



**Proceedings of the Constitutive Meeting of the
WEST AFRICAN WATER PARTNERSHIP
Bamako, Monday
25th to Wednesdays 27th March 2002**

The meeting establishing the West Africa Water Partnership (known for short by its English acronyms GWP/WAWP) was held from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th March at Salam Hotel in Bamako on the initiative of the Global Water Partnership and at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Mali.

The meeting was placed under the efficient chairmanship of Honourable Aboubakary Coulibaly, Minister of Mines, Energy and Water of the Republic of Mali. About 60 participants took part in the meeting (the list of participants is found in annex 13):

- Water administration representatives from nine countries of the sub-region: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal.
- Representatives from regional integration organisations, ECOWAS and UEMOA, intergovernmental organisations as well as river basin organisations;
- Representatives of administrations, water sector operators, interprofessional bodies and civil society from countries of the region.
- Development Partners' representatives
- Representatives from the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Secretariat, and the West Africa Technical Advisory Committee of the Global Water Partnership (GWP/WATAC).

The agenda consisted of the following points which are also presented in the same order in the present report (the detailed programme is found in annex 1):

- opening ceremony;
- general information on the GWP and its regional and national partnerships;
- presentation of the process of establishing the Regional Water Partnership;
- presentation and discussion of the introductory report on the Regional Water Partnership;
- presentation and discussion of the Regional Water Partnership project and its statutes;
- establishment of the Steering Committee;
- discussion of the temporary phase work programme;
- presentations and briefings on current activities in the water sector.

The following speeches were delivered at the opening ceremony:

- Welcome address by Mr. Malick Alhousseini, National Director of Hydraulics of Mali, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the meeting (annex 2),
- Speech by Mr. Athanase Compaoré, Chairman of the West Africa Technical Advisory Committee of the Global Water Partnership - GWP/WATAC (annex 3);
- Message by Mme Nighisty Ghezae, Representative of the Global Water Partnership Secretariat, GWP (annex 4);
- Opening address by Mr. Aboubakary Coulibaly, Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Mali (annex 5)

The participants introduced themselves after the opening ceremony. The method of conduct of work was adopted by consensus, based on the principle of rotation of chairmanship per topic.

The presidium for the first topic was constituted as follows:

- Chairman, Mr. Malick Alhousseini, National Director of Hydraulics of Mali;
- Vice-Chairman; Mr. Grégoire Alé (GWP/WATAC);

The following were appointed as rapporteurs for the whole meeting: Messrs Youssouf Cissé, Director of CREPA-Mali, Kwame Odame-Ababio (Ghana Water Resources Commission) and Gerard Cougny (GWP Technical Committee Secretariat).

Information on GWP and its organs

Mme Nighisty Ghezae recalled the objectives and statutes of the GWP and presented the objectives and current state of the establishment of its organs as well as regional and national partnerships.

This briefing received the approval of participants and therefore did not call for further discussion.

Process of establishing the Regional Water Partnership

Mr. Grégoire Alé, member of GWP/WATAC, in charge of the establishment of the regional partnership and national partnerships, presented the process leading to the project of establishment of the West Africa Water Partnership. The idea originated from the West Africa Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Ouagadougou (3 – 5 March 1998) which received technical support from the GWP and whose recommendations included the development of cooperation between the GWP and the West-African region. Accordingly, the GWP/WATAC was set up in January 1999 and steered the support activities to the IWRM process both at the regional level and within the various countries.

The process of establishing the Regional Water Partnership was conducted in four phases:

- Phase 1: information and sensitisation of stakeholders in the region;
- Phase 2: Consultative Meeting in Lome, which received about 100 participants from 15 countries and 50 organisations within the sub-region. This meeting led to a consensus on the timeframe for creating a Regional Water Partnership as well as the establishment of an ad hoc working group.

- Phase 3: Study on the Creation of a Regional Water Partnership (drafting of terms of reference, naming of a consultant to study and examine the outcome of the working group meeting in Ouagadougou on the 14th and 15th February, 2002);
- Phase 4: Organisation and holding of the present constitutive meeting which is aimed at:
 - discussing the state of water resources management in West Africa as well as the missions, objectives, organisation and statutes of the Partnership;
 - the adoption of the organisational framework and statutes;
 - establishment of organs of the Partnership;
 - exchange of information.

Presentation of the introductory report on the Regional Water Partnership.

