

REPORT OF THE 3rd ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GLOBAL WATER PARTNERSHIP /WEST AFRICA (GWP/ WA)

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I. Introduction

The 3rd General Assembly of Partners (GAP) of the West African Water Partnership (GWP/ WA) was held on 27 and 28 January 2009, at Ivotel Hotel Abidjan-Plateau, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. As a prelude to this assembly, a training workshop on fundraising for IWRM with CWPs was organised, in addition to various technical meetings: CWPs meeting, GWP/ WA Steering committee Meeting and meeting of the budget and finances committee.

This GAP, organised with the financial support of the European Union, GWP and ECOWAS, was sponsored by Mr SORO Guillaume, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, and presided by Dr. AHIZI Aka Daniel, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources.

The theme of this meeting is "**IWRM in West Africa: Adaptation strategies in a proven context of climate change**".

It was attended by:

- A delegation of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) led by its Chair, Dr. Letitia OBENG;
- The Chair of AMCOW H.E M. Bruno ITOUA, Minister of Energy and Hydraulics of Congo and his collaborators;
- Chairs of the five GWP regional partnerships in Africa and the Mediterranean;
- The technical and financial Partners, including the Regional Councillor of Co-operation with West Africa of the French embassy in Ouagadougou;
- Members of the GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat, the Steering committee and the Technical Committee members;
- Chairs and Executive Secretaries of the Country Water Partnerships of West Africa;
- Representatives of the University of Columbia, United States;
- Representatives of research Institutes;
- Coordinators of Regional Projects and Programmes;
- The Representative of the Mayor of Plateau District;
- Directors of public administration and private sector in Côte d'Ivoire;
- Representatives of local NGOs.

The list of the participants is in Appendix 1.

Two courses marked this General Assembly of Partners. The first day devoted to work between GWP West Africa partners and the second day to the joint session GWP and the African Council of Ministers in charge of Water (AMCOW), attended by all the guests.

II. Day One

A. Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony was chaired by Dr. AHIZI Aka Daniel, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources of Côte d'Ivoire, and featured by several addresses and the opening speech of the Minister Environment, Forestry and Water Resources.

The Chair of the organising committee Mr. Ndri KOFFI, the Chair of PNECI (Côte d'Ivoire CWP) greeted the massive participation of partners of the region and noted the respectful and meaningful presence of the Chair of AMCOW, the GWP Chair, the representative of global TEC, GWP Africa regions.

In his remarks, the representative of the mayor of Abidjan Plateau welcomed the participants and pointed out that the meeting of Abidjan is "historical".



Speaking for GWP/WA partners Mr. André TOUPÉ, member of the Steering committee, thanked the authorities and the people of Côte d'Ivoire and said that the theme of Abidjan General Assembly while being topical aimed to call out to the stakeholders « for awareness on climate changes and their impact on water resources in order to refine better the strategies of adaptation».

In her speech the Chair of GWP, Dr. Letitia OBENG, in turn said that this meeting celebrates the 10 years of Regional Partnership and comes to reinforce the GWP- AMCOW strategic alliance.

Lastly, the opening speech was read by the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources, Dr. Daniel Aka AHIZI, who highlighted the relevance of the theme of the meeting before pointing out the commitment of his country to an effective water management.

B. Panel 1

A panel was arranged on the theme "**The impact of climate changes on water resources, energy and agriculture**".

This panel was facilitated by:

Facilitator: TRAORE Abou, Journalist;

Panellists: Mr. Hama Arba DIALLO, Chair of GWP/ WA.

Dr. AHOSSANE Kadio, "Climate Change" Project Focal Point in Côte d'Ivoire;

Pr. AFOUDA Abel, Chair of Benin CWP;

Pr. SANOGO Tidou Abiba, Chair of Côte d'Ivoire Women Association;

Mr. KOMENAN Koffi, of Côte d'Ivoire Ministry of Mines and Energy.

The panellists recommended at the end of these exchanges:

- the reinforcement and extension of the networks of hydrological data exploitation;
- A call to the technical and financial partners for the development of models.

C. Work of the General Assembly of Partners

C.1. Installation of the High Table

The following high table set up for this session consisted of:

Chair: TOUPE Andre, Benin;

Vice Chair: MOGBANTE Dam, GWP/ WA;

Rapporteurs: MANOUAN N'Guessan Etienne, Côte d'Ivoire;

FIENI Kouakou Roger, Côte d'Ivoire.

KOUADIO Konan François, CWP- Côte d'Ivoire

C.2. Consideration and adoption of the agenda

This stage comprised two phases: (1) introduction of the participants and (2) adoption of the work programme.

The adopted work programme focussed on the following points:

- 1) Presentation of reports;
- 2) Presentation of the strategy 2009 – 2013;
- 3) Renewal of the statutory bodies and
- 4) Draft recommendations.

C.3. Presentation and adoption of the reports

Before the presentation of the various reports, the Assembly heard the message of Mr. Madiodio NIASSE, the outgoing Chair of GWP/WA, read by Mr. RUI Silva, the Director of ECOWAS-WRCC, member of GWP/ WA Steering committee. In this message, Mr NIASSE apologised for having to be absent for professional constraints. He thanked the Partners and wished continued success to GAP deliberations.



C.4. GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat's Report

The report of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Dam MOGBANTE, is structured around the following points: (1) the mandate of the GAP held in Lomé in 2007, (2) the projects developed and funding (3) activities & outputs and (4) perspectives.

The Assembly congratulated the Chair and the Executive Secretariat for the report and made some observations and suggestions. The participants requested to highlight in the report the measures to accompany and support the new partnerships, the reinforcement of support packages to CWPs and the diversification of funding sources.

Responding to the concerns of the Partners, the Executive Secretary noted, on one hand, that GWP/ WA policy in the long term is that CWP are taken care of at the local level and, on the other hand, that support will be firstly granted to CWP that are active in the development of projects.

C.5. Report on PIWAG Delivery

Mr. Hervé OUEDRAOGO, GWP / WA Programme Officer presented it. At the request of the Chair, the financial side of this report was not presented as it was already approved by the Steering committee.

In his presentation, the Programme Officer noted that the budget of the programme is 2. 5 Million Euros, but that the budget of the first year was implemented to a total value of 54% only. He presented the perspectives to come: CWP revitalising, improving water governance, CWP taking ownership of the PIWAG, and assisting CWP in the development of their action plan.

Following his presentation, the Assembly made the following remarks:

- Provisions to make to recover the remainder of Year 1 budget;
- Preventive actions to avoid a repetition of delay factors;
- Strategies of CWP taking ownership of the PIWAG;
- Measures towards improving the 54% rate of implementation in the first year taking into account the EU requirements which impose a rate of realization of 70% before the next disbursement;

The Assembly also made the following proposals:

- The organization of a training workshop on advocacy for fundraising for CWPs;
- The organization of regular visits for CWPs to GWP-WA Executive Secretariat.

