the human rights to water and sanitation and to a healthy environment. The objective of this side event to the 27th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, entitled “Water, Energy and Human Rights,” is to promote local populations’ wastewater reuse opportunities and highlight various good practices that help realize a number of water-related human rights. The side event’s focus on wastewater reuse will enable discussion on the public legal and policy needs to secure the integrated approach to the nexus of water, energy and human rights.

AGENDA

13:00 Welcome by Mr. Jean-Benoit Charrin, Executive Director, WaterLex International
13:05 Introduction by His Excellency Mr. Roderick van Schreven, Ambassador of the Netherlands
13:15 Experience of Singapore, Mr Steven Pang, Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN
13:25 Experience of Uruguay, Her Excellency Mrs. Laura Dupuy Lasserre, Ambassador of Uruguay
13:35 Legal aspects by Dr. Dirk Hanschel, School of Law, University of Aberdeen
13:45 Environmental aspects by Ms. Barbara Ruis, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
13:55 Financial perspective by Mr. Eric Holterhues, TRIODOS Bank
14:05 Private Public Partnership, Mr. Jan van Schoonhoven, UN Economic Comm for Europe (UNECE)
14:15 Discussion and reception