

EUWI-Africa Working Group meeting

Addis Ababa- Ethiopia

Date: 21st of November 2010
 Venue: Sheraton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
 Participants: See annex 1

Welcome and introduction to the objectives of the meeting (AWG co-chairs)

Dick van Ginhoven welcomed all participants to the meeting. Special welcome was extended to Mr. Joakim Harlin (UNDP) and Mr. Per Bertilsson (SIWI) who presented the UNDP inception report for support to the AWG and AMCOW and to Piers Cross who has been invited to discuss the view of the AWG members with reference to the review of the Governance Structure of the Africa Working Group.

During this introduction session the overall objectives of the meeting were explained. AWG members were invited to engage in producing a statement for the EU-AU summit which will take place in Libya next week.

Progress reporting to date & forecast 2010

Paul van Koppen (AWG Support Group), on behalf of Dick van Ginhoven (Co- chair AWG), gave a short update on progress in implementation of the 2010 AWG work plan. The power point presentation is attached to this report.

Special attention was drawn to two ongoing studies (sanitation mapping & the implementation of the EC Code of Conduct). Both studies are well underway and a pre-view of the first results will be presented in a separate side event (AWG/SWA/UNSGAB) being organized later during Africa Water Week, on Wednesday 24th of November.

Power point presentation: "General update on progress in implementation of the AWG work plan 2010"



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AWW3.ppt

- **Feedback from the AWG members**

A question was raised about the priority the AWG promised to give to the support to the implementation of the Africa Declarations. It was explained that the unavailability of the AMCOW work plan (roadmap) was a limiting factor in providing a direct and focused support to the implementation of the regional declarations. However, participation in the AMCOW sanitation task force and the implementation of the two studies (*the Sanitation Mapping study*

and CRS guidance paper) are both good examples of support to the implementation of the eThekweni declaration.

Inception Report for UNDP support to EUWI-AWG and AMCOW, incl draft work plan 2011-2013

- **Presentation, links with AMCOW**

Power point presentation by Joakim Harlin and Per Bertilsson; the linkages to the AMCOW work plan were presented by Mr. Reginald Tekateka.



Adobe Acrobat
Document

Based on the two presentations the following points were raised and discussed:

AMCOW- AWG relationship

Since the beginning of the existence of AMCOW and AMCOW- TAC, the AWG has been a trusted partner; a partner who gives guidance. There is a new project from the EC for the support to AWG by UNDP. In their work plan, the priorities of the AMCOW work plan ('road map') will be included.

AMCOW Road map

It was explained by the Executive Secretary that the AMCOW roadmap is anticipated to be an instrument to guide the implementation of the declarations into actions and to coordinate aid from the different development partners in support to AMCOW. This AMCOW road map will serve as the guideline for anyone who approaches AMCOW. It will also allow the different partners to see where they fit in and can implement within a certain timeframe. The AMCOW work plan still needs to go to TAC and EXCO this week for final endorsement. The vision of the AMCOW Executive Secretary for the future would be that the AMCOW work plan receives political support from the European member states.

The role of the EUWI-AWG

It was clarified that the objective of the EUWI is to support the partnership between the EU and Africa. The AWG is a multi-stakeholder group of EU and Africa who work together on water and sanitation.

With reference to the Libyan summit of next week: the EU-Africa partnership is recognized within the action plan of the EU-AU and will be tasked by the EU-AU partnership to bring the water agenda further.

There was a broad agreement that the EUWI-AWG should focus on supporting AMCOW. There's however already quite some support to AMCOW by the EC. The AWG has however a special or additional component, namely to enable better policy dialogue and coordination among the EU member states. Several member states stressed this element of the AWG work. Though the EUWI-AWG mandate is clear, an interesting and good discussion evolved and helped to get more clarity on the AWG and its purpose. Yet, it also showed the existence of a broad variation in expectations of the different stakeholders. It was mentioned that the EUWI-AWG has shown to be flexible and to be able to adapt over time since it started in 2002.