Responding to these observations, the Programme Officer assured that provisions were made to a carry-forward of the budget remainder in year 2 that would compensate for the delay factors experienced.

The Executive Secretary, backing the programme officer, said that CWPs are not regarded as partners within the meaning of the European Union in the current programme setting. This is why they are not funded directly by this programme.

C.6. Delivering the report of the CWP meeting

The Country Water Partnerships (CWP) had met the day before, on Monday 26 January at Ibis Hotel, and produced a report, which was presented in the General Assembly. This

document released all the CWP concerns relating in particular to reporting and to the new methodology of outcome mapping, the accreditation of CWP, and reflections on the strategy of CWP funding (see appendix 3). The report was not delivered for approval.

C.7. Presentation of GWP/ WA Strategy 2009 – 2013

Pr. Lekan OYEBANDE, the Chair of the Regional TEC presented the GWP/ WA Strategy 2009-2013. After exchanges on this document using as starting point the strategy of GWP at global level and in which most of the GWP/ WA members took part, the GA congratulated the Regional TEC for its decisive role in the preparation of this framework document, and adopted the GWP/ WA new strategy 2009-2013.



C.8. Renewal of GWP/ WA organs

The renewal of organs, presented by Mr. Dam MOGBANTE, falls in line with the will of GWP/ WA to allow each partner to take part in GWP/ WA leading authorities, in accordance with the statutes and rules of procedure. Renewal concerned the Steering committee (CP) and the Technical Committee (TEC).

Thus, the following proposals, resulting from the Steering committee meeting were approved on 26 January 2009 at Ibis Hotel, Abidjan-Plateau:

Renewal of the Steering committee:

New college N°2 shows in the form below, as N°1 and N°3 colleges remain unchanged

Representative	Newly appointed
Country Water Partnerships	CWP Niger

States partners	Mali
Nongovernmental organizations	Water Aid
Private sector	To find among Senegal CWP members
Water Users Associations	To find among Burkina CWP members

Renewal of the members of the TEC

For the renewal of one third of the TEC members, the selection committee preferred the following candidacies:

- Pr. Ezechiel Oladapo LONGE, of Nigeria;
- Pr. Bi Tié Albert GOULA, of Côte d'Ivoire;
- Mr. Francis Daniel BOUGAIRE, of Burkina Faso.

A list of potential substitutes was proposed, in the event of withdrawals. It includes:

- Dr. Sine Aly Badara PLEAH, of Mali;
- Pr. Alioune KANE, of Senegal.

C.9. Validation and adoption of the candidacy of the new Chair

Recalling the context in which Mr Hama Arba DIALLO was elected, Mr RUI Silva, the Coordinator of the Water Resources Coordinating Centre (WRCC) on behalf of the Steering committee informed the Assembly that the latter was preferred out of three short listed candidacies among thirteen applicants.

After validation of his election by the General Assembly, the new Chair expressed his joy and mentioned his firm determination to work for the resolution of common problems. He paid tribute to his predecessor and thanked the participants to the General Assembly.

Following, the Chair of GWP congratulated him and assured him of GWPO total availability to support in fundraising and strengthening the partnerships as part of the new strategy.

III. Day Two: GWP-AMCOW joint session

On 28 January 2009, the second day was dedicated to GWP and AMCOW consultation in order to define the main areas of collaboration between the two organizations in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding.

To prepare the discussion, thematic presentations were made and a panel brought together the authorities of GWP/ WA, AMCOW and many guests around the theme **"the impact of climate changes on water resources, energy and agriculture"**.

Addresses and presentations preceded the panel:

A. Addresses

- Address of the Chair of GWP/ WA.
- Greetings of Côte d'Ivoire Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources.
- Address of the Chair of AMCOW, which stressed three essential points to serve as thought-sharing substance as part of the co-operation with GWP. It is about:
 - Issue of water preservation;
 - Existence of appropriate policies and strategies at the national level to build policies at the continental level;
 - Setting up an African emergency plan towards achieving MDGs.

B. Presentations

After addresses, the participants heard various presentations by eminent resource people on water, environment, energy and climate changes:

- Prof Xiaoliu, member of GWP Technical Committee, on climate change
- Dr. Cassey Brown, on the impacts of changes on infrastructures
- Prof Michael Scoulos Chair of GWP Mediterranean, on water governance

C. The panel

The panel was set for thought sharing on the consolidation of GWP and AMCOW relationships. Its composition is as follows:

- Chair of GWP
- GWP Regional Chairs
- AMCOW Representatives
- Representatives of AfDB
- AMCOW- TAC Representatives
- AMCOW Executive secretariat



J.R.B. ITOUA, Chair of AMCOW

Seven personalities facilitated this panel, which allowed identifying various fields of actions to be brought into focus to face the growing poverty of the African people through IWRM (cf Final communiqué of GWP/AMCOW session in appendix 1).

D. Closing ceremony

It was featured by five motions that are:

- ▶ One to the attention of the Government and people of Côte d'Ivoire;
- ▶ One to the attention of Mrs Laetitia OBENG, Chair of GWP;
- ▶ One to the attention of the outgoing Chair of GWP;
- ▶ One to the attention of the outgoing SC members;
- ▶ One to the attention of the outgoing Technical Committee members.

After the motions, the Chair of Côte d'Ivoire Country Water Partnership read the final communiqué of the General Assembly followed by the reading of the final communiqué of GWP-AMCOW joint session by AMCOW Executive Secretary.

The representative of the Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources read the closing speech.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Final communiqué of GAP

Appendix 2: Motions of thanks

Appendix 3: Report of CWPs Meeting

Appendix 4: List of participants

Appendix 5: Work Programme

Appendix 6: Speech

Appendix 1: Final communiqué of the AGP

On 27 and 28 January 2009 in the conference room of Ivotel Hotel in Abidjan, held the 3rd General Assembly of GWP/WA Partners.

This assembly was marked by the presence of the Chair and representatives of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW), of the Chair of GWP global network and the Chairs and representatives of the five GWP regional partnerships in Africa in addition to the participation of the traditional GWP West Africa regional partners.

Mr SORO Guillaume, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, and effectively presiding Dr. AHIZI Aka Daniel, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources, sponsored this GAP, organized with the financial support of the European Union, GWPO and ECOWAS.

The theme of this meeting is **"IWRM in West Africa: Adaptation strategies in a proven context of climate change "**.

Attended:

- A delegation of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) led by its Chair, Dr. Letitia OBENG;
- Chairs of the five GWP regional partnerships in Africa ;
- Members of the GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat, the Steering committee and the Technical Committee;
- Chairs and Executive Secretaries of the Country Water Partnerships of West Africa;
- Representatives of basin organizations;
- Representatives of regional institutions;
- Representatives of research Institutes;
- Coordinators of Regional Projects and Programmes;
- The Representative of the Mayor of Plateau District;
- Directors of Côte d'Ivoire public administration and private sector;
- Representatives of local NGOs.
- Etc.

