

**DECISIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE 9TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERS' COUNCIL
ON WATER ON MAY 31ST 2014**

We, 30 Ministers and Ministers representatives responsible for water resources in Africa acting in our capacity as the Council of Ministers of the Africa Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), including Minister and Minister Representative from 2 countries under observer status, arise from the 9th General Assembly of AMCOW which held this day the May 31st 2014 in Dakar, Senegal, fully conscious that the sustainable development and use of water resources have become a key driver for rapid economic growth in Africa. We therefore call on Member States Governments to persevere in the push to have a distinct water security and sanitation goal well defined in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

We equally resolve and decide as follows:

1.0 PAN AFRICAN MONITORING AND EVALUATION REPORTING

1.1 GA/9/2014/DAKAR/1: GA commends the African Water Facility for providing new funding to AMCOW to continue with the Pan African Monitoring and Evaluation project.

1.2 GA/9/2014/DAKAR/2: GA approves the reconstitution of the Pan African Monitoring and Evaluation Steering Committee under the chairmanship of AMCOW as provided in the funding agreement. GA also approves the Project Task Force which will serve as the working group as provided in the funding agreement.

1.3 GA/9/2014/DAKAR/3: GA reaffirms EXCO decision (EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/1) urging member countries to implement the process of collecting country reports and that such reports be submitted on or before June 30th of each year to ensure that AMCOW fulfills mandated annual reporting on the implementation of the AU Sharm el Sheikh Declaration on water and sanitation.

2.0 PLEDGES MADE AT THE 2012 RWSSI/AWF PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

2.1 GA/9/2014/DAKAR/4: GA commends the government of Burkina Faso for redeeming its pledge in full, and constitutes an EXCO Standing Committee on Local Funds Mobilization consisting of the AMCOW President and the five sub regions AMCOW Vice Presidents. The Standing Committee is also work with AWF to pursue the redemption of pledges made by the Governments of Ivory Coast, Chad, Niger, and Republic of Congo, and report at the next EXCO meeting in May 2015.

2.2 **GA/9/2014/DAKAR/5:** GA directs the AMCOW Secretariat to develop the Terms of Reference and Operational Rules of the EXCO Standing Committee on Local Resources Mobilization, to be approved by the AMCOW President, in consultation with members.

2.3 **GA/9/2014/DAKAR/6:** GA accepts Nigeria's request to be removed from the list of countries that made pledges to AWF, while the country's Minister pledges to make a special request to the Government of Nigeria to consider support to the AWF.

3.0 PAYMENT OF AMCOW MEMBER COUNTRIES' CONTRIBUTION

3.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/7:** GA commends the member countries which have fully paid up or in part the country contribution; including Algeria, Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. The GA commends in particular Algeria for paying its contribution fully 10 years in advance.

3.2 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/8:** The GA urges other member countries yet to pay to kindly settle these commitments by 2016, and directs the Secretariat to set up flexible mechanisms for payment by countries, considering the date upon which a country formally joined AMCOW; further directs the EXCO Standing Committee on Local Funding Mobilization to pursue the redemption of country contribution obligations of Member States through the respective AMCOW member Ministers.

4.0 STRENGTHENING AFRICA'S WATER MANAGEMENT FUNCTION AT SUB-REGIONAL LEVEL

4.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/ 9:** GA expresses appreciation to the European Commission for its financial grant to AMCOW to facilitate the development and update of enabling frameworks for managing Africa's water resources.

4.2 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/10:** GA expresses appreciation to ECAAS for establishing a budget line for work related to the REC's collaboration with AMCOW; commends other RECs for their collaboration with AMCOW, and urges them to facilitate the implementation of AMCOW Work Program 2014 – 2016 in their respective Sub-regions.

4.3 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/11:** GA directs the Secretariat to contact the AUC regarding all officially recognized RECs.

5.0 STRENGTHENING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AMCOW AND THE AUC IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AMCOW WORK PROGRAMME AND OTHER MATTERS

5.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/12:** GA calls for the retention of AMCOW as a Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Water Security and Sanitation of the African Union in line with the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments decision in Sharm el Sheik, Egypt, to strengthen AMCOW as the key regional mechanism for the promotion of cooperation on water security and sanitation in the region, and as an instrument for coordinating and reporting on the status of the implementation of Sharm el Sheik AU Summit commitments on Water and Sanitation.

6.1 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/13: GA approves the AMCOW Work programme 2014 -2016 and calls upon Member States, partners and stakeholders to partner with AMCOW in implementing it.