As an after-thought it was also mentioned that much has happened after 2002, when the Partnership between EU and Africa was signed. The landscape in 2010 is much different compared to the one in 2002. AMCOW has also changed a lot, it's developing and growing. AMCOW is a key partner in the EUWI-AWG. The need to take these changing circumstances into account and a good debate on the role of the different institutions in the EUWI-AWG partnership was identified. It's anticipated that especially the review on the EUWI-AWG governance structure will certainly feed into this debate.

Status UNDP inception report

The contract with UNDP has not yet been signed due to some procedures in the Commission. UNDP was asked to take into consideration in the elaboration of the inception report the approved Action Fiche, the EC Monitoring Report (ROM) and the work plans for AMCOW and AWG. The main objective is to achieve an improvement in AMCOW's capacities.

The following procedure was agreed. The inception report needs to be approved by the European Commission but after endorsement and agreement of the AWG. After this AWG meeting and the Africa Water Week, this document will be amended to reflect the agreed changes then submitted to the European Commission (ultimo 30 November 2010). The minutes of the present AWG meeting -signed off by the co-chairs- will be attached to the inception report to confirm and specify the AWG adoption of the inception report. The revised inception report will be shared with all AWG members.

Added value of the UNDP support to the AWG

The fundamental questions raised were: is this a UNDP project; is this a project in support to the AWG, who is in command of this?

The following was clarified: The project concerns an agreement between the EC and UNDP and is in that sense similar to the current agreement between UNESCO-IHE and IRC. UNDP will have a secretariat function implying: i) taking over IRC's role in support to the AWG and ii) give prioritized support to AMCOW, reflected in the inception report.

In a technical sense there is a contract between the European Commission and UNDP, but the purpose is to support the AWG. It was suggested that UNDP and the EC will clarify the contractual arrangements to the AWG.

It's important to take into account the work what is already being done in support to AMCOW. The work that Germany is doing is very relevant in this perspective as they have substantial funding for their support program. It's important to assess what the AWG can add to this. We should be much more pragmatic and concentrate on the political aspect (better harmonization, coordination) that should be the core of the AWG work and have a better link to G8 and SWA and others.

It was recommended to include in the inception report a reflection on the AWG strengths as political partnership to support implementation of the AMCOW work plan. In this context it would be recommended to specify the work of AWG and see how UNDP will support this.

It was also stressed that we need to be clear that the UNDP project (through EC funding) is providing (financial) support to the AWG. Without financial resources the continuity of the AWG is at stake. The inception report should be more explicit on this.

Scope of UNDP support to EUWI-AWG

The issue discussed was around wider support for AMCOW or the narrower support to the role and activities of the AWG as a multistakeholder group. Given the limited amount of resources, and in the function of replacing IRC, there was consensus in the meeting for the narrower approach in support to the working of the AWG, thereby having in mind the work plan of AMCOW.

What is the role of this group? With the 1 million euro, we can support the AWG work. The budget is very small, however we need to be catalytic and mobilize more funding. This support is to strengthen ourselves so that we can see how we can best support AMCOW. Let us investigate what we can do concretely for next year. The AMCOW work plan is the guideline; UNDP has to come up with a sensible AWG work plan that will support AMCOW.

Implementation of activities at country level

The presentation on the inception report included capacity development activities at bi-lateral level (through UNDP offices), it was clarified that UNDP envisions using a number of networks within UNDP and SIWI in-country to support regional AMCOW processes.

Support for Regional Capacity Strengthening

In this context the importance of supporting the coordination and strengthening of the AMCOW TAC sub-regions in the fulfillment of their mandates to implement the AMCOW work plan was

emphasized. This included support for the formulation of regional strategies – including through the commission of studies – to guide implementation. The EC and GTZ are undertaking an institutional support project for the AU Commission and AMCOW. This should be taken into account in finalizing both the inception report and the work plan.