Mme Dagou Diop Ndaye, a consultant, presented the introductory report on the constitutive meeting of the Regional Water Partnership, which seek to answer two questions: *“Why the need for a regional water partnership?”* and *“How should the Regional Water Partnership look like?”*

As an answer to the first question, the various water resources problems West Africa encounters and the big challenges confronting the sub-region, were outlined. All these problems, challenges and constraints led the region to embark on measures towards an integrated water resources management in 1998. Since then, various initiatives have been instituted and the need has now arisen for these initiatives to be supported and federated.

With regards to the second question, the answer offered hinge on the following points:

- anchorage in the Global Water Partnership (GWP);
- reference to the West Africa water vision 2025);
- an open network of water sector stakeholders;
- objectives of promoting IWRM at the sub-regional level and within the various member countries, supporting cooperation among partners and capacity building;
- status of a non-profit making sub-regional association.

General discussion on presentation (Point 3)

In general, the participants appreciated the quality of work presented, considering the difficulty of synthesising such a complex problem into a practical document. However, certain shortcomings were identified that needed to be rectified. Specifically, certain data needed to be verified, and updated.

The proposal for the look of the Regional Water Partnership generated a very rich general discussion, which brought out the following main elements:

- a) The importance of prospective studies, notably the West African Water Vision, which indicate that the current trend of water resources degradation will worsen considerably by 2025 if nothing is done;
- b) The unavoidable role of Governments in the institutional development of water management and the absence of coordination between the actions of

Governments and other the initiatives, based on the respect for share of responsibilities between Governments and other development stakeholders ;

- c) the paramount importance of good knowledge of water resources, which is the number one requisite for ensuring its sustainable development ;
- d) the importance of having a good knowledge of the various organisations and existing programmes so as to avoid any overlaps in the actions and mandates, while on the contrary, looking for synergies and complementarities ;
- e) the fact that the proposed Regional Water Partnership comes within the framework of the Global Water Partnership, GWP, and the importance of its financing, which is the key to its success and its sustainability ;
- f) the absence of convincing arguments as to why, organisations such as the Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT) should belong to the West Africa Water Partnership as well as that of Central Africa when the latter is established.

In short, the discussions went in the direction of enriching the present document. The diversity and relevance of the views expressed are indicative of the timeliness and importance of this meeting.

Presentation of the West Africa Water Partnership and its statutes

The Presidium of the organisation was constituted as follows :

- President: Mr. Adeyemo Emmanuel (Nigeria)
- Vice President: Mr. Diallo Allahoury Amadou (GWP/WATAC)

Mr. Aboubakary Gueye, a Consultant, presented the project which emanates from the central ideas of “network” and “partnership” and guided by the following principles :

- a) membership of the Global Water Partnership;
- b) equal representation of members;
- c) a steering body of limited membership to ensure efficiency;
- d) an executive organ assisted by technical expertise.

Based on these principles, the proposed organisation chart for the Regional Water Partnership is composed of four organs with specified mandates :

- 1) The Assembly of Partners
- 2) The Steering Committee
- 3) The Executive Secretariat
- 4) The Technical Committee

Added to these four organs, without being part of the actual organs of the Partnership, is the group of financial partners, who constitute an important collaborating partner of the WAWP. The draft statutes should reflect this institutional framework.

Apart from certain shortcomings noticed in the texts, the ensuing discussions did not challenge the organisational set-up proposed for the Regional Water Partnership nor the guidelines for the mandate of the various organs. They centred mainly on the following aspects :

- Definition of certain terms used in the statutes;
- The agreement between the statutes and the context in which the Partnership is established, especially the fact that the partnership is one of the elements of the Global Water Partnership and that its official name in French and English must reflect this affiliation;
- Requirements for becoming a member or withdrawing from the partnership;
- The consultative or executive nature of the various organs, their composition and conditions to be fulfilled for its membership;
- The coincidence between the duration of elective mandates and frequency of meetings;
- Search for a balance between the representativeness, efficiency and responsibilities of the steering and executive organs;
- Compatibility between the nationality of the President and the country chosen to host the headquarters of the Partnership;

It was stressed that the statutes should not be allowed to “freeze” the Partnership and that the latter should have enough flexibility to “find its way ahead”, just as the GWP has been doing since its inception in 1996.

After thorough reading and amendment of the preamble, it was recognised that it was impossible to immediately conclude discussions on such an important theme as the statutes. In addition, an agreement was reached on the need to have the statutes read over by legal experts, regardless of the quality of the outcome of the present meeting.

The chairman summed up the situation by observing that there was no fundamental opposition to the proposed statutes. It seemed, on the contrary, that the participants of the constitutive meeting approved the statutes guidelines and that the only thing remaining was clarification of issues. After each person had made his observations either verbally or in writing, an ad-hoc committee was set up right away to amend the statutes.