7.0 GRANT TO AMCOW BY THE BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION FOR ACTIONS ON IMPROVING SANITATION AND ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN 4 CONFERENCE

7.1 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/14: GA expresses appreciation to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) for partnering with the AMCOW and working with the secretariat to support some member countries to have robust sanitation policies and other associated projects. GA directs the AMCOW secretariat to develop another proposal to scale up the project in 6 more countries across the continent.

8.0 POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND AFRICA WATER COMMUNITY CALL FOR ADOPTION OF DISTINCT WATER GOAL IN THE POST-2015 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

8.1 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/15: GA notes the significant progress made in the lobby for a distinct water goal in the post-2015 development agenda, calls on Member states Governments to persevere in the push for a post-2015 more inclusive and distinct Water Security and Sanitation goal.

9.0 AMCOW POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR MAINSTREAMING YOUTH IN THE WATER AND SANITATION SECTOR IN AFRICA

9.1 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/16: GA directs the AMCOW Secretariat to work with member states and partners to institute and strengthen mechanisms, for mobilizing resources for the implementation of the proposed projects and initiatives in close collaboration with RECs and member states.

9.2 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/17: GA urges member states to speed up the process of setting-up mechanisms for domesticating the AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Youths in the water and sanitation sector as suitable within the national operating environment, and in order to pave way for the implementation of proposed projects and initiatives

9.3 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/18: The GA commends SADC and member states that have instituted the implementation strategy for mainstreaming Youth in the sector and urges other countries to do same.

10.0 ADDRESSING JUNIOR PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICIAN LEVEL CAPACITY CHALLENGES IN THE WATER SECTOR IN AFRICA

10.1 GA/09/2014/DAKAR/19: GA endorses actions taken by the AMCOW Secretariat and NEPAD Centre of Excellence on the Human Capacity Building Programme and calls on both institutions to follow up the request for the support of the 2nd phase of the project with the General Director of Euromaid of the European Commission, and to present the implementation plan to the next EXCO meeting.

11.0 RE-AFFIRMATION OF LIBERIA PRESIDENT JOHNSON SIRLEAF AS AFRICA'S GOODWILL LIFE AMBASSADOR ON WATER AND SANITATION

- 11.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/20:** GA expresses gratitude to Her Excellency President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf for graciously accepting the request to continue in the role of Africa's Goodwill Life Ambassador for Water and Sanitation; further requests Her Excellency to use her good offices and goodwill in intensifying the lobby for a dedicated Water Security and Sanitation goal in the post-2015 development agenda.
- 11.2 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/21:** GA commends AMCOW partners especially WaterAid for supporting the Office of the Africa's Goodwill Life Ambassador for Water and Sanitation and its work programme.
- 11.3 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/22:** GA requests the Secretariat to report on the Good Will Ambassador activities, including the financial support; further directs the Secretariat to arrange for her investiture ceremony in Liberia to be done by the incoming AMCOW President.

12.0 RAISING THE PROFILE OF WATER AT COUNTRY LEVELS AND PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

- 12.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/23:** GA notes the efforts made to encourage Member States to adopt best practices needed to raise the profile of water and sanitation and mobilise sustainable funding for the water sector in respective member countries.

13.0 AMCOW 2014 – 2016 BUDGET

- 13.1 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/24:** GA notes the items not reflected in the 2013 AMCOW Financial Statement and directs the Secretariat to prepare a revised 2013 Financial Statement reflecting all cash inflows; in-kind contributions; technical assistance; partners' direct expenditure on AMCOW activities under existing partnership agreements and/or ad-hoc sponsorship arrangements. The audit report of AMCOW's accounts giving the full picture of the AMCOW's income and expenditure should be submitted for the consideration of the AMCOW Executive Committee at its 12th Ordinary Session in 2015. The standard shall be maintained for all subsequent AMCOW Financial Reports, including the 2014 Financial Statement and Audited Accounts.
- 13.2 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/25:** GA approves temporarily the 2014 – 2016 Budget of AMCOW, pending the submission within one month of the AMCOW's 2012 – 2014 financial report.
- 13.3 **GA/09/2014/DAKAR/26:** GA directs the secretariat to develop AMCOW's financial reporting system and requests the EXCO Standing Committee on Local Funds Mobilization to review the document and present for the consideration of EXCO at its next meeting.