The list of participants is in appendix 1.

The opening ceremony was chaired by Dr. AHIZI Aka Daniel, Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources and was featured by six (6) addresses including the remarks of the Steering Committee Chair, Chair of CI CWP; the remarks of the representative of the mayor; the remarks of the representative of GWP/ WA, the speech of the Chair of GWP and finally the opening speech of HE Mr. Daniel Aka AHIZI.

After the opening ceremony, a panel was set up to discuss the business of the GAP. This panel allowed to capture all the problems related to this phenomenon in the subregion.

Exchanges with the participants concluded this meeting.

Afternoon work was devoted to the various reports of the regional Partnership. The GA adopted the reports of the outgoing Chair, the management and financial report of year 1 of

the Programme for the Improvement of Water Governance in West Africa (PIWAG) as well as the strategy 2009-2013.

The General Assembly also approved the recruitment of three new members to the regional technical committee as well as the replacement of some Steering committee members.

The General assembly approved the appointment of Mr. Hama Arba DIALLO as new Chair of the West African Water Partnership (GWP/ WA).

Before the presentation of the various reports, the Assembly heard the message of Mr. Madiodio NIASSE, delivered by Mr Rui SILVA. In this message, Mr NIASSE apologized for not being able to make it to Abidjan for professional reasons and constraints. He thanked the Partners and wished fruitful work to the GAP.

The General Assembly listened to the report of the Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) meeting.

The second day was devoted to GWP/AMCOW session towards reinforcing the option to rapprochement and co-operation between GWP and AMCOW, as well as between their regional representations in Africa, in order to improve the implementation of political decisions around the issues of water management and climate change in the continent.

In recall, AMCOW and GWP entered in November 2007 into a Memorandum of agreement making GWP a technical partner for the implementation of AMCOW action plan. However, in June 2007 already, GWP/ WA had signed a Memorandum of agreement with the ECOWAS, which confirms the representation of AMCOW in West Africa.

A high-level panel was set up to discuss the theme of the GA and to extend it beyond the West Africa region.

Appendix 2: Motions of thanks

Motion of thanks to the government and people of Côte d'Ivoire

The participants to the General Assembly of Partners of the West African Water Partnership, held on 27 and 28 January 2009 in Abidjan, sincerely thank and would also like to express their deferential appreciation to His Excellency, Mr Laurent Gbagbo, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, to the government and people of Côte d'Ivoire for the warm welcome and the excellent working conditions which they received in Abidjan.

Done in Abidjan, 28 January 2009

The General Assembly

Motion of thanks to Mrs Letitia OBENG, Chair of GWP.

The participants to the General Assembly of Partners of the West African Water Partnership, held on 27 and 28 January 2009 in Abidjan, would like to show their gratitude to Mrs Laetitia OBENG, Chair of GWP for lending the prestige of her position to the General Assembly of GWP/ WA Partners.

Done in Abidjan, 28 January 2009

The General Assembly

Motion of thanks to the outgoing GWP/ WA Chair

The participants to the General Assembly of Partners of the West African Water Partnership, held on 27 and 28 January 2009 in Abidjan, would like to show their appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Mr. Madiodio NIASSE, for having contributed to the flowering of the West African Water Partnership network.

Done in Abidjan, 28 January 2009

The General Assembly

Motion of thanks to the outgoing Steering committee members

The participants to the General Assembly of Partners of the West African Water Partnership, held on 27 and 28 January 2009 in Abidjan, sincerely thank college n° 2 of the outgoing Steering committee, consisting of Burkina Faso Country Water Partnership, the Directorate-General of Water Resources Planning of Senegal, Wetlands International, SERHOS-Mali and

the Regional Association for Irrigation and Drainage for their full support to the West African Water Partnership.

Done in Abidjan, 28 January 2009

The General Assembly

Motion of thanks to the outgoing members of the Technical Committee of Experts

The participants to the General Assembly of Partners of the West African Water Partnership, held on 27 and 28 January 2009 in Abidjan, are thankful to the outgoing members of the Technical Committee of Experts, MM. Gregoire ALE, Charles Seth Kojo KPORDZE and Amadou Hama MAIGA, for having contributed comprehensively to the development of the network.

Done in Abidjan, 28 January 2009

The General Assembly

Appendix 3: Report of CWPs meeting

The meeting of CWP proceeded on Monday 26 January 2009 at Ibis hotel, Plateau. The opening of the meeting was featured by the greetings of Mr DRI Koffi, Chair of Côte d'Ivoire CWP and the opening speech on behalf of GWP/ WA Chair by its Executive Secretary.

The Executive Secretaries of Benin and Burkina Faso CWPs ensured reporting.

Twenty eight (28) participants attended, including:

- Chairs and Executive Secretaries of Benin, Burkina-Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Togo, Senegal, Mali, Nigeria, Niger CWPs;
- Members of the GWP/ West Africa Technical Committee of Experts;
- Members of the Local Organising Committee of the General Assembly;
- Members of GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat;
- Two members of the GWP/ West Africa Steering committee.

The meeting was mainly about:

- a review on the implementation of recommendations of the last meeting held in Ouagadougou in March 2008;
- exchanges on the activities and concerns of Benin CWP as regards governance, human and financial capacities;
- elaboration of CWP recommendations to the Steering committee and General Assembly of 27 and 28 January 2009;
- nomination of a CWP to replace Burkina CWP in the college of CWPs within the Steering committee and the appreciation of replacements of structures to fill at the level of the other colleges of the aforesaid Committee.

The level of implementation of the recommendations of the CWP meeting held in Ouagadougou in March 2008 arises as follows as of 26 January 2009:

- With regard to setting up appropriate reporting frameworks and building annual work plans as well as action plans, GWP/West Africa had to organize in 2008 in Dakar a training workshop on outcome mapping and reporting with the Executive Secretaries of CWPs.
- With respect to strengthening the CWPs taking roots into government dynamics on water issues resulted in efforts developed by some CWPs (Benin, Mali, Cape Verde, and Senegal.) which enhanced their level of recognition as a State privileged partner for IWRM development. Difficulties remain at the level of other countries following the example of Burkina, which evolves in an environment of PAGIRE (IWRM Action Plan) implementation with structures such as the Country Water Council, which also serves as a forum of sector stakeholders is already in place.
- As regards CWPs mobilization of secure funds, the strengthening of collaboration suggested between CWPs and members of the regional TEC towards formulation of projects and support to fundraising at the national level are still being operationalised. However, CWPs including those which put a lot of themselves in the mobilization of funds to implement their activities in year 2008. The cases of Benin, Mali and Senegal, which could mobilize funds at the national level, were quoted. As part of this recommendation, GWP/West Africa organized a training workshop on fundraising with the Executive Secretaries of CWPs from 23 to 25 January. GWP/West Africa intends to continue such

support to Benin-CWP through activities already planned in collaboration with the ECOWAS.

