

Memorandum of Understanding

between the

Global Water Partnership Organisation

and the

African Ministers' Council on Water

The Global Water Partnership and the African Ministers' Council on Water have been closely collaborating since the Pan-African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water held in Addis Ababa in December 2003. This collaboration has taken shape over the last few years through a number of initiatives including the preparation of status reports on water resources in African countries; promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management approaches to enhance the sustainable use and conservation of water for economic and social needs; and participation in forums aimed at analysing issues and opportunities to meet the Millennium Development goals (MDGs) that depend on concomitant action in the water sector.

The Global Water Partnership and the African Ministers' Council on Water perceive themselves to be complementary organisations and wish to formalise the general features and directions of this collaboration with this document.

Article 1 The Parties

1. The Global Water Partnership Organisation is an intergovernmental organisation established in 2002 by an agreement between the Governments of Sweden, Chile, Pakistan, Denmark, the Netherlands and Argentina and the World Bank, (the organisation being hereinafter referred to as "GWPO"). The GWPO acts as the Secretariat of the Global Water Partnership Network.

The mission of the Global Water Partnership (herein referred to as "GWP") is to support countries in the sustainable management of their water resources.

GWP is an international network of organisations which promotes Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) through both the creation of fora at global regional and national levels directed toward facilitating change, and the systematic creation, accumulation, and dissemination of knowledge to support the process of change. Organisations include governments, non-governmental organisations, professional institutions, universities, research facilities, community based organizations, catchment institutions, the private sector and other organisations involved in water resources management.

The broader development goals of eliminating poverty, improving social well-being and economic growth and protecting natural resources cannot be achieved if water resources are not used in an efficient and sustainable way. GWP is promoting IWRM as the key operational approach to ensure efficiency and sustainability. The mission is implemented through a number of activities undertaken at different levels (global, regional, trans-boundary, national, basin and local), which all together constitute the GWP Programme. While GWP is an inclusive network and includes partners from all parts of the world, the GWP Programme is meant to support efforts undertaken by developing countries and countries in transition in improving the management of their water resources.

Within the global network there are 14 Regional Water Partnerships, five of which operate on the African continent. These are:

- GWP-Southern Africa – established in June 2000
- GWP-Eastern Africa – November 2002
- GWP-West Africa – March 2002
- GWP-Central Africa – April 2004 and
- GWP-Mediterranean (for North African states) – February 2002

2. The **African Ministerial Council on Water** (hereinafter referred to as “**AMCOW**”), was formally launched in Abuja, Nigeria on April 30, 2002 by African Ministers responsible for water who had noted the establishment of the African Union, the launch of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) with the overall objective of encouraging new approaches to Africa's sustainable development challenges, and being aware of the challenges posed by the Millennium Declaration and the regional intergovernmental responses essential for translating the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on Water and Sanitation into reality in Africa.

The mission of AMCOW is to provide political leadership, policy direction and advocacy in the provision, use and management of water resources for sustainable social and economic development and maintenance of African ecosystems and strengthen intergovernmental cooperation to address the water and sanitation issues in Africa.

Article 2 Rationale/Purpose of the Collaboration



GWP and AMCOW are committed to the use of this agreement as a basis for cooperation in promoting better management, development and conservation of water resources in Africa; and to create synergy in the formulation and implementation of their programs in the water sector.

Article 3 Areas of Collaboration/Co-operation

The Parties will co-operate in the following areas:

Administrative

- 1) GWPO and the AMCOW will exchange information regarding their contact points at the Secretariat, regional and national level so as to facilitate better collaboration, better flow of information and to build better and more effective alliances.
- 2) AMCOW and GWP will exchange calendar information regarding each other's events at Secretariat, regional and national level so as to facilitate better coordination of activities and to promote participation of the other party
- 3) AMCOW and GWP will establish and maintain links and cross referencing between each other's websites.
- 4) AMCOW and GWP will support each others preparation and participation in international events and programs
- 5) AMCOW and GWP will support collaboration between their sub-regional and country level secretariat and networks
- 6) The two organizations will also share with each other, non-confidential information relating to water.

