



NEWSLETTER

African Water Association (AfWA)

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UNDER A MICROSCOPE

Stockholm Challenges

The city of Stockholm, in Sweden, was recently the point of meeting of actors of the water sector from all over the world, in the framework of the organization of the International Water Week on the theme **Accessing Water in the Framework of a Common Good**. Several important topics were reviewed by the experts present at this annual event of the International Water Institute of Sweden. The alliance took the opportunity to organize a Steering Committee meeting in which AfWA participated. Messieurs KONE Doulaye (Coordinator of WOP-Africa) and USHER Sylvain (Secretary General of AfWA) had several meetings on the fringes of the conferences with various partners, including AfDB, USAID, the Management of Rand Water. The AfWA delegation also had discussions with the Melinda and Bill Gate Foundation on future partnership activities.

PLAN FOR PROTECTION OF WATER : General Managers and officials of Africa water companies invited to appropriate the concept

Part from the issue of funding, that of security in the water sector is today of concern to many people. According to the experts, the protection of water from the sources is the beginning of a response to the risks of pollution. Hence, this phase will help to prevent and guarantee a minimum of security to all and for all. This can be achieved through the adoption of a plan for protection of water for all Water Companies worldwide. Last week, more than 50 general managers and officials of water companies in the continent were invited by IWA and WHO (World Health Organization), during a meeting held in the capital of Mozambique, to appropriate the concept through exchange of experiences in the fight

against constant risks of water pollution. The Project Manager of AfWA was invited to make a presentation of the Association and the WOP Africa to the audience. He presented a brilliant paper on the

MISSION TO LIBERIA: return of a Founding Member, LWSC.

At the request of the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC), the Marketing Officer of the Association was on a mission from 16 to 24 August 2009 to prepare a documentary advertisement on:

- the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC)
- the Water Policy in Liberia
- the return of the LWSC to the AfWA.

After so many years of suffering, it was the duty of the AfWA to react positively to this listening invitation, and to go and meet one of its Active Members to enquire about its present situation, by way of active solidarity. This was highly appreciated by the Management of the LWSC and the authorities of the Liberian Ministry of Works, one of the responsible ministries of the Water and Sewer Corporation. The AfWA wishes to thank in particular the General Manager, Mr. Hun-bu TULAY, his Deputy, Mr. Benedict MATALDA and his personal Assistant, Mr. MOMOH, for providing us with all the facilities that made us to enjoy our stay and work, without forgetting the rest of the staff. It should be recalled that before the problems experienced by Liberia, the Headquarters of the AfWA (ex. UAWS) was based in Monrovia. There is every hope that the LWSC will soon become very active in the Association, as was the case prior to the unfortunate events in Liberia. More information will be published in the next edition of AfWA News.

challenges of WOP in Africa. He also took the opportunity to promote the next AfWA Congress, scheduled to be held in Kampala, in March 2010.

At the end of the discussions, the Republics of Ethiopia, Cape Verde and Sao Tome & Principe, through their representatives to this meeting expressed their firm intention to join the Africa Water Association.

ADDRESSING THE GENDER ISSUE IN IWRM POLICIES : The PNE-CI organized a training workshop for professionals of the sector

At the initiative of the *Partenariat National de l'Eau de Côte d'Ivoire* (PNECI), an important regional training of trainers workshop to strengthen the capacities of the professionals and policy-makers of the sector was held from 27 July to 01 August 2009. Placed under the distinguished patronage of the Ivorian Minister of Family, Women and Social Affairs, Mrs.

Jeanne PEUMOND, the workshop aimed at promoting the mainstreaming of the Gender issue and approach into the development and implementation of policies on Integrated Management of Water Resources. More than 40 trainees from Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea participated in this training session, which was organized with financial and tech-

nical support from the major partners of the PNECI, namely the European Union, UNDP, SODECLI, GWA, Cap-net and Wa-net. A guided tour to management sites of improved village water supply systems marked the end of the six days of training to ensure efficient management of water resources on the African continent.

TREND OF THE

GWP/WA: the Steering Committee takes stock

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the GWP/WA, in the form of an official meeting, was held from 5 to 6 August 2009 in Banjul, Gambia, for the purpose of assessing the progress of the activities and initiatives carried out by the said structure. After the opening ceremony, marked by welcome statements, the participants heard respectively the report on implementation of the recommendations of the last meeting held in Abidjan in January 2009, the report on the governance programme in the water sector in Africa, the presentation of the financial report and the report of the Technical Committee. All these different presentations were followed by important discussions that resulted in recommendations, which will be published later. The African Water Association was represented at this meeting by its Project Manager, Mr. George ACOLOR.