- The recommendation about the use of opportunities offered to CWPs because of their effective involvement in the process of PAGIRE development in the countries was implemented in particular at the level of Benin, Cape Verde, Mali and Senegal CWPs.
- The recommendations about mobilization of the contributions by CWPs, their accreditation by GWP and the use of PIWAG opportunities as regards profile and communication about the undertaken activities had a low level of implementation.

The participants were informed besides of the Executive Secretariat proposals about the replacement of member institutions of the 2nd college of GWP/ West Africa Steering committee, which will be considered at the SC session in the evening of Monday 26 January 2009.

At the end of exchanges and discussions facilitated by the Chair of Côte d'Ivoire Partnership, the participants made the following recommendations:

1. GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat in consultation with CWPs to develop an effective framework for drafting annual work plans and action plans;
2. to continue advocacy actions with the structures of public water authority for a shared recognition of CWPs legitimacy and their technical capacities to provide specific supports to dynamics in progress on the water related issues in the countries;
3. GWP/ WA in consultation with the regional TEC and country TEC to set up a strategy of funds mobilization for CWPs development;
4. GWP/ WA in consultation with the regional TEC and country TEC to work out a strategy with a capacity building plan for CWPs to be laid before the potential FTP for funding;
5. to recall CWPs that are not clear, the conditionalities and the constituent parts of the accreditation application;
6. to conduct eventually the accreditation processes in progress and to start with the concerned CWPs, GWP/ WA training by the end March 2009;
7. to set up a strategy of motivation and monitoring of the mobilization of CWP membership contributions to help ensure internal funding;
8. CWPs to use PIWAG opportunities by sending specific request including folder scale models to GWP/ WA Communication Officer who will take care of their edition at the regional level;
9. to provide GWP/ WA Executive Secretariat with articles on IWRM and the undertaken activities for publication in the next issuer of Running Water news report forthcoming by the end of the first quarter 2009;
10. to reorganize the regional TEC so that it can provide indeed support to the community of CWPs as part of building projects and funds mobilization in consultation with the country TEC;
11. to facilitate working groups on interest themes towards achieving the goals of GWP/ WA enters members of the regional TEC and the country TEC. CWPs must then forward by the end of March 2009 the list of priority themes on which the working groups to be set up will have to work ;

12. To account for paid advances and funds provided to CWPs by GWP/ WA.
13. The participants in the meeting also recommend the Executive Secretariat to set up an organisational and empowerment framework of the various GWP/ WA organs in execution and monitoring of the implementation of each recommendation made by CWPs.

Appendix 4: List of participants

N°	Name and first names	Country or Institution	Title	Address
1	ALLOU Manizan	Côte d'Ivoire Ministry of Plan	Deputy Director of Studies and Research	Tel : 20 21 20 69 / 05 23 29 92
2	MBODJI Ibrahima	CWP/ Senegal	Executive secretary	Tel : +221 77 551 65 30 Bp 45 404 Dakar-fann Senegal
3	ANYANFUL J. K. M	GWP/ Ghana	Ag. Executive secretary	Tel :+233 02 11 61 03 1 PO.Box.MB 32 Accra gwpgghana@yahoo.com
4	Bourama TRAORE	CWP / Mali	Permanent secretary	S/C CREPA-Mali, Rue 204 P 85 Tel : +223 20 20 20 39 / 20 20 69 38 / 66 79 18 66 pnemali@afribone.net.ml bourama50@yahoo.fr
5	OUEDRAOGO R. Marc	CWP / Burkina	Executive secretary	01 Bp 1169 Ouaga.01 Burkina Faso +226 50 46 56 21 / 70 16 35 00 rellymarc@yahoo.fr
6	CHI Christopher Tamu	GWP /Central Africa	Coordinator	papasunny2001@yahoo.com cc.tamu@gwpcaf.org Tel : +237 77 32 77 78
7	EL Hadj Mamadou Aliou DIALLO	CWP / Guinea	Executive secretary	Tel : 60 84 44 44 elmadol@yahoo.fr pnequio8@yahoo.fr
8	KOUADIO Konan François	CWP / Côte d'Ivoire	Executive secretary	Tel :+225 09 21 36 34 habet777@yahoo.fr

9	ABDOU Hassane	CWP/ Niger	Permanent secretariat	sppneniger@yahoo.fr tel : +227 93 93 65 06
10	BAKAYOKO Veronique	Ministry of National Education/ Côte d'Ivoire	C O	bakvero@yahoo.fr +225 05 87 25 75
11	HOUANYE K. Arnaud	CWP / Benin	Executive secretary	pnebenin@netcourrier.com Tel : +229 21 31 10 93 / 95 06 80 28
12	KOUAKOU Bouho	Côte d'Ivoire / DRE	GEF-Volta Project National Focal Point	kbjero@yahoo.fr +225 : 07 90 93 29
13	COULIBALY Sidi	GWP / WA Burkina Faso	Communicator	sidicoul@gmail.com tel : +226 70 23 41 04
15	BEUGRE Okpo Clément	H2O - CI	CO	Beugre_okpo@hotmail.com
16	ZOKO Baoua Siméon	MINEEF- DRE- CI	CO	zokobaoua@gmail.com
17	OUEDRAOGO Hervé	GWP / WA	Programme Officer Steering committee	herveoued@yahoo.fr tel : +226 50 36 62 12
18	Almoustapha M. MAÏGA	GWP / WA	Project management Assistant	almoustapham@hotmail.com tel : +226 50 36 62 12
19	Mrs DAME Dagou Diop	GWP / WA	TEC	dagounet@orange.sr
20	LADKI Marwwar	GWP / WA	Technical Councillor	marwar.latki@yahoo.com
21	NEMLIN Firmin Dit Gnépa	Côte d'Ivoire / DHH / MIE	Project leader	nefidign@gmail.com
22	FIENI Kouakou Roger	MINEEF / Direction of Water Resources/ Côte d'Ivoire	Research Specialist / CO	01 Bp 7675 Abidjan 01 fieniroger@yahoo.fr

23	MANOUAN Etienne	MINEEF / Direction of Water Resources/ Côte d'Ivoire	Head of Department/ CO	Kan2mil@yahoo.fr
24	ABO François	AFRIQ'EAU / CI	Manager / Member of CICWP SC	01 BP 12535 ABJ 01 +225 21 24 12 25 afrigeau@yahoo.fr
25	IBEKA Paul E.	FMAWR, Abuja Nigeria	Deputy Director	panibeka@yahoo.com tel : +234 80 34 52 12 71
26	SROHOROU Bernard	National Directorate of Meteo/ Côte d'Ivoire	Head of Department Environment Study	schorroub@yahoo.fr tel : +225 05 77 44 31
27	KOUADIO Angoua Marc	MCUH / CI	Deputy Director / Member of CICWP SC	BP V 83 Abj angouamarc@yahoo.fr
28	IDO Adama	MIE / DHH - CI	Deputy Direct. HVA	BP V 83 ABJ +225 20 22 24 88 +225 05 95 60 30
29	HIRONDINA Maria Lima	CWP/ Cape Verde	Executive secretary	Tel : +238 26 48 41 9 Pna_caboverde@yahoo.com
30	AMON Fian Pierre	MIE / DHH – CI	Research Specialist	BP V 83 ABJ +225 20 22 24 88 +225 08 01 70 00
31	KONE Diakaria	MIE / DHH Côte d'Ivoire	Assistant Deputy Director Hydrology	25 Bp 1070 Abidjan 25 Tel : +225 07 83 21 67 konediak@live.fr

