János Bogárdi, Session 1

The three "P" challenge of sustainable water resources management.

The three "P"s stand for population growth (or explosion), poverty and pollution. Of course using the explanatory sub-title is added as information. It is up to the organizers whether they want to announce the presentation with both lines, or rather create a sense of curiosity and confine the announcement to the first line.

I summarize here my intended talking points (which, if needed could be used as the abstract of my presentation:

In my presentation I will refer to the status quo of a number water-related, but otherwise very general problems. Only problems which affect more or less 1 billion people each (or above) will be dealt with. I'll conclude that based on this rough overview we may state that about one third of humanity lives actually under circumstances which are not acceptable in the 21st century. This tension contributes worldwide to rural exodus, disorganized urbanisation, migration, growing vulnerability and other forms of tension. How do the SDGs address these problems? By using an analysis from the "water perspective" the recent implementation overview of the SDGs will be addressed. The global situation and recent trends of human water security (both service provision and security versus extreme occurrences within the water cycle) and the efficiency and sustainability of hitherto favored technical solutions will be touched upon. Finally, in light of the apparently accelerating climate change the biggest dilemma of contemporary water resources management "to store or not to store?" will be dealt with.