It was composed of Messrs Adeyemo Emmanuel (Nigeria), Issaka Hachimou (UEMOA), Youssouf Cissé, (CREPA-Mali), Kwame Odame Ababio (Water Ressources Commission, Ghana) and Gérard Cougny (GWP – TEC Secretariat). The amended statutes are attached in annex 6.

Setting up of the Steering Committee of the Partnership

After discussions on the modalities for the establishment of the Steering Committee and the need for representativeness of its members, the Assembly of Partners set up a Steering Committee of 17 members as follows:

- two representatives of Country Water Partnerships: - Benin and Burkina Faso;
- two representatives of Partner Countries: - Ghana and Senegal;

- one representative of basin organisations: - Niger Basin Authority (ABN);
- one NGO representative: - Wetlands International;
- one women's organisations representative: - Gender & Water Alliance (GWA);
- one representative of youth organisations:- (position left pending);
- one representative of intergovernmental organisations:- Regional Centre for Affordable Potable Water and Sanitation (CREPA);
- one representative of training and research institutions:- EIER-ETSHER (Inter-Country School of Rural Infrastructure Engineering and Advanced School of Hydraulic Engineering and Rural Infrastructure);
- two representatives of private institutions in Africa: - Africa Infrastructures Foundation (AIF, consultant engineers from Nigeria) and Department of Research and Implementation of Hydraulic Works in the Sahel (SEROHS, consultant engineers from Mali);
- two representatives of professional associations: - Union of African Water Suppliers (UADE) and Regional Irrigation and Drainage Association (ARID);
- one representative of the Financial Partners Group:- (position left pending).

Two positions of permanent observers were assigned to:

- the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- West African Monetary and Economic Union (UEMOA).

It was suggested that above institutions should consider the "gender" aspect in naming their representatives.

Work programme for the transitory phase

The work programme of the transitory phase (including information on current negotiations in the region) was presented by Mr. Athanase Compaoré. A summary of the presentation is in annex 7.

A summary of events concerning the water private sector in the region is given in annex 8.

7. Information on current activities

The Assembly of Partners went ahead to hear the presentations on various the activities currently gong-on in the water sector.

7.1 "Dialogues" in West Africa.

Mme Birguy Lamizana of the IUCN regional office in Ouagadougou presented the guidelines of the "Dialogue on water, food and environment and environment in West Africa" project, drafted jointly by GWP/WATAC and IUCN.

7.2 Water Voice Project

Mme Amayelle Ka Ndiaye (GWP/WATAC) and Mr. Mamadou KASSE, a journalist of the "Soleil" daily newspaper of Dakar, presented this project, which is in line with 3rd Global Water Forum in Tokyo, (Japan).

7.3 Global Water Partnership Toolbox (GWP- Toolbox)

M. Dam Nanfan Mogbante (GWP-WATAC) made a presentation of the GWP Toolbox.

7.4 Basin Organisations Network

The process of setting up of a West Africa network of Basin Organisations was presented by Mr. Mamadou Sylla (GWP/WATAC).

7.5 Network of IWM capacity building institutions (CAPNET)

The issue of regional network for IWRM capacity building was presented by Mr. Diallo Allahoury (GWP/WATAC).

7.6 Information from partners

Matters of interest to water sector stakeholders were discussed among participants. Mr. Amadou (IPD/AOS) is currently building up a collection of water-related African proverbs. He called on participants to help enrich his collection by contacting him on the following address: (ipd_aos@cenatrin.bf; diopam@hotmail.com).

A N N E X E S

Annexe 1 : Meeting Programme

Annexe 2 : Revised statutes of WAWP

Annexe 3 : final Communiqué

Annexe 4 : Liste of participants

Annexe 1.

Constitutive meeting in Bamako 25-27 March 02 programme

Day 1 Monday 25th March 2002: Opening

Time	Activity
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome address by the organizing committee chairman
09:10 – 09:25	Introductory speech by Mr Athanase Compaore , WATAC Chairman
09:25 – 09:40	Message from GWP By Nighisty Ghezae
09:35 – 09:45	Keynote address by His Excellency the Mminister of Mines, Energy and Water of the Republic of Mali
09:45 – 10:00	COFFEE BREAK
10:00 – 10:15	Setting up of the Presidium of the meeting
10:15 – 10:30	Update from other GWP regional bodies By Nighisty Ghezae
10:30 – 10:50	Presentation of the process followed for the establishment of the West African Watre Partnership By M. ALE
10:50 – 11:20	Presentation of the introductory report (Status of water Resources management; justification, mission and objectives of the WAWP) By the consultant
11:20 – 12:30	Discussions
12:30	LUNCH
14:30 - 14:50	Presentation of the Regional Water Partnership: the proposed structure and membership By the consultant
14:50 – 16:00	Discussions
16: 00– 16:15	Break
16:15 - 16:35	Presentation of the proposed Legal and Organizational frameworks By the Consultant
16:35 – 17:30	Discussions

Day 2: Tuesday 26th March 2002 Setting up the WAWP Steering Committee.

