

## 18<sup>th</sup> World Lake Conference One Year to Go Pre-conference Virtual Event

In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the desire of the 18th World Lake Conference (WLC18) Organizing Committee to ensure the health and safety of conference attendees, the Committee made the difficult decision to postpone the Conference, originally scheduled to be held in Guanajuato, Mexico during 9-14 November, 2020 to a new date in November, 2021.

As a means of providing our WLC18 audience with an alternative event between the original and re-scheduled WLC18 dates, the Organizing Committee is hosting a pre-conference virtual event to be held during 9 November, 2020, with a focus on natural and manmade lake sustainability challenges and solutions. It will consist of two separate complementary sessions, each being two-and-a-half hours in duration. To accommodate participants in different time zones, one session will take place in the morning between 10:00 – 12:30 hrs and the second in the evening between 19:00 – 21:30 hrs (Mexico Central Time).

Each session will comprise a keynote address, followed by a moderator-led panel discussion on the keynote and related topics. Virtual event participants also can submit relevant questions to the panelists and keynote speakers.

The keynote speaker of the morning session is Professor Sandra Azevedo, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, who is also ILEC Scientific Committee Member. And Professor Shinjiro Sato, Soka University, Japan is the keynote speaker of the evening session. The panelists include individuals from a range of government agencies, academia, international organizations and NGOs. Prof. Walter Rast, Mr. Alejandro Juarez and Prof. Masahisa Nakamura from ILEC, will also participate as the panelists.

All interested in lake science and management challenges are invited to participate in either or both sessions if they wish.

Details and updates on both WLC18 and the virtual event program, keynote speakers and panelists, are available on the following WLC18 websites.

- WLC18 Official HP: <http://www.worldlakeconference.ugto.mx/en/index.php>
- Event Program: <http://www.worldlakeconference.ugto.mx/en/index.php/virtual/pre-conference-virtual-event-program>

### 【Event Schedule】

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|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| ◇ Morning Session | (Japan Time)          | November 10 (Tue) AM 1 : 00 - 3 : 30   |
|                   | (Mexico Central Time) | November 9 (Mon) AM 10 : 00 - 12 : 30  |
| ◇ Evening Session | (Japan Time)          | November 10 (Tue) AM 10 : 00 - 12 : 30 |
|                   | (Mexico Central Time) | November 9 (Mon) PM 7 : 00 – 9 : 30    |