32	KOUAME Konan Sébastien	MINAGRI / DARME- CI	Deputy Director	BP V 09 ABJ 01 + 225 20 21 95 32 + 225 06 17 78 53
33	CLANCIER AGNES	Embassy of France	Regional Councillor of co-operation with West Africa	Agnes.clancier@diplomatie.gouv.fr
34	DIALLO El Hadj Mamadou Aliou	CWP- GUINEE	Executive secretary	elmadol@yahoo.fr
35	BIDJOCKA Jean Pierre	GWP- CAF	Chair	+ 237 99 82 87 25 Jeanpierrebidjocka@gwpcaf.org
36	GUIMBI Mabele Alphonse	Representation of AMCOW Chair	Councillor	BP 2120 Brazzaville agmalpho@yahoo.fr +242 66 25 648
37	BONGOUANDE Ambroise Gilbert	Office of AMCOW Chair	Coordinator	BP 2120 Brazzaville gbongouande@yahoo.fr
38	YAO N'Goran Elisabeth	Journalist Soir- Info	Journalist	Elyseeyao2003@yahoo.fr BP 2462 Abj
39	N'DOUMI Joseph	NGO Notre Environnement	SG of training	BP V 139 Abj + 225 05 54 25 26
40	AHOUSSOU Antoine	NGO Cause Commune Afrique	SG	01 BP 1019 Abj.01
41	DAM Mogbante	GWP /WA	Executive secretary	03 BP 7112 Ouaga 03 +226 50 36 62 12
42	HUSSARD Alain	VBA - Ouaga- Burkina	Councillor of the Ex. Director	Al.hussard@tele2.fr

43	Ibrahima KANDE Yomba	CWP – Guinea	Chair	+ 224 60 21 88 52 Pnegui08@yahoo.fr yombakande@yahoo.fr
44	OYEBANDE Lekan	GWP/WA, Nigeria CWP	Chair TEC	lekanoye@hotmail.com
45	BOBLAÏ Brice Maxime	DGAMP/ CI	Head of radio communication exploitation Unit	Brice_boblaiyahoo.fr
46	DIALLO Oumar	CWP/ Senegal	Chair	odiallo@sones.sn
47	André TOUPE	Vice Chair Benin-CWP	Member of GWP/ WA SC	01 BP 603 RP Cotonou + 229 95 86 06 36 andretoupe@yahoo.fr
48	SYLLA Mamadou	Director SEROHS	Member of GWP/ WA SC	BP E 120 B AMAKO + 223 67 53 682 serohs@afribone.net.ml
49	Dieudonné NIKIEMA	CWP- BURKINA	Chair	+ 226 50 36 38 28 d.nikiema@yahoo.fr
50	N'DRI KOFFI	CWPCI	Chair	+ 225 21 24 15 33 pneci@aviso.ci
51	Florence POUSSI	CREPA	Accountant	03 BP 7112 Ouaga 03 florencewpoussi@yahoo.fr
52	Adwoa PAINTSIL	Water Resources Commission	GWP- Ghana, Member	BOX CT 5630 Accra Ghana +223 24 42 27 972 himapaintsil@yahoo.fr

53	Maïmouna DRAME	CWP- Guinea	GWP Member, Guinea	+ 224 60 58 42 35 Mai_drame@yahoo.fr
54	AXEL julie	GWPO	CT/ SE/ GWP Network officer West Africa	Axel.julie@gwpforum.org
55	Cheick Tidiane TANDIA	CREPA	Managing Director	Tandia.cheick@reseaucrepa.org crepa@fasonet.bf + 226 50 36 32 10/ 11
56	Housseini Amadou MAIGA	CWP- MALI	Chair	+ 223 66 72 28 48
57	TOUNKARA yahaya	CWP- NIGER	Chair	+ 227 21 76 39 01 pneniger@yahoo.fr
58	Dr Awaiss ABOUBACAR	WWF	Regional coordinator	wwf@iniger.ne
59	Grégoire ALE	GWP/ WA- TEC	TEC Member	alegre@netcourrier.com alegregoire@yahoo.fr + 229 21 07 56 87
60	AFOUDA Abel	CWP- Benin	Chair	afoudab@netcourrier.com aafouda@yahoo.fr + 229 21 36 11 35
61	Mario MONIZ	CWP- CAPE VERDE	Chair	Mmmrrrvvv@hotmail.com + 238 26 17 843
62	Hassane Bdliya	CWP- Nigeria	Chair	hasbliya@hotmail.com
63	Nii Boi AYIBOTELE	GWP- Ghana	Chair	ayibotele@ghana.com

64	TRAORE ZAKARI Abdoulaye	CWP- TOGO	Chair	+ 228 90 04 01 37
65	Mme Anta SECK	DGPRES SENEGAL		+ 221 823 18 17 antaseck@orange.sn
66	Hama Arba DIALLO	GWP/ WA	Newly elected Chair	watac@fasonet.bf hmadiallo@gmail.com
67	SORO Dohoba	Presidency of the Republic -CI	Technical Councillor	+ 225 03 30 68 56 Soro_dohoba@yahoo.fr
68	Ouattara Ali Nahoua	MEPA	Representative	Mepaf2006@yahoo.fr 07 44 67 65
69	DIARRA Abou	CAFEE	Director	07 08 20 48
70	N'GUESSAN N'DRI Lucien	Civil Society		07 88 09 71
71	JAMES HANSEN	International Institute for Climate and Society, Columbia University - USA	Research Scientist Agriculture Systems	jhansen@iri.columbia.edu
72	BROWN CASEY	Water Team Leader	International research for climate and society	caseyb@iri.columbia.edu
73	TAGRO Gbolatche Jean Paul	CWP/CI	Trainee	jpyohann@gmail.com
74	KPORDZE Charles. Seth	KNUST. K UMASI	TEC Member	cskpordze@mail.com
75	NONGUIERMA Aloys	Liptako- Gourma Authority	Head of Dept Hydraulics - Energy	+ 226 50 30 11 67