Time	Activity
09:00 – 09:15	Rapporteur's report on 1 st day's discussions
09:15 – 10:15	Discussion on the proposed Legal and Organizational framework (continued)
10:15 – 10:30	COFFEE BREAK
10:30 – 11:30	Discussions on the proposed Legal and Organizational framework (continued)
11:30 – 12:30	Setting – up of the Steering Committee of the WAWP: the methodology.
12:30	LUNCH
14:30 – 16:00	Group consultations on the representation on the Steering Committee
16:00 – 16:15	Break
16:15 – 17:30	Setting – up of the Steering Committee of the WAWP
18:00	Cocktail

Day 3: Wednesday 27th March 2002 Dialogues, Water Voice project, GWP Toolbox and Meeting with water stakeholders of Mali

Time	Activity
08:30 – 08:45	Rapporteur's report on 1 st day's discussions
08:45 – 09:00	Presentation of the GWP – West African Work plan for the transitional period A. COMPAORE.
09:00 – 09:15	Presentation of the Water Agenda at Global level and then at Africa and regional level (G. ALE)
09:15 – 10:00	Discussion
10:00 – 10:15	COFFEE BREAK
10:15 – 10:30	Presentation of the Dialogues in West Africa A. COMPAORE.
10:30 – 11:00	Discussion
11:00 – 11:40	Presentation of the Water voice project Amayelle KA NDIAYE, M. KASSE
11:20 – 12:00	Presentation of the GWP-Toolbox Dam MOGBANTE
12:00	CLOSURE
12:30	LUNCH
15:00 – 16:30	Meeting with the water stakeholders of Mali

Annexe 2

STATUTES ESTABLISHING THE WEST AFRICA WATER PARTNERSHIP

PREAMBLE

We, the West Africa Water Partners, herein assembled under a Constitutive Assembly in Bamako from the 25th to the 27th of March 2002,

- Concerned about both the quantitative and qualitative degradation of our water resources, environmental degradation as well as their negative consequences on the life of the people of West Africa;
- Concerned about the numerous problems confronting West African States in their quest to ensure a sustainable balance between the increasing demand for water and the limited water resources;
- Conscious of the fact that the sustainable management of the water resources of West Africa is one of the major stakes of the future;
- Conscious of the fact that the provision of potable water and basic health services to the poor are some of the key elements of poverty reduction;
- Conscious of the fact that the protection of freshwater resources and their quality can come about only through the integrated management of water resources in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 18 of Agenda 21 adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio in June 1992;
- Conscious of the fact that an integrated management of water resources requires the social mobilization of all stakeholders within the water sector;
- Eager to co-operate in the water resources sector so as to help arrive at a consensus on water resources and their sustainable development within the sub-region;
- Considering the existence of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), and adhering to its aims and organisation;
- Considering the commitments inherent in the Ouagadougou Declaration of March 1998 adopted by the West African Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management;
- Considering the constitutive meeting of the West Africa Technical Consultative Committee of the Global Water Partnership held in January 1999 in Ouagadougou;
- Considering the West African Vision on water, life and environment in the 21st Century adopted in Ouagadougou and presented at the World Water Forum held in the Hague in March 2000;
- Considering the adoption of the Regional Plan of Action on Integrated Water Resources Management for West Africa by the Conference of Heads of State and Governments of the Economic Community of West African States at Bamako in December 2000;
- Considering the outcome of the consultative meeting of the West Africa Regional Partnership held in Lome on the 5th and 6th of July 2001;

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE 1 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Chapter I – Definitions

Article 1: Within the context of these statutes, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM, for short):** “a process, which encourages coordinated management and development of water, land and related resources so as to ensure equitable maximization of the resultant economic and social well-being of the people without necessarily compromising the sustainability of the vital ecosystems”.
IWRM takes inspiration from the principles adopted at the Dublin and Rio conferences:
 - Principle 1: Freshwater is a limited and vulnerable resource, indispensable to the sustenance of life, development and the environment.
 - Principle 2: Water development and management must be based on a participatory approach with the involvement of users, planners and political decision-makers at all levels
 - Principle 3: Women play a dominant role in the provision, management and preservation of water
 - Principle 4: Water has an economic value in all its competitive uses and must be recognised as an economic good.