Secretariat functions to the EUWI-AWG

Over the past few years, the Secretariat function of the AWG, was taken up by the IRC. This was a substantial task and a great help to the co-chairs. Inquiries were made to UNDP in fulfilling the secretariat's role. It was clarified that UNDP/SIWI will take this role over from IRC as from the first of January 2011 onwards and with this the secretariat will move from The Hague to Stockholm.

Attention was also drawn to the coordination between the secretariat in Stockholm and in Abuja.

Translations

It was noted that the UNDP support to the AWG would necessarily need to provide for simultaneous translation of the meetings and reports in order to report to the countries. This was confirmed by the UNDP team. However it was explained that translation into French language of the inception report and other 'contractual' communication between UNDP and the EC is not foreseen.

Communications strategy

One task of the new support should be knowledge management. Without good knowledge management, the lessons from earlier experiences and results from studies and other reports will go lost. The communication strategy needs to see how to align African, EUWI and AWG communication strategies. There is very little known about the AWG by people outside AMCOW. The EUWI coordination group is planning a Communication Development Plan for ambassadors and to start a pilot to involve the European Parliament. There is an inter-group within the European Parliament.

UNDP Work plan 2011 .

It was agreed that a more detailed work plan for 2011 still needs to be elaborated. It was recommended that the EUWI-AWG work plan will specify activities to be funded by the UNDP project, including activities for which funding still needs to be ensured.

It was also recommended to consider the format of the work plan for the next years. He recommends to use a format for the AWG work plan in which the support by UNDP (through EC funding) will be made explicit.

Action Point: UNDP to revise the work plan in the general lay-out of the AWG work plan

EC support to Transboundary Waters in Africa

There is 3 million euro available for a support project on Transboundary Waters within the coming 3 years. With reference to these funds, the Action Fiche was approved at the European Commission on the level of technical approval. Two international organizations, GWP or ANBO, have been identified in the action fiche as possible implementers. Next year the contract will be signed with either one of the above organizations. Ms. Ciurea forwarded the draft ToR for the above contract to the AWG members for their comments, but she has not yet received any feedback. The project will be developed in two steps. Step one is the inception period of one year. During this phase a continent- wide status review of transboundary waters will be undertaken alongside the commencement of work to strengthen the governance and internal coordination of the African Network of Basin Organisations (ANBO). Also a steering committee will be established. The Steering committee will be given a management function. The last step will be the period of two years for implementing the actions, this will have to be specified in the inception report. This point was however not elaborated further, as it falls beyond the scope of the EUWI-AWG work plan.

Approval of inception report

In summary, the AWG endorsed the UNDP inception report subject that the revisions and clarifications discussed during this AWG meeting on this point are reflected in the final version of the inception report that will be submitted ultimo 30 November 2010. The signed minutes of this AWG meeting will be attached to the revised inception report for confirmation of this procedure.

Action Point: All AWG members are requested to send their comments on the revised inception report (that will be submitted to the EC by 30 November) within two weeks thereafter to Ghislaine Heylen, at IRC; she will consolidate the comments and send to UNDP (With cc to the EC).

Procedure: UNDP suggests to have the minutes of this meeting to be signed by the 2 co-chairs this week. The inception report will be revised and be submitted on Tuesday 30 Nov. The AWG member will be sent this revised version for comments within 2 weeks (before 15 Dec). The comments will be incorporated in the annual work plan.

Governance and management of AWG

- **Short introduction about the AWG Governance review**

Piers Cross updated the WG members on the AWG Governance Review. Mr. Cross has been appointed by DGIS (AWG co-chair) as a consultant to do the study. This review is outside the AWG work plan and will be funded directly by the Netherlands. The goal of the study is the rapid assessment of the current functioning of the AWG. This will be achieved by having interviews with key stakeholders; maybe by means of an online questionnaire. Once the information has

been gathered, an assessment and recommendations on improving the governance and management structure will be made. By the end of January the draft report will be available. The ToR for this study is set-up in a rather broad way. Piers Cross requested the AWG members to provide feedback on priorities. Mr. Cross proposed to use the opportunity of the Africa Water Week to conduct some interviews. After all comments have been gathered, Mr. Cross will make an inception report on what the best approach would be.

