



Transboundary PIDA Water Program Stakeholders Workshop Speech by Dr. Kuiri F. Tjipangandjara, GWPSA Board Chairman

Date: 24-26 April 2019

Venue: Intercontinental Hotel Lusaka, Zambia

Representative of the AUDA-NEPAD, Dr Hamady Diop

Representative of the Executive Secretary of AMCOW, Dr Kanyingire

Representative of the African Development Bank, Mr Oswald Chanda

Representative of COMESA, Eng. Jean Mutabazi

Representatives of the Regional Economic Communities in Africa

Representatives of the various Basin Organizations in Africa

Representatives of the various project owners under the PIDA Water Program

Representatives of the various implementing agencies for PIDA Water Program

Representatives of cooperating partners for PIDA Water Program

Invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and a privilege for me to make a few remarks on behalf of the Global Water Partnership at this important event, ***“PIDA Water Program Stakeholders Workshop”***.

First, I would like to thank the organizers of this Event, especially the AUDA-NEPAD with support from the GIZ and the Global Water Partnership.

Invited Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you know Africa, has many challenges.

Some of the projections indicate that Africa's population will reach 1.6 billion by 2030 - which translates into a need to produce at least 50% more food; and at least a tenfold increase in water needs for energy production to support socio-economic development.

Africa would experience rapid urbanisation and industrialisation – both these entities will be associated with increased water demand.

In order to meet these demands, investments in the water sector must be made.

As you are aware, in response to these challenges, the **African Water Investment Program** (AIP) was developed with the aim to transform and to improve on the investment outlook for water security and sustainable sanitation in Africa. Further, **AIP** aims at accelerating project preparations and partnerships mobilization. This **African Water Investment Program** (AIP) was endorsed by the AMCOW, this year, 2019.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the implementation of the AIP, AUDA-NEPAD and GWP have been working together towards establishing a “PIDA Water Project”, aimed at supporting the implementation of PIDA Water Transboundary water and energy projects.

You may recall that,

- **In July 2018**, a draft document on “PIDA Water Project” was discussed in Gaborone. Many of you were in attendance.
- **In August 2018**, AUDA-NEPAD and GWP collaborated in organizing an event during the Stockholm Water Week, where PIDA Water Project was unveiled by:
 - African Union Commission (AUC)
 - AUDA-NEPAD
 - African Development Bank
 - Africa Water Facility
 - African Ministers’ Council on Water (AMCOW)
 - Global Water Partnership (GWP)
- **In November 2018**, AUDA-NEPAD and GWP Africa signed a MOU for implementing PIDA Water Project at the PIDA Week in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

Now, we are moving towards taking practical actions in accelerating the implementation of water and energy projects under the PIDA PAP I.

The Stakeholders’ Workshop that we are starting today, is a very important event. This Workshop will help to identify the challenges that we are facing in implementing various projects. The outcome from these deliberations will guide us on the actions to be taken so as to accelerate project implementation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- I would like to take this opportunity to affirm GWP's commitment to provide the necessary support in implementing the PIDA Water Program not only in this phase, but also in the next phases.
- GWP will work with all the parties in mobilizing the relevant partners, expertise and resources that are necessary for the implementation of the various projects under the PIDA Water Program.
- It is important to take note, that on Friday and Saturday, GWP Africa Program Team is having a meeting here in Lusaka, to deliberate on the Recommendations from this Workshop and on other GWP Programs on the Continent.

In conclusion, let me take a minute to emphasize on the following:

- The First element is making sure that our regional water infrastructure is climate resilient
- The Second element is to ensure that our investment is meeting more than one objective which is "water security" for the realization of Water-Energy-Food (WEF)
- The Third one is the social element. Transboundary cooperation, social benefits (including job creation) and other livelihood issues are very critical, and need to be addressed.
- The Fourth one is to bring in the private sector for investment. Such an opportunity has not been exploited, yet.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

With these few words, allow me to end my remarks with the following words, "***LETS WORK TOGETHER IN PARTNERSHIP***".

I wish you successful deliberations.

Thank you very much!