76	YANG Xiaoliu	GWP- TEC	Member	xlyang@urban.pku.edu.
77	ONIBON Hubert	GEF Volta project	Regional coordinator	hubertonibon@unep.org
78	Didier ZINSOU	NBA	Water resources Expert	dzinsou@abn.ne
79	OBENG LETITIA	GWP	Chair	lobeng@gwpforum.org
80	SILVA Rui Luis	ECOWAS/ WRCC	Director	11 BP 14 37 Ouaga 11 Ruisilva52@gmail.com
81	ZOUNGRANA Denis	2i E	Lecturer	Denis.zoungrana@2ie-edu.org
82	MOUSSA Amadou	ARID	Chair	+226 50 30 43 61 m.amadou@yahoo.fr info@arid-afrique.org
83	ATIKPO Yao .Samuel	VAB	Councillor of the Executive Dir.	+ 226 50 37 60 67 Samuel.atikpo@gmail.com
84	AKAKPO Wohou	Directorate-General of water and Sanitation of Togo	Director of Water Resources Planning and management	+ 228 901 69 73 Akakpo-raouf@yahoo.fr
85	YEO Napari	CNDD- CI		yeonapari@yahoo.fr 66 19 49 81 05 47 65 70
86	IRMIE Bruno	Ministry Plan and Development - CI	Technical Councillor	20 200 974 iritieb@yahoo.fr

87	GOULIA D. Angèle	Directorate-General of economy	Research Specialist	dgoulia@yahoo.fr 20 200 08 17 05 75 48 57
88	BAH Bile Valentin	SODEFOR / MINEEF	Technical Councillor	06 16 83 75
89	ENOH EZANIN KOUAO Eric	CIFED/ UOCI	Vice Chair	07 54 77 28 Enoh_eric@yahoo.fr
90	GNAGNE Théophile	CREPA- CI	Resident director	01 32 30 64 Agnero_gnagne@yahoo.fr
91	ABOUSSOU Attebe Appolinaire	CWPCI	CO	08 64 78 26 aattebe@yahoo.fr
92	KONAN Adjoua Marie Jeanne	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Communication Department	48 20 02 07
93	BOUABRE Marc	Ministry of Mines and Energy	Project leader	45 71 27 87
94	Hervé AKE	Ministry of Mines and Energy	Assistant	66 90 23 10
95	EKISSI Sylvain	Ministry of Tourism	Research Specialist	09 33 86 33
96	KONAN Théodore	Ministry of Mines and Energy	Communication Department	08 02 22 14

97	ZANAHIN José	NGO « Eau pour Tous »	Chair	06 49 88 79
98	AOBLE Jean Paul	Dr. of NGO projects	Project Agent	09 80 20 60
99	OUEDRAOGO Gisèle	GWP/ WA	Assistant	Somdouya1@yahoo.fr
100	COUGNY Gérard	UNEP- DHI Centre for Water and Environment	Senior Programme Councillor	06 BP 2474 Abj 06 Gec.@dhigroup.com
101	Prof. GOULA BI TIE	CWPCI	STC PRESIDENT	07 52 61 63 Goulaba2002@yahoo.fr
102	Simon THUO	GWP East Africa- KENYA	Regional coordinator	sthuo@nilebasin.org
103	Vangelis	GWP	Mediterranean Executive Secretary	vangelis@gwpmmed.rog
104	Michael SCOULLOS	GWP Mediterranean	Chair	secretariat@gwpmmed.org
105	Mrs Ruth BEUKMAN	GWP south Africa	Regional Executive Secretary	r.beukman@cgiar.org
106	N'GUESSAN TOZAN BI Michel	DRE / MINEEF	Director of water Resources	Michel-tozan@yahoo.fr 20 32 24 41 05 78 04 45
107	M. PAUL KOUAME	AAE	Communication Officer	08 15 53 00 canbonouxp@yahoo.fr

108	M. KOUAKOU BOUHO	DRE	Project authority	01 07 85 68 kbjero@yahoo.fr
109	KRAIDI Jacques	DRE/ MINEEF	Deputy Director	kraidijacques@yahoo.fr 05 61 19 79
110	Dr AHOSSANE KADIO	MINEEF	Focal Point Coordinator	kahossane@gmail.com 22 44 18 34
111	Prof. TIDOU- BOGA ABIBA	AFEMC-CI	Chair/ VP	Atidou2000@yahoo.fr 07 07 67 89
112	DJE KOUAKOU BERNARD	SODEXAM/ DMN	Head of Climato department	Dje-kbernard2003@yahoo.fr 05 81 77 21
113	TRAORE ABOU	RTI	Journalist	Aboubra008@yahoo.fr 21 25 86 16
114	KOFFI KOMENAN	MME/ DE	Research Specialist	Koffi_komenan@yahoo.fr 20 20 61 45/ 20 32 03 80
115	PATERNE OUGUEYE YVES	NOUVEAU REVEIL	Journalist	Yves_oug@yahoo.fr 01 93 44 51
116	SOGONA SIDIBE	LE PATRIOTE	Journalist	Nana-sid@hotmail.com 07 71 17 41
117	JEAN LOUIS GBANGBO	L'INTER	Journalist	Gbangbo2005@yahoo.fr 05 22 32 02
118	DJE ABEL	NOTRE VOIE	Journalist	Djabel784@yahoo.fr 07 78 47 04
119	ALVOR ASSA	RTI 1ère	Journalist	alvorassa@yahoo.fr 07 19 25 59
120	ELYSEE YAO	SOIR INFO	Journalist	Elysee Yao2003@yahoo.fr 01 05 86 64 – 05 95 24 88

Appendix 5: Programme of the GAP

Tuesday 27 January 2009

Venue: IVOTEL

Time slots	Activities	Names
7 :30-9 :00	Reception and Registration	
9:00-10:30	Opening ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Entertainment ▪ Address of the Chair of CWP-CI ▪ Address of the Mayor of Plateau ▪ Address of the Chair of GWP/ WA ▪ Address of the Chair of GWP ▪ Address of MINEEF ▪ Entertainment ▪ Address of the Prime Minister 	N'DRI Koffi Akossi BENDJO Madiodio NIASSE Laetitia OBENG Dr AHIZI Aka Daniel
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	

Time slots	Activities
11:00-13:00	Panel : Impacts of Climate change on agriculture, energy and the available water resources facilitated by : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr AHOSSANE Kadio (National Project of Climate Change RCI) ▪ Prof AFOUDA Abel (Benin) ▪ DJE Kouakou Bernard (Meteorology RCI) ▪ Hama Arba DIALLO (Chair of GWP/ WA) ▪ KOBENAN Koffi (Ministry of Energy RCI) ▪ Mrs TIDOU Abiba (Association of Women Researchers RCI) With Traoré ABOU (RTI) as Moderator
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00- 16:30	Resumption of work Adoption of the agenda Presentation and adoption of reports
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break
17:00-19:00	Presentation and adoption of reports (continued) Validation of the new Chair's candidacy
20:00	Dinner

