

## **MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN GWP and GWALLIANCE**

### **1. Parties**

This document constitutes an agreement between:

- The Global Water Partnership (GWP)

And

- The Gender & Water Alliance (GWA)

This MOU sets out the basic principles and modes of collaboration guiding the association between GWALLIANCE and GWP, and it specifies the areas of activities around which the parties will collaborate.

### **2. Background**

The Global Water Partnership (GWP), established in 1996, is an international network open to all organisations involved in water resources management. GWP was created to foster Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The IWRM approach advocates a move towards a much more integrated and co-ordinated water development and management process than is currently practised. The involvement of both women and men in all aspects of water resources management is one of the four Dublin principles that define GWP's approach to IWRM. Thus, GWP is strongly committed to support and spearhead activities that can assist water sector stakeholders at all levels to make this principle central and operational in water resources management globally. Operationalisation of the gender principle of IWRM has been identified of strategic relevance to the GWP programme.

The Gender and Water Alliance (GWA), established in March 2000, is an informal network of organisations and individuals represented globally. The GWA was created to promote strategic improvements in the practise of gender mainstreaming in the water sector through a network committed and active in mainstreaming gender in their own work and that of their partners. The GWA believes that promotion of water security for both men and women is integral to the efficiency of water resource management initiatives and services. To achieve this an integrated approach is required to coordinate development and management of water, land and related resources for optimising economic and social welfare without compromising the sustainability of vital environmental systems. Optimising development implies recognising that women and men of all strata have different requirements and often unequal opportunities for domestic and productive uses of water and the use of catchment areas. Thus, the GWAlliance's work in the promotion of gender mainstreaming is carried out within the principle of integrated water resources management.

The parties concur that both can benefit from collaboration in the pursuit of their respective goals and objectives.

Brief history of the relationship (summary from project document):

- GWAlliance started during the Hague process
- Endorsed by TEC as GWP Associated Programme in 2000
- Preparatory phase from June 2001 to December 2001
- Fully operational and funded from January 2002

### **3. General principles for collaboration**

The relationship between the parties will be guided by the following general principles for collaboration:

- The GWAlliance will be a formal member / partner of GWP, and GWP will be a member of the GWAlliance.
- The parties will exchange all relevant program documents and documentation, and in general seek to keep each other informed about progress and major developments.
- The parties will inform each other about major events, invite each other and participate in each other's major events globally and regionally, when relevant.
- The parties will facilitate access to each other's network and members and seek to build linkages between the organisations at the regional, national and local level.
- The parties will actively engage in a strategic and conceptual dialogue about IWRM and gender issues.
- The parties will seek to involve each other in water and gender related activities. Further, the parties agree to participate and contribute to each others activities on gender and water when invited to do so if human and financial resources and capacity permits.
- The parties will identify specific areas for collaboration on gender aspects of IWRM and support each other in mobilising funds for these activities.

### **4. Main associated activities**

The parties will collaborate on (1) the GWAlliance associated programme "Mainstreaming Gender in IWRM", and (2) certain aspects of the GWP Comprehensive Work Programme.

The two organisations agree to meet annually to discuss the specific collaborative activities for the coming year. This meeting will take place in relation to the GWP Consultative Partners meeting or another international event as agreed between the parties. The agreement on the collaborative activities for the coming will be specified in a brief joint work plan that will form an annex to this MOU.

### *Mainstreaming Gender in IWRM*

Mainstreaming gender implies that knowledge and skills are used in a more holistic and systematic manner so that gender equity practice becomes an integral dimension of programmes and community level processes for integrated water resources management. Human and organisational resources for a systematised and holistic application of gender concepts and strategies are increasingly available. However, they lack both the critical mass and obvious entry points necessary to be pro-active in meeting the growing demand, and filling knowledge and skills gaps in this developing subject area. Emphasis should therefore be given to linkages across current disciplinary, subsectoral /organisations and grassroots organisations reflecting the specific historical, political and cultural backgrounds from which organisations dealing with gender and water have sprung.

