

6th June 2013

OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERS' COUNCIL ON WATER ON 6th JUNE 2013 IN CAIRO, EGYPT

1. Introduction

The Executive Committee of the Africa Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) met this day the 6th June 2013 in Cairo, Egypt. The meeting was opened by the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Egypt, Dr Mohamed Bahaa el Saad acting in his capacity as AMCOW President.

2. Participation

2.1 In attendance were Executive Committee Ministers and/or their representatives from Angola, Chad, Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, and other AMCOW Ministers including the Minister for Water and Sanitation, Senegal, the Asst. Minister for Public Works, Liberia, also representing Africa's Goodwill Ambassador on Water and Sanitation, President Sirleaf Johnson, and the representative of the Minister of Water Resources, Hydraulic Development and Sanitation Agriculture and Water Resources, Burkina Faso.

2.2 Also in attendance were members of the AMCOW Technical Advisory Committee from Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea Equatorial, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, and Tunisia.

2.3 Representatives of African regional and sub-regional organizations, United Nations agencies, secretariats of various River and Lake Basins, bi-lateral and multi-lateral agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and media houses working in Africa also participated in the meeting.

3. **Opening Ceremony**

3.1 **Welcome Statement by the AMCOW Executive Secretary**

The AMCOW Executive Secretary, Mr Bai-Mas Taal welcomed the Executive Committee members and other participants to the 11th EXCO meeting. He commended the AMCOW

Ministers for their commitment to AMCOW displayed by their continued attendance to AMCOW meetings even at country expense and the avowed determination in implementing the Africa Water agenda as advanced in the Sharm el Sheikh Heads of State Declaration on water and sanitation and the Africa Water Vision 2025. He said that such display of commitment has made it possible for AMCOW to continue to galvanize the global water community to the promotion of positive actions on the issues of water resources and allied sector management in the continent.

3.2 Welcome Statement by the African Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture

The AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, HE Mrs. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, in her statement highlighted the collaboration between AMCOW and the AUC, focusing on the progress on the Sharm-el-Sheikh commitments and report to the AU Heads of State Summit. She also highlighted the components of the AU agenda which define the mission of the next generation, focuses on human resources development, agriculture, governance, peace and security, empowerment of women and youth and such other strategic priorities.

3.3 Goodwill message from AfDB

Goodwill message from the African Development Bank reiterating support for AMCOW and its work was delivered by the bank's Director of the Department of Water and Sanitation / African Water Facility, Sering Jallow. The AfDB pledged continued collaboration with AMCOW in mobilizing financial resources for the implementation of water and sanitation projects and programmes.

3.4 Opening Statement by the AMCOW President

The meeting was declared open by the AMCOW President / Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Arab Republic of Egypt, Dr Mohamed Bahaa El Din Saad highlighting the challenges Africa faces in achieving an effective management of water resources in the continent. He reiterated the continuing role being played by AMCOW as a strong platform for providing the needed political leadership, policy direction and advocacy for the water sector in Africa.

4 Mid Term Report by AMCOW President

- 4.1 The Executive Committee considered and accepted a mid-term performance report of the AMCOW President covering the period May 2012 and May 2013. The report highlighted the status of the implementation of the AMCOW Work Programme, issues concerning strengthening the relationship between AMCOW and the AUC, and high level representations made on

AMCOW's Behalf by the AMCOW President including representations at the 2012 World Water Week in Stockholm (August 2012), the 19th Meeting of the United Nations Secretary General Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation in Nairobi (November 2012), the Presidential Summit on "Innovative Funding of the Water Sector in Nigeria (February 2013), United Nations special thematic session on water and disasters held in New York (March 2013) and the bilateral meeting with the European Union Commissioner for Development in Brussels (April 2013). The report equally highlighted the outcomes of the Africa-wide water stakeholder consultations convened by AMCOW – AUC on raising the profile of water in the post 2015 development from January 29th – 30th 2013 in Monrovia and on March 1st 2013 in Tunis. The Mid-Term Report is attached as annexure 1.