- **West Africa Vision for water:** “by the year 2025, water resources shall be managed efficiently, judiciously and in a sustainable manner so that access to potable and hygienic water enables us satisfy our essential needs, have access to sanitary installations, enjoy food security and poverty reduction as well as the protection of human health and the biodiversity of water and land ecosystems becoming a reality for all the inhabitants of the region”.

Chapter II – Creation of the West Africa Water Partnership

Article 2: The West Africa Water Partnership, known in French as “le Partenariat Régional de l’Eau de l’Afrique de l’Ouest” with the official acronym of “GWP/WAWP herein referred to as “the Partnership” shall be formed among the water partners of the sub-region, adhering to the to the present statutes.

Article 3: The Partnership shall be an autonomous association, non-lucrative, apolitical and non-religious, **formed into a regional network of partners** interested in the promotion of IWRM.

Article 4: The headquarters of the Partnership shall be established in Ouagadougou.
It can be transferred elsewhere in West Africa by a straightforward decision of the General Assembly of Partners.

Chapter III – The Mission and Objectives of the Partnership

Article 5: The fundamental mission of the Partnership shall be to form alliances and reinforce the institutional capacities of its members in order to encourage and strengthen research, information and expertise networks on IWRM.

Article 6: The objectives of the Partnership shall consist of:

- a. Promoting sustainable development through integrated management of water resources within the member countries and the hydro graphic basins;
- b. Promoting the creation of National Water Partnerships (known in French as 'Partenariats Nationaux de l'Eau' or PNE for short) in the countries of the sub- region and supporting all their programmes aimed at facilitating the creation of IWRM.
- c. Promoting the adoption and the implementation of the good practices of IWRM at the regional, national, local and community levels;
- d. Contributing to sustain the partnership idea in the area of water resources management at the global, regional and national levels;
- e. Assisting countries of the West African sub-region to take stock of the management of their resources, identify the inadequacies and the emerging needs within the perspective of the creation of IWRM;
- f. Sensitising Governments and Developing Partners to provide the critical needs for IWRM in the West African sub-region;
- g. Helping in the development of the tools of institutional, technical and financial management for the control and monitoring of water resources;
- h. Developing permanent relationship among organizations, stakeholders and partners responsible for integrated water resources management and encouraging the exchange of know-how, expertise, experiences and integrated water management practices amongst them;
- i. Promoting training, fundamental research and action-oriented research as well as the provision of information to members, locally-elected representatives of the people, the civil society, representatives of users, stakeholders in water management, leaders and personnel of organizations responsible for water management;
- j. Encourage the education and sensitisation of the people on matters related to water resources;
- k. Helping members disseminate the results of their activities carried out within the purview of the objectives pursued by the Partnership;
- l. Creating and providing scientific, educational, judicial, economic, social and political forums at international, national, regional and local levels;
- m. Helping to prevent or resolve conflicts related to the utilization of cross-border water resources

Chapter IV – The Membership

Article 7. Only the following can be members of the Partnership:

- Governments, national water partnerships, sub-regional bodies of political and economic integration as well as non-governmental, national and international organisations;
- Local authorities;
- Bodies and authorities managing hydrographical basins;
- Organisations for bilateral and multilateral co-operation;
- Institutions of training and research;
- Enterprises, private companies and professional bodies;
- And all other stakeholders within the water sector recognising the principles of integrated water resources management as enshrined in the West African water vision and committing themselves to its implementation.

TITLE II – ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING

Chapter I – The Organs of the West Africa Water Partnership

Article 8 The following shall be the organs of the Partnership:

- a) The Assembly of Partners (to be known for short as AP);
- b) The Steering Committee (to be known for short as SC);
- c) The Technical Committee (to be known for short as TC);
- d) The Executive Secretariat (to be known for short as ES)

Article 9. The organs of the partnership shall exercise their functions and work within the limits of the powers conferred on them by the present statutes.

Chapter II – The Assembly of Partners

Article 10. The Assembly of Partners shall be constituted by the totality of the membership of the Partnership.

Article 11. The Assembly of Partners shall be the controlling organ of the Partnership.