Programatic

- 7) GWPO and the AMCOW will exchange information on organisational strategies and programmes of Action to facilitate the identification of synergies and complementarities between the organisations and also facilitate coordination.
- 8) GWP has launched an IWRM - Toolbox- which brings together knowledge and experiences on IWRM among water professionals and policy makers, and other documents and material aimed at promoting the concept and practice of Intergrated Water Resources management (IWRM). GWP will facilitate the use of this ToolBox and where needed facilitate customized training in its use for specific target groups
- 9) Because of the AMCOW's wide network within the member countries, contributions could mainly focus on the areas of its comparative advantage, especially:
 - i. Identification, formulation and implementation of programs to improve economic and social well being through sustainable use of water

- ii. Community participation and empowerment in water resources management and
 - iii. Mainstreaming poverty, education and gender in water resource programs.
 - iv. Incorporation of IWRM into regional and national development frameworks
- 10) AMCOW and GWP will collaborate in the joint formulation and implementation of appropriate programs in cooperation with other international organisations including bilateral and multilateral donors.

Technical support

11) In addition, GWP will:

- i. Assist AMCOW through provision or access to technical IWRM information and professional support (including facilitation of requested, customized capacity building) through its global and regional network where requested;
- ii. Support AMCOW with multi-stakeholder participation through the sub-regional and country Water Partnerships made available to AMCOW for consultation on Africa-wide and regional processes;
- iii. Report on IWRM planning progress, associated reforms and the integration of IWRM into national development plans and frameworks to AMCOW (when requested)
- iv. To provide mechanisms to obtain financial support for water issues and programmes that require priority attention in Africa,

Strategic support

12) Further, AMCOW will

- i. Assist GWP activities by soliciting political support where requested and where possible;
- ii. Facilitate GWP participation in key Pan-African Development meetings (beyond the water sector alone)
- iii. Facilitate strategic programmatic linkages between GWP and AMCOW related programmes and activities, when requested

13) Both parties agree to periodically review the MoU in order to accommodate any changed circumstances.

All collaboration between GWPO and AMCOW, where inputs in the form of staff and/or financial resources are required, will be based on specific separate agreements between the Parties. Such agreements shall provide detailed information on tasks to be performed, outputs to be produced, exchange of information and financial conditions for the collaboration.

Article 4. Contact Persons/Points

A. In the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, GWPO shall be represented by:

Notices shall be addressed to:

Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)
Address: Drottninggatan 33
SE-111 51 Stockholm, Sweden
Telefax: +46 8 562 51 901
Contacts: Aly Kerdany
Telephone: +46 8 562 51 900
E-mail: gwp@gwpforum

B. In the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, AMCOW shall be represented by:

Notices shall be addressed to:

AMCOW, Bureau du Président
Ministère de l'Energie et de l'Hydraulique
BP 2120 Brazzaville, Congo

Tel. : +242 810 290
Fax : +242 815 077

Article 5. Controversies

Any controversy arising as a result of or in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled amicably between the Parties. In case that an amicable settlement cannot be reached within three months of consultations, this Memorandum of Understanding will be terminated with immediate effect if one of the Parties states so in writing to the other party.

Article 6. Duration

This Memorandum of Understanding enters into force upon signature by both Parties. It shall remain in force unless terminated earlier by a three months written notice from either party. In the event of termination, the joint activities will be completed in accordance with the specific agreements concluded between GWP and AMCOW in regard to those activities.

Article 7. Note of reservation in relation to institutional independence

Notwithstanding the above, both GWPO and AMCOW reserve the right to act independently where either institution believes it is within their best interest. Both parties reserve the right to their own legal institutional dependence and no contract by either party shall be legally binding upon the other without the explicit written approval of the responsible individuals in both organizations.

For and on behalf of
Global Water Partnership Organisation



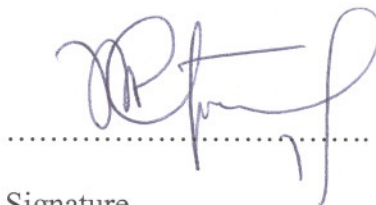
Signature

for

Mr Emilio Gabrielli
Executive Director,
Global Water Partnership

Date: *23 Nov. 07.*

For and on behalf of
AMCOW



Signature

Hon. Bruno Jean-Richard Itoua
Ministère de l'Energie et de l'Hydraulique
BP 2120
Brazzaville, Congo

Date: *23/11/07*