5. **EXCO Deliberations**

- 5.1 Having received the mid-term report of the AMCOW President, the Ministers commended the good work and excellent achievements recorded so far in the implementation of the AMCOW Work programme and resolved to tackle various challenges identified in the report in order to build AMCOW as a stronger institution responding to the objectives and mandate of its establishment.
- 5.2 The EXCO took note of the strengthened relationship between AMCOW and the AUC Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture and the on-going efforts to streamline the status of AMCOW as a Specialized Technical Committee of the African Union on Water and Sanitation within the framework of the constitutive acts of the African Union and in line with the decisions of the AU Summit
- 5.3 The EXCO noted the reports from the Regional Economic Commissions such as ECCAS, ECOWAS, and SADC as presented at the AMCOW Technical Advisory Committee meeting preceding the EXCO meeting, and that of the outcomes of the meeting of the African Groundwater Commission Meeting held on the margins of the EXCO meeting and the on-going support from UNESCO aimed at developing the institutional frameworks for the operationalization of the commission and looked forward to considering the full report at its next meeting.
- 5.4 EXCO also noted the reports considered by the Technical Advisory Committee from AMCOW development partners on the implementation of the AMCOW Work programme. The reports were provided by the following agencies and organizations:

- African Development Bank /African Water Facility (AfDB/AWF) on Water and Sanitation Activities and Initiatives in support of AMCOW Work Plan
- SADC
- GIZ on German Government Support to AUC and AMCOW
- ANBO
- UN-Water Africa,
- Global Water Partnership (GWP) on WACDEP
- Water & Sanitation Programme (WSP) on implementation of the eThekweni declaration & AfricaSan: report from the Task force and Sub regional meeting
- European Union / African Working Group (EU/AWG) on the progress of EU Initiative on water & sanitation : on project
- WaterAid on Draft AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Youths in the Water and Sanitation in Africa and Africa Goodwill Ambassador on Water and Sanitation
- Water & Sanitation for Africa (WSA)
- CEDARE
- African Network on Water (ANEW)
- NEPAD/AMCOST on Centres of Excellence
- Pan African University Initiative
- Agricultural Water for Africa Partnership (AgWA)

5.5 EXCO particularly took note of the following financial support toward the implementation of the AMCOW Work programme:

- i. Renewed support from the German Government to AMCOW Secretariat under the BMZ Support to AUC/AMCOW to the tune of Euros 2,000,000.00 which is managed by the GIZ.
- ii. USAID funding for AMCOW Work Plan administered through FABRI DAI to the tune of USD 350,000.00.
- iii. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation new grant of USD 2,000,000.00 Support to AMCOW on Sanitation Programme: Received disbursement of USD1, 035,265.00

6 11th EXCO Decisions

EXCO Ministers having considered matters arising from the implementation of past decisions of the AMCOW Executive Committee and the 8th General Assembly and other matters brought to our attention hereby resolve and decide as follows:

6.1 **AMCOW annual reporting on the implementation of the Sharm-el-Sheikh Commitment on Water and Sanitation by AU Heads of State and Government**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/1: EXCO Ministers urge 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 fulfils mandated annual reporting on the implementation of the AU Sharm el Sheikh Declaration on water and sanitation.

6.2 **Pledges made at the 2012 RWSSI/AWF Partnership Conference**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/2: EXCO commends the governments of Australia, Burkina Faso, Italy and Switzerland for redeeming their pledges in full, and urges other countries yet to redeem their pledges to kindly honour their undertakings; also calls on more countries and development partners to consider contributing to the enhancement of the funding capacity of RWSSI and AWF.

6.3 **Payment of AMCOW Member Countries Contribution**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/3: EXCO commends the member countries which have paid fully or in part their country contributions; urges other member countries yet to pay to kindly settle these commitments and directs AMCOW Secretariat to continue to send reminders to member countries on the payment of country contributions.

6.4 **Strengthening Africa's Water Management Function at sub-regional level**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/4: EXCO endorses the host arrangements for the AMCOW Secretariat's Regional Offices and directs the Secretariat to initiate discussions, prepare and finalise host agreements with the SADC, ECOWAS, CEEAC, IGAD, and the selected North Africa sub region REC, and subsequently operationalize the Regional Offices subject to availability of funds.

6.5. **Reviewed AMCOW Governance Framework**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/5: EXCO adopts the AMCOW Governance Framework and directs the Secretariat to implement.