It shall see to the proper fulfilment of the aims and objectives of the Partnership. For this reason, the Assembly of Partners shall exercise the following responsibilities, among others:

- a) Outline the strategic orientations of the Partnership and define its policy;
- b) Approve the appointment of the Chairman of the Partnership, the Steering Committee members as well as that of the Technical Committee Chairman and its members;
- c) Determine the levels of remuneration for the positions of the various organs of the Partnership;
- d) Examine the reports of the Steering Committee and the Executive Secretariat.

Article 12. The Assembly of Partners shall hold an ordinary session to be convened every two years by its Chairman, and in case of need, hold an extraordinary session according to the modalities defined in the Regulations of the Partnership.

Article 13. The Assembly of Partners shall preferably take its decisions by consensus.

Chapter III – The Chairman of the Partnership

Article 14. The Chairman of the Partnership shall preside over the Assembly of Partners and the Steering Committee. He shall be the official mouthpiece and representative of the Partnership in all its civil life transactions. He may delegate his powers to any member of the Steering Committee.

Article 15. The Chairman of the Partnership shall be recruited from among the political, scientific or technical personalities of the West African sub-region having a recognised experience in co-operation and partnership work as well as the ability to convince players in this field.

Article 16. The Chairman of the Partnership shall exercise the following responsibilities;

- a) Assume responsibility of all the organs of the Partnership;

- b) See to the implementation of the decision of the Assembly of Partners and the Steering Committee;
- c) Take all initiatives suitable for the promotion of the Partnership at the global, regional and national levels;
- d) Convene and preside over the General Assembly of the Partnership as well as the meetings of the Steering Committee;
- e) Present a report on the Partnership to members;
- f) Undertake financial negotiations;
- g) Establish relationships with the Chairmen of other Regional Partnerships, the Presidency of the GWP, etc.

Article 17. The Chairman of the Partnership shall work on part-time basis for an annual duration specified in the Regulation. The duration of his/her term of office shall be two (2) years, renewable only once.

Article 18. The remuneration of the Chairman shall be proposed by the Steering Committee and approved by the Assembly of Partners.

Chapter IV – The Steering Committee

Article 19. The Steering Committee shall emanate from the Assembly of Partners. It shall have the responsibility of :

- a) Seeing to the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly of Partners aimed at achieving the objectives of the Partnership ;
- b) Formulating recommendations of the Assembly of Partners on all matters related to the life of the Partnership ;
- c) Approving the programmes and budgets drawn by the Executive Secretariat ;
- d) Proposing to the Assembly of Partners the appointment of the Chairman of the Partnership, the Executive Secretary and the Chairman of the Technical Committee ;
- e) All other duties that the Assembly of Partners may assign to it.

Article 20. The Steering Committee shall be composed of the following:

- a) Two representatives of the Countries Water Partnerships;
- b) Two representatives of partners countries;
- c) One representative of basins organisations
- d) One representative of non-governmental organisations;
- e) One representative of women organisations;
- f) One representative of youth organisations;
- g) One representative from inter-governmental organisations;
- h) One representative of training and research institutions;
- i) Two representatives of private institutions;
- j) One representative of the group of financial partners;
- k) Two representatives of professional water associations.
- l)

Also serving on the Steering Committee as permanent observers, shall be organisations for regional integration:

- The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
- The West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA);
- and any other organisation whose permanent association with the Partnership can be considered useful by the Assembly of Partners

Article 21. The Steering Committee shall meet twice a year or more when the need arises.

Article 22. The Assembly of Partners shall choose the Steering Committee members from the membership of the Partnership. Each chosen partner shall designate a representative by name who remains that same person for the duration of his term of office. The activities performed by a Steering Committee member shall not be paid for.

Article 23. The duration of the mandate of members of the Steering Committee shall be two (2) years. A third of the membership shall be renewable every two years by the Assembly of Partners. The proposal for replacement shall be made by the Steering Committee subject to approval of the General Assembly.

Chapter V – The Technical Committee

Article 24. The Technical Committee shall be a consultative body with the duty of carrying out prospective reflection, giving its opinion and ensuring the quality control of all the activities of the Partnership. For this reason, it shall be responsible for :

- a) Making reflections on IWRM and giving its technical opinion on the working programme of the Partnership
- b) Analysing strategic matters impacting on water resources management;
- c) Facilitating and supporting the drawing-up and the implementation of the programmes, schedules and plans of the Partnership;
- d) Issuing directives on the choice of priorities and the quality control of proposed projects;
- e) The drawing-up and the presentation of its own annual report of activities to the Steering Committee;
- f) Bringing its expertise to the Executive Secretariat for the drawing-up of the terms of reference for consultants;
- g) Approving thematic study reports done by consultants;
- h) Forging relationships with the other regional Technical Committees and the Global Technical Committee;
- i) Providing support to country water partnerships in the drawing-up of their work programmes and in the monitoring of the implementation of those programmes;
- j) Representing the Partnership at technical and scientific meetings.