Wednesday 28 January 2009

Venue: IVOTEL

Time slots	Activities
8h30-10h00	<p>Session on the implementation of GWP-AMCOW strategic alliance Introductory words by the Chairs of GWP/WA and AMCOW</p> <p>Presentations on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Climate Change by Xiaoliu Yang and Afouda ▪ Infrastructures by Mr. WOUDENEH (AfDB) ▪ Governance by Mr. Reginald TEKATEKA and Mr. Michael SCOULOS <p>Wrap up and conclusion</p>
10h00 –10h30	Coffee Break
10h30-12h30	<p>Panel facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair of GWP ▪ GWP regional Chairs ▪ Vice Chairs of AMCOW ▪ AfDB Representative ▪ Chair of AMCOW-TAC ▪ Executive secretary of AMCOW <p>With Simon THUO as Moderator</p> <p>Thought of panellists on the next actions and perspective of GWP and AMCOW collaboration</p>
12h00-14h30	Lunch
14h30-15h30	<p>Presentations / Experiences of GWP/ WA member Organizations</p> <p>Preparation of the final communiqué</p>
15h30-16h00	Adoption of the final communiqué in plenary
16h00-16h30	Coffee Break

Time slots	Activities	Names
16h30-17h00	Reception and Registration	
17h00-18h00	<p>Closing ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Entertainment ▪ Reading of the GAP final communiqué ▪ Address of new Chair ▪ Entertainment ▪ Address of MINEEF 	<p>N'DRI Koffi Hama Arba DIALLO Dr AHIZI Aka Daniel</p>
18h00	<p style="text-align: center;">END OF THE GAP Press conference</p>	

Appendix 6: Speech

ADDRESS OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND FORESTS

Dr. AHIZI AKA Daniel

Distinguished Delegate of the Prime Minister;

Mrs Chair of the Global Water Partnership;

Representative of the Worship Mayor of Abidjan Plateau;

Mr Chair of the West African Water Partnership;

Mr Chair of Côte d'Ivoire Country Water Partnership;

Ladies and Gentlemen, General managers;

Ladies and Gentlemen, Directors and Heads of Department;

Honourable guests,

Let take this opportunity to welcome you in Côte d'Ivoire, as part of the General Assembly of GWP/WA (Global Water Partnership, West Africa) partners, which will deliberate on the problems of sustainable water resources management through the theme: "Impacts of climate change on agriculture, energy and water resources".

Indeed, climate changes represent one of the global most alarming problems, considering its effect on natural resources, health, food security, wellbeing, energy, agriculture, water, etc.

African countries appear among the most exposed in the disastrous effects of climate changes although they thereto contribute the least.

Climate changes indeed imperil the efforts expended in Africa to achieve economic development and to reduce poverty.

Africa is thus inevitably the continent, which consumes less energy, while it should be able to command more energy to reach a higher standard of living.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the results from the General Circulation Models used under WATBAL model of initial national Communication on climate changes (2001), show that climate change would involve a knock on water resources whatever the phytogeographical zone.

Lowering pluviometry and water resources in these zones would thus affect the hydroelectric power production, agricultural production and other socio-economic sectors.

In the Northern part of Côte d'Ivoire, in savannah area, WATBAL model foresees water resources becoming scarce in the three (3) studied sub-basins: from 21% to 22% in

Marabadiassa, 5,1 % to 6,9 % in Kahin and from 6,4% to 8,4% in Piébly. Thus, the reduction will be more and more significant in the traditionally dry areas.

The N'zo and Sassandra Rivers supply hydroelectric dams of Buyo, Kossou and Taabo with water for the first one and by Bandama for the two last. A fall in the total power production of these dams.

Indeed, lower water resources in the considered watersheds will probably have an impact on the productivity of rainfed agriculture in particular on rice and Soya. In addition, a lower volume of surface waters would make access to water in the wells difficult.

With respect to the consequences indicated above, adaptation strategies should be implemented to face the probable effects of climate changes on water resources. These measures could be summed in a few points:

- Implementing a watersheds planning and coordination policy ;
- Maintaining options for the development of new sites of water reserves;
- Improving the effectiveness of irrigation.

For that purpose, the African countries also need additional financial availabilities easily accessible to face the pernicious effects of climate changes.

To this end, I would like to praise rightly AMCOW for having thought of setting up the African Water Facility (AWF), a tool intended to mobilize resources to fund activities of water resources development in Africa.

I would like to seize the same opportunity to thank AMCOW for having chosen Abidjan to hold the meeting of the Steering committee of the 5th World Water Forum, which will take place from 16 to 22 March 2009 in Istanbul in TURKEY.

Distinguished participants, the objective of this meeting is to invite you to a deep thinking, which must lead the African countries to develop their capacities to mobilize all the human and institutional means:

- To work out and implement effective adaptation strategies in the economic sectors sensitive to climate effects, in particular sectors like water, agriculture, energy, food security;
- To promote the integration of climate issues into the development planning and national programmes.

Mr Representative of the Prime Minister;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On this note of hope, I would like to wish you continued success in your work.

On this I declare open, the 3rd General Assembly of partners of the West African Water Partnership.

ADDRESS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WORSHIP MAYOR OF PLATEAU

Distinguished Delegate of the Prime Minister;

Right Honourable Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources;

His Excellency, the Honourable Right Chair of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW);

Ladies and Gentlemen, General and central managers of the Public and private administration;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Worship Mayor of Plateau, I would like to express my joy at taking part with all those coming from here and elsewhere to this ceremony. We would like to reassert before any matter, our commitment to work on exploring for appropriate solutions to all the environmental nature issues.

Our conference is a historical meeting in a world, face with a multitude of challenges, which are as many paradoxes:

- challenges of the upsurge of an increasingly strong water demand to meet human and environmental needs in a world where science and technology gained the upper hand on ignorance and impotence;
- paradox of uneven water distribution in a context of apparent abundance;
- Challenges and paradoxes of wars in a world sufficiently organized, and thus able to avoid confrontations.

Mr Chair,

These meetings of Abidjan offer me the pleasant occasion to greet you as well as your Water Partnership peers, the traditional "Akwaba".

The District of Plateau, which wants to be in all the floret of the cities of West Africa, is honoured to accommodate these sessions, which testify to a regained confidence in Côte d'Ivoire destination.

I appreciate for their true worth the significance of these events and I would like to greet correctly the initiatives taken by our Minister to have all buy in the issues of climate change. No State can escape the effects of a sustainable drought, and all the citizens in the world must show commitment to protect environment and all these components.

Confident that this work will contribute to identify adaptation strategies for our countries, resolutely engaged in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), this in a context of proven climate change, I wish continued success with your work.

Thank you.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR OF GWP

Dr. Letitia OBENG

His Excellency, the Distinguished Delegate of the Prime Minister;
Excellency, the Right Honourable Minister in charge of Environment, Water and Forests;

Mr Chair of AMCOW;

Representatives of AMCOW;

Distinguished representatives of the ECOWAS, UEMOA and the African Development Bank;

Representative of the Worship Mayor of Abidjan;

Dear Regional and Country Partnerships;

Mr Chair of GWP West Africa;

Mr Chair of Côte d'Ivoire CWP;

Dear partners, guests and friends

It is a real pleasure for the Global Water Partnership to be at your side, today, in Abidjan, for the launching of the 3rd General ordinary Assembly of GWP West Africa.

