## **Commendatory Speech**

In recognition of his work in raising the international prestige of the Hungarian water industry, promoting international professional cooperation and exchange of experiences, the Hungarian Water Partnership presidency appoints Dr. János Áder, former President of the Republic of Hungary, member of the UN Water and Climate Steering Board, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Blue Planet Climate Protection Foundation, as the "HONORARY AMBASSADOR" of the HUNGARIAN WATER PARTNERSHIP.

The main message of the President, that the 20th century was the century of oil, but the 21st century will be the century of water, is a guiding thought for the Hungarian water industry. The importance of water is increasing in terms of the available quantity of water resources and the ever-increasing population demands, but even more so because, in addition to quantity, the problem is increasingly the appropriate quality of water.

The previous Budapest Water World Summits, which were marked by the name of János Áder, and the recent Planet Budapest Sustainability Expos have shown that Hungary has significant international expertise in the field of water management, and that there are also many domestic companies that have achieved/are achieving significant success abroad. In the areas of the coordination of water and climate goals, the bankability and financeability of water infrastructure developments, the development of regulatory systems, and applicable technologies, accelerated drinking and wastewater solutions, recognized by the UN and developed and built by domestic experts, are now available, which can contribute to avoiding the global water crisis.

It is an honor for us that Dr. János Áder will represent the international sharing of Hungarian knowledge related to the importance and value of water as an honorary ambassador of HWP in the future.

Tata, 14 November 2024