Statement for EU- AU Summit

- **Presentation of draft statement**

Dick van Ginhoven updated the AWG members that AMCOW will form a Task Force to draft the above statement. The EU is also welcome to provide inputs. He invited the AWG members- if they were willing and able to help- to provide some inputs. This will enable the processing the statement. Bai-Mass Taal reported that André Liebaert helped a great deal to get the topic water in the provisional statement. AMCOW would like to have a statement of the African Ministers to have them voice the priorities. This will be an output that will go to the summit in Libya. Piers Cross is also part of the Task Force.

It was however clarified that the proposed draft statement from the AWW3 should not be confused with the EU statement. This above mentioned statement which Mr. van Ginhoven is advocating for, comes from the participants of the Africa Water Week.

Words of closure by co-chairs

Reginald Tekateka thanked all the participants for the active debate. He summarized that there were some kind of agreements obtained where everyone can live with. We have all agreed that we are all stakeholders from Africa and Europe and we can send that message to our heads of state. Mr. Tekateka looks forward to further collaboration during the Africa Water Week.

Dick van Ginhoven replied that he agrees with Reginald Tekateka and that this is the beginning of a new dynamic.

Dick van Ginhoven mentioned that he wrote to his colleagues of EU member states to ask to take up the role of the AWG co-chairmanship. He added that The Netherlands had agreed upon an extension of the chairmanship with another three months. Mr. van Ginhoven urged the AWG members to call upon their Head Quarters to take up this role. The deadline for the new chair is March 2011.

Closing of the meeting at 18.20 hrs

Annex 1: Participants list

	Name	Organisation	Country
1	Adisse Amado	cso via Tearfund	Ethiopia
2	Akiça Bahri	African Water Facility	
3	Alex Simalabwi	GWP	
4	Ambroise G. Bongouande	AMCOW TAC Afrique Centrale	Congo
5	André Liebaert	European Commission	Belgium
6	Andreas Holtkothe	KFW	Germany
7	Andy Cotton	WEDC	UK
8	Anemari Ciurea	EuropeAid Co-operation Office	Belgium
9	Aurélie Vitry	GWP Stockholm	Sweden
10	Bai Mass- Taal	AMCOW Secretariat	
11	Christoph Merdes	BMZ	Germany
12	Dick van Ginhoven	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs	The Netherlands
13	Emilie Göransson	SIDA	Sweden
14	Erma Uytewaal	IRC	The Netherlands
15	Esther Ngouonimba	ANEW/ SNDE Congo	Congo
16	Franz-Josef Batz	GTZ	Germany
17	Ghislaine Heylen	IRC	The Netherlands
18	Guillemette Nzebele	Secrétaire Particulière Ministre de l'Energie et Hydraulique	Congo- Brazzaville
19	Henry Ndede	UNEP	
20	Isaac Liabwel	RWSSP	Southern-Sudan
21	Jason Oyugi	AMCOW Presidents Office	
22	Jean-Bosco Bazie	Deputy Director General of Eau Vive	
23	Joakim Harlin	UNDP	
24	John Metzger	GWP Stockholm	Sweden
25	Khaled Abuzeid	CEDARE/ North AMCOW Secretariat	
26	Lesha Witmer	Women for Water Partnership	The Netherlands
27	Mary Rusimbi	African members org.for Women for Water	Tanzania
28	Paul van Koppen	IRC	The Netherlands
29	Per Bertilsson	SIWI	Sweden
30	Piers Cross	SWA	
31	Reginald Tekateka	AMCOW Secretariat	
32	Robert Burtscher	ADA (Austrian Development Organisation)	Austria
33	Rolien Sasse	Simavi	The Netherlands
34	Sanjay Wijeskera	DFID	UK
35	Sonja Höss	KFW	Germany
36	Thomas Zipper	Hydrophil	Austria
37	Vanessa Vaessen	BGR	Germany
38	Véronique Verdeil	Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et Européennes	France
39	Winfried Zarges	GTZ	Germany