14.0 NEW ISSUES:

14.1 1st AFRICAN WATER INTEGRITY LEARNING SUMMIT

GA/09/ 2014/DAKAR/27: The GA notes the declaration from the Water Integrity Summit and calls for the inclusion of water and sanitation integrity in AMCOW's events, the 7th World Water Forum, and the consultations on the post-2015 development agenda.

GA/09/ 2014/DAKAR/28: GA notes the need to mainstream the IWRM in national development plans at country level such that large scale commercial agriculture should have limited impacts on the land and Water resources; and directs the Secretariat to share the study with member states.

14.3 RECOGNITION OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING, WILLEM-ALEXANDER OF THE NETHERLANDS.

GA/09/ 2014/DAKAR/29: GA decides to send a congratulatory message to His Majesty the King, Willem-Alexander of The Netherlands on his ascension as King of The Netherlands and directs the Secretariat to put machinery in motion for AMCOW to honour His Royal Highness as a Distinguished Friend of AMCOW. The new AMCOW President and Vice Presidents are requested to work with the protocol office of the King of the Netherlands to implement this decision.

14.4 AMCOW COORDINATING THE AFRICAN PROCESS FOR THE 7TH WWF

GA/09/ 2014/DAKAR/30: GA accepts the proposed themes and the regional programme leading to the 7 World Water Forum.

14.5 ADOPTION OF DAKAR DECLARATION

GA/09/ 2014/DAKAR/31: GA adopts Dakar Declaration on Prioritisation of Water Security and Sanitation in the Post-2015 Development Agenda, commitment to the implementation of the AMCOW Triennial Work Programme 2014 – 2016, and reinvigorating the implementation of the Sharm el-Sheikh commitments for accelerating the achievement of water and sanitation goals in Africa.

15.0 ADOPTION OF THE GA DECISIONS

GA adopted all the above decisions and directs the Secretariat to implement accordingly.

**DECIDED IN DAKAR, SENEGAL ON MAY 31st 2014 AT THE 9TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
THE AFRICAN MINISTERS COUNCIL ON WATER (AMCOW)**

SIGNED BY



**HON. SARAH RENG-OCHEKPE
MINISTER FOR WATER RESOURCES, NIGERIA / AMCOW INTERIM PRESIDENT
(2012-2014)**



List of the GA Ministers and Ministers Representatives responsible for Water Resources in Africa including Ministers/Representatives attending in observer status

	Country	Rank	Names
1	Algeria	Representative	Mr. Rachid Taibi
2	Burundi	Minister	Hon. Jean Claude NDUWAYO
3	Burkina Faso	Minister	Prof. Mamounata BELEM OUEDRAOGO
4	Cote D' Ivoire	Minister	S.E. Mr. Mathieu Babaud DARRET
5	Gabon	Minister	S.E.M. Désiré GUEDON
6	Gambia	Minister	Hon. Minister, Hon. MASS Axi Gye
7	Libya	Minister	El Hadi Slimane HENSHIR
8	Kenya	Representative	Mr James Teko Lopoyetum
9	Mali	Minister	S.E.M. Abdoulaye Idrissa Mega
10	Madagascar	Minister	Dr Johanita Bénédicte NDAHIMANANJARA
11	Mauritania	Minister	Mr. Mohamed Salem Ould Bechir
12	Namibia	Minister	Hon. John Mutorwa
13	Niger	Minister	S.E.M. WASSALKE Boukari
14	Nigeria	Minister	Hon. Sarah Reng Ochekepe
15	Republic Central Africaine	Representative	Mr. Sylvain Guebanda
16	Republic of Congo	Representative	Mr Eugene IKOUNGA
17	Republic of Guinea	Minister	Hon. Idrissa THIAM
18	Rwanda	Minister	Hon. Francoise ISUNBEGABO
19	Sierra Leone	Minister	Hon. Momadu Maligi
20	Senegal	Minister	S.E.M Papa DIOUF
21	South Africa	Ambassador	Amb. A M Shilubane
22	South Sudan	Representative	Eng Isaac Liabwel Chadak
23	Sudan	Representative	Ambassador of Sudan in Dakar
24	Swaziland	Minister	Senator Jabulile Mashwama (Mrs)
25	Tanzania	Deputy Ambassador	Ms. Fatma M. Rajab
26	Tchad	Minister	Hon. ISSA ALI TAHER
27	Togo	Representative	Hon.Bissoune Nabagou by ..
28	Zimbabwe	Minister	Hon Minister Saviour Kasukuwere
Under Observer Status			
29	Guinea Bissau	Minister	Excellence Dr. CERTÓRIO BIOTE
30	Egypt	Representative	