6.6 **Developed "Framework for Entering MoU between AMCOW and Partners"**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/6: EXCO approves the Framework for Entering MOU between AMCOW and partners and directs AMCOW Secretariat to enter into MoUs with partners which meet the criteria.

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/7: EXCO directs AMCOW Secretariat to review all existing MoUs signed previously with partners and bring them in line with the approved framework.

6.7 **8th General Assembly Decision to Renew the Term of the AMCOW Executive Secretary**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/8: EXCO notes the decision of the Council of Ministers at the 8th General Assembly renewing the contract of the AMCOW Executive Secretary for a second term of four years beginning May 2012 and directs the institution of a performance evaluation mechanism for assessing the Executive Secretary's performance annually based on the level of execution of the AMCOW Work Programme.

6.8 **Strengthening the relationship between AMCOW and the AUC / Joint AMCOW – AUC Implementation of AMCOW Work Programme and Other Matters**

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/9: EXCO directs the AMCOW Secretariat to continue consultations with AUC_DREA on formalizing the role of AMCOW within the framework of the Specialised Technical Committees of the African Union to be deliberated on at the AU Summit and report to EXCO in 2014.

EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/10: EXCO directs the AMCOW Secretariat to prepare the 2014 – 2016 triennial work programme and implementation strategy and present for the formal adoption of EXCO in 2014.

8.3 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/11: EXCO directs the AMCOW Secretariat to put into action the process of conducting a study to develop proposals for a formal collaborative mechanism between AMCOW and WSA in line with the approved framework for entering MoU with partners.

9.0 Grant to AMCOW by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Actions on Improving Sanitation and Organization of AfricaSan 4 Conference

9.1 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/12: EXCO expresses appreciation to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the grant of 2,000,000.00 USD to AMCOW for the implementation of actions on improving sanitation in the continent.

10. Post 2015 Development Goals and Africa Water Community Call for Adoption of distinct water goal in the post-2015 global development agenda

10.1 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/13: EXCO endorses the call for the setting of a distinct water goal in the post-2015 global development agenda and the proposed goal: “Ensure a water secure world for all”. Endorsing the targets adapted from the Africa Water Vision 2025 and adopted in the Africa Common Position Paper on the post 2015 development agenda, EXCO further commits to a target date of 2030 for:

- i. achieving universal access to safe water, improved sanitation and hygiene in Africa;
- ii. increasing to 40% of harvest potential, the productive use of Africa’s water resources under managed conditions; and
- iii. assuring and safeguarding water quality for all uses

11. **AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Youth in the Water and Sanitation Sector in Africa**

11.1 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/14: EXCO approves the AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Youth in the Water and Sanitation Sector in Africa and directs AMCOW Secretariat to implement the strategy by developing youth programmes as well as youth water prizes in collaboration with supporting partners, member countries and RECs.

11.2 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/15: EXCO recommends member countries Ministries responsible for Water and Sanitation to consider for domestication and implementation the AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Youth in the Water and Sanitation Sector as is suitable within the national operating environment.

11.3 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/16: EXCO commends the leading role played by partners such as Water Aid, GWP, UN-HABITAT and ANEW, and member countries in achieving this and endorses the plan to launch the Youth Policy and Strategy at an African Youth Summit on Water and Sanitation.

12.0 **Addressing Junior Professional and Technician Level Capacity Challenges in the Water Sector in Africa**

12.1 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/17: EXCO notes the growing human resources shortages to achieve water and sanitation goals in Africa and directs the Secretariat to work with the AUC and NEPAD

Centres of Excellence to develop a Human Capacity Development Programme aimed at addressing junior professional and technician level capacity challenges in the water sector.

13.0 Re-affirmation of Liberia President Sirleaf Johnson as Africa's Goodwill Life Ambassador on Water and Sanitation

13.1 EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/18: EXCO taking note of the commendable work of Liberia's President Sirleaf Johnson as water and sanitation Goodwill Ambassador, decides to re-affirm her appointment as Africa's Goodwill Life Ambassador on Water and Sanitation and directs AMCOW Secretariat to work with the Office of the Goodwill Ambassador and the implementing partners WaterAid, ANEW, UN Habitat and GWP to develop detailed work programme for the role.