A critical mass for meeting and developing gender mainstreaming requires more effective and professional networking and information management through an alliance of partners at all levels, and representing all sub-sectors and themes. Such an alliance makes it possible to establish a memory bank and knowledge base and facilitate the coordinated undertaking of action to enhance information and skills, mainstream their application and fill new knowledge gaps.

The GWAlliance through the associated programme activities will:

- a Collect, share and use - in electronic and hard copy version - key existing policies and practices in the water sector
- b Analyse and share key elements of success and failure in the gender mainstreaming practice of Alliance members and others, and develop new strategies
- c Develop and implement targeted advocacy on good practice of gender mainstreaming in national, regional and international fora
- d Develop and implement new, improved and tailored methodologies and tools for training and capacity building
- e Test and replicate good practice in gender mainstreaming through pilot initiatives developed by Alliance members

The parties agree that the following shall apply to the implementation of the associated programme:

- GWP will sit on GWALLIANCE Steering Committee as ex- officio member.
- GWALLIANCE will adhere to the GWP *minimum requirements for GWP Associated Programmes* (“vetting criteria”) and be subjected to on-going TEC Quality Assurance, including regular reviews / in-depth dialogue.
- The parties will aim at establishing a regional network of gender mainstreaming support building on the gender activities in the GWP regions and the global activities of the AP.

- GWAlliance will aim at integrating the services of the AP with other GWP services and link the AP to GWP's delivery mechanisms such as the GWP Forum and the Toolbox.
- GWP will market the activities and services of the AP through the GWP Forum, newsletters and brochures, meetings and other means.

#### *GWP Comprehensive Work Programme*

The GWP Comprehensive Work Programme 2001-2003 represents the mechanism by which the GWP will fulfil its mission. The focus is on the regions and countries and the programme provides the glue to stick together the plethora of GWP activities throughout the world. The work programme purpose is to help countries to apply integrated water resources management in a participatory manner as a means to provide equitable, efficient and sustainable management and use of water. The programme purpose will be achieved through four programmatic objectives:

- Establishing partnerships and mobilising political will
- Building strategic alliances for action
- Promoting good practice in IWRM
- Developing and facilitating regional actions

In relation to the GWP Comprehensive Work Programme:

- The GWAlliance will provide gender mainstreaming advice and assistance to GWP's work programme – globally and in the regions, and provide support to gender initiatives in the GWP regions.
- GWAlliance will provide case studies with experience on gender mainstreaming of various aspects of IWRM for the GWP Toolbox. Further, the GWAlliance will provide general advice on gender aspects in relation to the Toolbox.
- GWAlliance will offer strategic level advice and support to other GWP partners on gender mainstreaming, including stakeholders in countries.

### ***Annex 1 Agreed joint activities in 2002***

At the meeting attended by GWP RTAC chairs/staff and Jennifer Francis, the Executive Secretary of GWALLIANCE, on the 4<sup>th</sup> March in Kathmandu agreed to following specific actions:

#### **General strengthening of linkages and communications**

- GWALLIANCE will distribute to GWP RTAC chairs and secretariats its programme documents inclusive of budgets and operational guidelines. (to be done by end of March 2002)
- The work plans of the SC members of GWALLIANCE should be shared with GWP regional offices. GWP regional offices to be invited to make inputs to the work plans. Similarly GWP work plans to be shared and discussed with GWALLIANCE SC members in the regions.
- SC member's annual report to the GWALLIANCE SC to be copied to GWP regional offices.
- GWALLIANCE will establish linkages with GWP regions and the Women and Water Networks. GWALLIANCE will facilitate mainstreaming of gender in regional programmes. Details of this to be jointly elaborated upon by GWALLIANCE and GWP RTACs. The entry point into gender mainstreaming activities will be the GWP regional work plans.
- GWALLIANCE will contribute cases to the GWP Toolbox
- GWALLIANCE will inform its members in all GWP regions that GWALLIANCE is an Associated Programme of GWP and that they should collaborate with GWP regions in planning and implementing their respective work programme.
- GWALLIANCE will by mid March disseminate information to all RTAC chairs on the roles and responsibilities of its Steering Committee members. GWALLIANCE will also provide GWP regions with a list of their Steering Committee members to expedite the strengthening of these linkages. GWALLIANCE will provide a list of the Alliance membership in Southern Africa to GWP Southern Africa. GWALLIANCE will inform its Steering Committee members to link up with GWP regions and to elaborate their individual work plans in consultation with the regional TACs.
- GWAlliance will work with GWP to improve its GWP Forum entry, and it will regularly update the GWP Forum as an access point to the Alliance
- GWP secretariat will facilitate the inputting and dialoguing process with GWP structures and spearhead the signing of a MOU between GWP and GWAlliance. Inputting process to be completed by end of March 2002.
- GWALLIANCE plans to table the MOU and the work plans of its Steering Committee members at its SC scheduled in June.
- It was agreed that a draft MOU will be in place by 15<sup>th</sup> April and to be discussed and endorsed by relevant parties in both GWP and GWALLIANCE.

### **Specific Regional Gender Mainstreaming Initiatives for the Short Term –Immediate Actions**

- In GWP-Med, GWALLIANCE will assist the region to mainstream gender in its educational materials.
- CATAC will make an assessment of what is happening in the region with respect to gender mainstreaming and advice GWALLIANCE on the specific nature of assistance it requires. CATAC also expressed an interest in the educational materials from MedTAC. Jennifer will make these available to them when she has had her input.
- In SAMTAC, Mariela Garcia, in CINARA. is the focal point for GWALLIANCE and the regional network is already in place. Jennifer will try to attend the regional meeting “Water in the Americas in the XXI Century) to be held in Mexico City, October 2002.
- Gender is central to the work programme activities of GWP Southern Africa. GWALLIANCE will initiate and revive the plan to establish linkages with the SADC Water Sector Gender Project. All communication in this respect to be copied to GWP-SA.
- In SASTAC GWALLIANCE will Identify and establish ways of linking up with the Women and Water Network and with UNIFEM.
- In WATAC, GWALLIANCE will revive initiatives to promote linkages between GWP and Fatoumata Diallo, the GWALLIANCE SC member and for her to advice on the mainstreaming of gender in WATAC’s work programme.
- In CEE, GWALLIANCE will make a gender input into the training course run at VITUKI. GWP –CEE undertook to put gender on the agenda of its Council meeting and will feedback to Jennifer on desired inputs. Gender was said not to be an issue in CEE because of its socialist history. GWP-CEE is also interested in the educational materials from GWP-Med.

### **GWALLIANCE Inputs To Forthcoming Meetings**

#### ***African Initiative- Accra Meeting (April 2002)***

GWALLIANCE will link up with the Africa Task Force and will make suggestions/inputs regarding the nature of the gender focus at the Accra meeting.

#### ***CP Meeting In Accra (June 2002)***

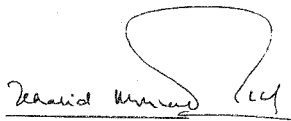
GWALLIANCE will determine its inputs to the CP Meeting in Ghana (June) after the Prep Com meeting in New York (25 March –5 April). GWALLIANCE to mobilise private funding for their participation at the CP.

#### ***Johannesburg Summit (Sept 2002)***

Gender inputs will be made via the multi-stakeholder dialogues. GWALLIANCE to advise of concrete role when more facts are known about the detailed organisation of this meeting.

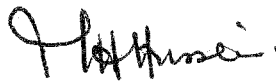
Signed

GWP



Khalid Mohtadullah  
Executive Secretary  
Date 21 May 2002

GWALLIANCE



Maliha Hussain.....  
Chairperson Steering Committee GWA  
Date 15 July 2002