Article 25. The Technical Committee shall comprise six members, including the Chairman, selected by the Steering Committee after an invitation of applications for these positions.

The composition of the Technical Committee must reflect as much as possible the diversity of the scientific and technical areas which are of interest to the water sector. The members of the Technical Committee must have a high level of knowledge in these technical and scientific domains.

Article 26. The Technical Committee shall meet as and when it becomes necessary.

Article 27. A Chairman whose mandate shall last for three years, renewable only once shall head the Technical Committee.

Article 28. The Chairman of the Technical Committee as well as the members of the said committee shall be engaged on part-time basis by the Partnership on the recommendations of the Steering Committee. The number of working days of the Chairman and members is defined by the regulations.

Chapter VI – The Executive Secretariat

Article 29. The Executive Secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Secretary who is in charge of the administration and the day-to-day implementation of the programmes and decisions of the Partnership. He operates the secretariat of all the organs of the Partnership. He represents the Partnership at all meetings of the Countries Water Partnerships, He shall establish regular working relationship with the GWP secretariat and the secretariats of the other Regional Water Partnerships.

Article 30. The Executive Secretariat shall be responsible for:

- a) Implementing the decisions of the Steering Committee and the Assembly of Partners;
- b) Managing the totality of the Partnership heritage;
- c) Monitoring the establishment of the Country Water Partnerships;
- d) Monitoring and evaluation of the functions of the Country Water Partnerships;
- e) Drawing up the programmes and budget of the Partnership;
- f) Convening and organising meetings of all the organs of the Partnership;
- g) Drafting the Partnership's financial demands, monitoring their mobilization and support to the Country Water Partnerships by way of helping them to mobilize their own funds.

Article 31. The internal organisation of the Executive Secretariat shall be proposed by the Executive Secretary and approved by the Steering Committee.

Article 32. The Executive Secretary shall, internally, perform the following functions:

- a) He shall coordinate, monitor and see to the smooth performance of the activities of the Executive Secretariat;
- b) He shall recruit the supporting staff of the secretariat and organise them appropriately;
- c) He shall initial administrative documents and those linked to the execution of projects, contracts, conventions and related activities;
- d) He shall prepare a working budget for the Partnership.

Article 33. The Executive Secretary shall be recruited by the Partnership on the advice of the Steering Committee. He shall serve a three-year term of office, which is renewable only once.

Article 34. The Executive Secretary and the supporting staff shall be employed on full-time basis. Their remuneration shall be fixed by the Steering Committee.

TITLE III – COUNTRY WATER PARTNERSHIPS

Article 35. In any country of the sub-region where a country water partnership is non-existent, the partners of that country must work together to create one. To this end, they can request for support from the Regional Water Partnership.

TITLE IV – GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP (GWP)

Article 36. The GWP shall constitute a family in which the regional and countries water partnerships shall set for themselves the duty of promoting the values necessary for the development of IWRM. The West Africa Water Partnership shall subscribe to these values and observe the functioning guidelines adopted at the global level. It shall also contribute to the promotion of GWP.

TITLE V – RESOURCES

ARTICLE 37. The resources of the Partnership shall comprise :

- a) The annual dues of the partners
- b) The voluntary contributions of bilateral and multilateral agencies and foundations of co-operation and development
- c) The financial contributions which might be required of participants attending meetings and events organised by the Regional Partnership;
- d) Subventions, gifts and legacies;
- e) and all other resources, compatible with the objectives of the Partnership and authorised by law, that the Steering Committee is capable of mobilizing.

TITLE VI – REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 38. The Steering Committee shall draw up regulations for the Partnership to be subjected to approval by the Assembly of Partners.

The regulations shall specify, among others, the internal rules that shall apply in the following areas :

- a) Conditions for membership, resignation and dismissal of members from the Partnership
- b) Conditions of eligibility for membership of the Steering Committee, the Technical Committee and the Executive Secretariat;
- c) Rules for human resources, material and financial management of the Partnership;
- d) Rules for internal control and procedure manual
- e) Settlement of disputes.

TITLE VII – FINANCIAL CONTROL

Article 39. The Steering Committee shall appoint auditors who shall be responsible for the preparation of a report on the sincerity and accuracy of the accounts of the financial year. The auditors' report shall be presented at the statutory meeting of the Assembly of Partners.

