



NEWSLETTER

African Water Association (AfWA)

UNDER A MICROSCOPE

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■ THE GLOBAL WOP TO MAKE ITS OWN ASSESSMENT

The GLOBAL WOP Steering Committee will be held on August 17th 2009 in Stockholm - Sweden - in order to make an assessment of the WOP activities and its evolution throughout the world. The African Water Association will be represented

by its President Mr Mamadou DIA, Managing Director- SDE (Sénégalaise Des Eaux) and its Secretary-General, Mr Sylvain USHER.

■ STC MEETING IN OUAGADOUGOU

From last July 27th to 31st 2009, the African Water Association organised its traditional half-yearly meeting of the Scientific and Technical Council in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in the presence of the local political and administrative

authorities including the Minister in charge of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fisheries, Mr Laurent SEDEGO, who opened the sessions. As usual, this important stage in the march of the Association towards its ambitions

■ THE AfWA/AMCOW PARTNERSHIP IS BECOMING MORE AND MORE A REALITY

The Partnership between the AfWA and the AMCOW (African Ministers Council of Water) is becoming more and more a reality, and that's the least one could say at the end of the 7th Session of the AMCOW Executive Committee held from last July 27th to 31st 2009 in Abuja, Nigeria. The African Water Association which was invited to that event was represented by Dr William MUHAIRWE, the NWSC (Uganda)

Managing Director and AfWA Vice President for the Eastern Africa region. During the discussions, the two partners of the African water sector made sure they told the same story in order to reach a Cooperation Agreement with main objective of setting up a framework for the rationalisation of the African water and sanitation operators' roles in the implementation of initiatives as agreed at the strategic and political

■ THE WOP COORDINATOR LOOKING FOR A COLLABORATION WITH THE BILL GATE FOUNDATION

Dr KONE Doulaye, Group Leader at the Swiss Federal Institute (Eawag), member of the AfWA Scientific and Technical Council and Coordinator of the WOP Africa Programme, recently carried out a working visit in Seattle (USA) from July 27th to 30th 2009 on an invitation of the Bill Gate Foundation. During his visit, he held fruitful discussions with the Foundation technical and scientific managers on the management of waste water and sanitation improvement conditions in the developing countries. As the next WOP Africa Coordinator, Dr KONE presented the African Water Association to Bill Gate and his collaborators and made an assessment of the sanitation issue on the continent. He also got the opportunity to appreciate the working

quality and progress of the Bill Gate Foundation as regards the search for adequate solutions facing the issues of the re-use of waste water and sanitation by the new technologies, and discussed with his hosts on a possible collaboration between the AfWA-WOP Africa and the Foundation.

A meeting of the follow up Committee for the establishment of the African Water Academy was held outside the Scientific and Technical Council meetings in order to be informed about the statement of progress of the Consultants works. One of the issues that caught the attention of the Committee and raised interest

was marked by the organisation of an exhibition called AfWA's Day, a workshop this time dealing with the Water Safety Plans and a meeting of the Executive Board. The main theme of these AfWA meetings in Burkina Faso was: "Management and control of Non Revenue Water". The question for the participants - mainly officials and managers from organisations and utilities operating in the African drinking water and sanitation sector - was to think over partnerships and the contractualization principle and the use of the NTIC as well in the water and sanitation management. Find more details in the next issue of the AfWA News.

■ A WORKSHOP TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESERVATION OF HUMAN HEALTH

A high level workshop gathering twenty (20) AfWA member utilities and organisations' MDs and CMDs was organised on July 30th 2009 outside the second ordinary meeting of the African Water Association (AfWA) Scientific and Technical Council held from July 27th to 29th 2009. This GWOP, UN-Habitat, IWA and AfWA sponsored high level workshop dealt with "The Water Safety Plans in Africa" and aimed at raising the awareness of the continent water utilities' Managing Directors on the necessity to set up within their respective organisations a drinking water safety plan in order to contribute to the preservation of human health as mentioned by the lecturers, namely Mr Jan JANSSENS, Mrs Jean NGUBANE and Mrs Sarah TIBATEMWA.

levels. The AMCOW rightly agreed to actively participate in the AfWA Congress scheduled for Kampala in March 2010.

■ EUROPEAN FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE WATER SECTOR SMEs IN 5 AFRICAN COUNTRIES

The AfWA meetings held in Ouagadougou were an opportunity for the launching of the CDE (Enterprise Development Centre) SMEs capacity building related programmes in 5 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ghana, Kenya and Senegal) as regards the maintenance of the water supply networks and works. The CDE is a joint ACP States Group (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific) and European Union Institution within the framework of

the Cotonou Partnership Agreement. The Centre, which is an European Development Fund financed one, aims at supporting the development of the ACP private sector enterprises through a 18 months duration programme with a 900,000 Euros budget. The main members of the selected consultant team (G2C-Hydroconseil), i.e. the 5 national coordinators presented their action plan in Ouagadougou.

■ MEETING OF THE FOLLOW UP COMMITTEE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN WATER ACADEMY

and discussions was related to the options proposed by the Consultants for the operational structure of the Academy which are as follows: centralized operational structure, decentralized or mixed one. The Committee selected the decentralized operational structure with the support of capacity building and external

partners for a synergy in the actions and a better mastery of the costs. Consultants were also informed of developing the Academy's Business Plan as regards this option. The next meetings of the Academy are scheduled on October 1st and 2nd In Rabat (Morocco) in order to be informed about the final report.

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