14.0 Raising the Profile of Water at Country levels and Partnership for Sustainable Water Resources Management

14.1 EXCO while commending the presentations on Presidential Summit on Water held in Nigeria from February 18th – 19th 2013 and Partnership for Sustainable Water Resources Management, the South Africa Model and part of the international programme of the 2030 Water Resources Group, EXCO Ministers recommends that member countries consider adopting these models and other best practice measures to raise the profile of water at country levels with the goal of scaling up sustainable funding for the sector.

15 Conclusion

15.1 The EXCO Ministers and Representatives of Ministers individually and collectively conveyed their appreciation to the host government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the country's Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation for hosting the meeting and the warm hospitality extended to all the participants. The Ministers expressed confidence in the leadership provided by the AMCOW President and the commendable work done by him in providing focused direction for the implementation of the AMCOW work plan.

15.2 The next EXCO meeting is expected to hold before the 9th AMCOW General Assembly scheduled to hold in Dakar, Senegal in May 2014.

Report of the 11th Executive Committee Meeting of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) adopted by Ministers Present and Representatives of Ministers in Cairo, Egypt on Thursday, June 6th 2013 as Represented Below:

Executive Committee Members

1. Dr. Mohammed Bahaa el-Din Saad
Minister for Water Resources and Irrigation/ AMCOW President

2. SEM Ali Mahamat Abdoulaye
Ministere de l'Hydraulique Urbane et Rurale, Chad / AMCOW Vice President, Central African Region

3. Mr John Rao Nyaoro
Representing Prof Judy Wakhungu
Cabinet Secretary for Ministry of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Kenya / AMCOW Vice President, Eastern African Region

4. Hon. Engr. Hadi Henshir
Minister of Water Resources, Libya / AMCOW Vice President, North African Region

5. Hon. Engr. Luis Filipe Da Silva
Minister of State, Water Resources, Representing Hon. Joao Baptista Borges, Minister Energy and Water, Angola / AMCOW Vice President, Southern African Region

6. Hon. Sarah Reng Ocheke
Minister of Water Resources, Nigeria / AMCOW Vice President, West African Region

7. Hon Edna Molewa
Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs, South Africa

8. Hon. Dr. Binilith S. Mahenge
Minister for Water and Irrigation, Tanzania

9. H.E. Mohamoud Dirir Gheddi

Ambassador, Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Representing Minister of Water and Energy, Ethiopia

Observer

10. H.E. Madam Rhoda Peace Tumusiime
Africa Union Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture

Other Ministers Present

11. Hon. Oumar Gueye
Ministere de l'Hydraulique et de l'Assainissement, Senegal

12. Hon. George Yarngo
Asst. Minister for Public Works, Liberia
Representing President Sirleaf Johnson, Africa's Goodwill Ambassador on Water and Sanitation

13. Mr Konate Moussa
Representing Mme Belem Ouedrago Mameunata, Minister for Water Resources, Hydraulic Development and Sanitation, Burkina Faso

Signed

Dr Mohammed Bahaa el-Din Saad
Minister for Water Resources and Irrigation/ AMCOW President

List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Meaning
AfDB	African Development Bank
AfWA	Africa Water Association
AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
ANEW	African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation
AUC	African Union Commission
AWF	African Water Facility
CEDARE	Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe
CEEAC	Communauté Économique des États de l'Afrique Centrale
DREA	Department of Rural Economy of Agriculture
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EXCO	Executive Committee
FABRI	Further Advancing the Blue Revolution Initiative
GA	General Assembly (of AMCOW)
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
GWP	Global Water Partnership
HCD	Human Capacity Development
IGAD	Inter-gouvernemental Authority on Development
IGO	Inter-governmental Organisation
JAES	Joint Africa EU Strategy
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NFPs	National Focal Point Institutions
NPCA	NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
RLBOs	River and Lake Basin Organisations
RWSSI	The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SMCs	Sub-regional Ministerial Committees
STC	Specialised Technical Committee
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TEC	Technical Experts Committee

ToR	Terms of Reference
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WRM	Water Resources Management
WSA	Water and Sanitation Africa