

6<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**Decisions of the 11th AMCOW Executive Committee of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) on 6th June 2013 in Cairo, Egypt**

We, the Executive Committee Ministers and Ministers representatives responsible for water resources in Africa acting on behalf of the Africa Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), met this day the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in Cairo, Egypt.

We took into consideration the pivotal role of water in unleashing Africa's Development capacity and fully conscious of the potential of water resources management and development in driving the advent of the green economy in Africa, and the urgent need to address the unfinished business of the water and sanitation MDGs targets.

Having received the mid-term report of the AMCOW President, commend the good work and excellent achievements recorded so far and resolve 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.

We took note of the strengthened relationship between AMCOW and the AUC Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, and the reports from the Regional Economic Commissions and our development partners on the implementation of the AMCOW Work programme.

Having considered matters arising from the implementation of past decisions of the AMCOW Executive Committee and the 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and other matters brought to our attention hereby resolve and decide as follows:

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

1.1 **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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

2.0 **On Pledges made at the 2012 RWSSI/AWF Partnership Conference**

2.1 **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.

3. **Payment of AMCOW Member Countries Contribution**

3.1 **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.

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

4.1 **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.

## 5.0 Reviewed AMCOW Governance Framework

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

## 6.0 Developed “Framework for Entering MoU between AMCOW and Partners”

6.1. **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.

6.2. **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.

## 7.0 8<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Decision to Renew the Term of the AMCOW Executive Secretary

7.1 **EXCO/11/2013/CAIRO/8:** EXCO notes the decision of the Council of Ministers at the 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 8.0 Strengthening the relationship between AMCOW and the AUC

8.1 **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.

8.2 **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 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

***ADOPTED BY MINISTERS PRESENT AND MINISTERS REPRESENTATIVES IN CAIRO, EGYPT ON THURSADY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> 2013 AT THE 11<sup>TH</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AT THE AFRICAN MINISTERS COUNCIL ON WATER (AMCOW) 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 Ochekepe  
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**