TITLE VIII – AMENDMENT OF STATUTES

Article 40. Any amendments of the present statutes must be adopted by the Assembly of Partners.

TITLE IX – FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 41. Dissolution of the Partnership can only be declared by the Assembly of Partners. Like any decision of the Assembly of Partners, this decision can only be taken by consensus.

Article 42. In case of the pronouncement of dissolution, the assets of the Partnership shall be vested in the GWP or in another association of the sub-region pursuing similar goals.

Done at Bamako on the 26th March 2002
For the Assembly of Partners

Chairman,

Annexe 3

Final communiqué of the meeting establishing the WEST AFRICA WATER PARTNERSHIP Bamako, from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th March 2002.

The constitutive meeting of the West Africa Water Partnership was held from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th March at Salam Hotel, Bamako.

The meeting was placed under the effective chairmanship of Mr. Aboukary Coulibaly, Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Mali.

About 60 participants took part in the meeting:

- representatives of water administrations from nine countries of the sub-region, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal;
- representatives of regional integration organisations, ECOWAS and UEMOA, intergovernmental and basin organisations.
- Representatives of water sector administrations and operators, inter-professional organisations and civil society in the region;
- representatives of development partners;
- representatives of the Global Water Partnership Secretariat, GWP, and that of the West Africa Technical Advisory Committee of the Global Water Partnership, WATAC-GWP.

The following speeches were delivered at the opening ceremony:

- Welcome address by Mr; Malick Alhousseini, National Director of Hydraulics of Mali, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Meeting;
- Speech by Mr. Athanase Compaoré, Chairman of the West Africa Technical Advisory Committee, WATAC-GWP;
- Message by Mme Nighisty Ghezae, Representative of the Global Water Partnership Secretariat; GWP;
- Opening address by Mr. Aboubakary Coulibaly, Minister of Mines, Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Mali.

Information on the GWP and its regional and national partners

Mme Nighisty Ghezae recalled the objectives and statutes of GWP and presented the objectives and current state of the establishment of its regional and national organs and partnerships.

Setting up of a Regional Water Partnership

The presentations and discussions centred around the following points:

- The introductory report on the Regional Water Partnership
- The Regional Water Partnership Project;
- The draft statutes of the Regional Water Partnership;

After general discussion, the draft statutes were adopted in their outline form by acclamation of the Assembly of Partners, pending a number of corrections and additions to be made. An ad hoc working group was set up to finalise the statutes before the end of the meeting.

Following the adoption of the statutes, the Assembly of partners set up a Steering Committee composed as follows:

- two representatives of Country Water Partnerships: - Bénin and Burkina Faso;
- two representatives of Partner Countries: - Ghana and Senegal;
- one representative of basin organisations: - Niger Basin Authority (ABN);
- one NGO representative: - Wetlands International;
- one women's organisations representative: - Gender & Water Alliance (GWA);
- one representative of youth organisations:- (position left pending);
- one representative of intergovernmental organisations:- Regional Centre for Affordable Potable Water and Sanitation (CREPA);
- one representative of training and research institutions:- EIER-ETSHER (Inter-Country School of Rural Infrastructure Engineering and Advanced School of Hydraulic Engineering and Rural Infrastructure);
- two representatives of private institutions in Africa: - Africa Infrastructures Foundation (AIF, consultant engineers from Nigeria) and Department of Research and Implementation of Hydraulic Works in the Sahel (SEROHS, consultant engineers from Mali);
- two representatives of professional associations: - Union of African Water Suppliers (UADE) and Regional Irrigation and Drainage Association (ARID);
- one representative of the Financial Partners Group:- (position left pending).

Two positions of permanent observers were assigned to :

- the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
- West African Monetary and Economic Union (UEMOA).

It was suggested that above institutions should consider the "gender" aspect in naming their representatives.

After setting up the steering committee, the Assembly of Partners took cognisance of the work programme for the transitory phase.

The Assembly of Partners then heard presentations on:

- The global and regional water agenda;
- Dialogues in West Africa;
- The "Water Voice" Project;
- Global Water Partnership Toolbox (GWP-Toolbox);
- Basin Organizations Network ;
- IWRM capacity building institutions network (CapNet)
- Information from partners.

The agenda having been exhausted, the activities were brought to a close on 27th March at 12 H 30. After the reading of the final communiqué and recommendations, the closing speech was pronounced by the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water Resources of Mali.

Annexe 4

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS / PARTICIPANTS LIST

Réunion Constitutive du Partenariat Ouest Africain de l'Eau (West Africa Water Partnership, WAWP)
Bamako 25-27 Mars 2002

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