This meeting celebrates the 10 years of the Regional Partnership and will be marked by the reinforcement of our strategic alliance with AMCOW. It comes as a confirmation of the partnering strategy of our respective institutions as regards support to high added value added development and integrated management of the water resources of our respective countries.

Your Excellencies, Right Honourable Ministers, Dear Partners,

Let me first of all thank sincerely the Head of State as well as the Ivorian authorities which did us the honour of accommodating us, in one of the most beautiful capital cities of Africa, for the launching of this essential Regional Assembly for the development of our partnership in West Africa but also on the whole of the African continent.

Be, Mr Head of State deeply thanked and congratulated.

My thanks also go to the West African Regional Water Partnership and to Côte d'Ivoire Country Water Partnership for the exemplary organization of this meeting and their value of example both in terms of governance and of effectiveness for the whole Global network.

Thank you, Mr Chairs, coordinators, and members of the Regional Partnerships of Southern, Central, Eastern Africa and the Mediterranean for your commitment in support of African people and future generations.

Dear Partners,

The Global Water Partnership was set up in 1996 with as ambition to put in place a partnership opened to the government agencies, public institutions, private sector stakeholders, professional organizations, development organizations, nongovernmental organizations, research and training institutes ...

In its capacity as multi-stakeholder networking platform, GWP has been catalysing and facilitating today the harmonization of efforts of the various players in the field of water, at the local, regional, national and international levels towards setting up integrated management of this so invaluable and fragile resource.

In this beginning 2009, GWP has about 80 Country and 13 Regional Partnerships.

Achievements of GWP strategy 2004-2008 are numerous with in particular:

- Significant extension of the network, its structuring, improvement of its operation and management;
- An "intellectual " leadership recognized at the regional and global level for the concepts of water resources management;
- Thorough awareness drawing and mobilization of the key players of the water and development sector.

Numerous and significant achievements, but in these economically and financially difficult times, for the whole world and more particularly for this continent, there is still a lot to do with regard to:

- Application of IWRM approach on the ground;
- Commitment of economic decision makers;
- Adjustment of advocacy messages and actions of the partnership to consider the issues raised by climate changes, energy crisis and growing food insecurity;
- Improvement of monitoring /evaluation of the actions engaged by the Partnership as well as systems of experience development and sharing ;

- Finally, development of human resources and enhancement of capacities to mobilize and diversify financial resources at the various levels of the partnership and more particularly at the regional and national levels.

To respond to these new challenges GWP started at the beginning of 2008, a broad participatory process of definition of a new global strategy over the period 2009-2013. West Africa has shown particularly active in this process by introducing significant recommendations following the Steering committee meetings of Ouagadougou and Accra, then by its substantive participation in the Global General Assembly of Partners organized last August in Stockholm.

The region, thanks to its strengthened strategic partnerships in particular with the ECOWAS and the European Union also engaged, since March 2008, in the definition of its regional strategy.

This assembly should allow you to consolidate this adaptation to the regional context of the globally level jointly defined strategic focus areas and to draw the concrete elements of its implementation in support of AMCOW. Thank you with you, Mr Chair of AMCOW, Your Excellencies, the Honourable Ministers and Mr Executive Secretary for your participation in this meeting of Abidjan, we hope to be able to use your guidance and enlightened opinions during our deliberations together tomorrow.

Dear partners,

I highly encourage you to continue the dynamics, started at the highest level at the scale of the African continent for water resources development and management adapted to your specific contexts. We are convinced of the legitimacy, the effectiveness and the sustainability of the actions engaged in this strategic sector, for the well-being of the people and the sustainable development of your respective countries.

We shall depend on all the sectors, which depend on an effective water resources management (agriculture, energy, health, industry, infrastructures, transport, environment, water supply etc....) to work together with the economic decision makers of your countries to carry out these actions.

I wish you dear partners and friends a most cordial and fruitful General Assembly, be assured of GWP commitment, at your side for the success of this process.

I thank you for your attention.

SPEECH OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WEST AFRICAN WATER PARTNERSHIP (GWP/ WA)

Mr. André TOUPE

Distinguished Special Adviser Representing the Prime Minister;
Your Excellency, Mister Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources;
Mrs Chair of the Global Water Partnership;
The Representative of the Worship Mayor of Plateau;
Mr Chair of Côte d'Ivoire Country Water Partnership;
Ladies and Gentlemen, Representatives of Partner Institutions;
Distinguished guests.

On behalf of the Steering Committee and all the partners of the West African Water Partnership, I would like to thank the authorities of Côte d'Ivoire, for having agreed to host here in Abidjan, the various meetings falling in line with this 3rd General Assembly of Partners. My thanks also go to the Country Water Partnership of Côte d'Ivoire and the local organising committee, which did not spare any effort for the success of this event. Thank you also to you, distinguished partners, who accepted our invitation to participate.

I would like to thank particularly AMCOW and the AfDB, for having agreed to relocate the Steering committee meeting, of the regional preparatory process of the 5th World Water Forum for Africa from Addis-Abeba to Abidjan to be able participate in our General Assembly.

By the same occasion, I would like to say thank you to the Chair of GWP who by her presence, so confirms the great respect of the whole network for the regional Partnership.

Let me, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, to point out and greet the presence among us, of the Chairs of GWP East Africa, Southern Africa, Central Africa, Mediterranean and North Africa regions, as well as representatives of GWP Global Technical Committee.

Your Excellencies, the Right Honourable Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

All these presences show the importance of the meeting of Abidjan; this meeting which must all to discuss and to strengthen the co-operation relations between the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) and GWP as well as their respective regional divisions.

Your Excellencies, the Right Honourable Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

It has been approximately two years that the second General Assembly of GWP/ WA Partners held in Lomé. This meeting allowed the confirmation of the commitment of partners in the region, to promote and implement integrated water resources management in West Africa, through the reinforcement of strategic partnerships.

The General Assembly, is an important moment of our partnership, because it gives the partners not on such authorities which meet more regularly, the opportunity to be informed about the conduct of partnership activities, to exchange with others and to discuss major water issues in the world, in our subregion, and their implications on the orientation of our partnership process.

Your Excellencies, the Right Honourable Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

Between GA of Lomé and that of Abidjan, our partnership scored the signature of the agreement on the implementation of the Programme of Improvement of Water Governance in Africa (PIWAG). This programme of two and half a million euros funded by the European Union and GWPO over one three years period, aims among other things to reinforce the partnership through in particular, its organs which are the General Assembly of Partners, the Steering committee, the Technical Committee and the Executive Secretariat. I would like for that once again thank the ACP/EU Facility for Water and GWPO for this highly valuable support.

Your Excellencies, the Right Honourable Ministers

Ladies and Gentlemen

The theme of our meeting, "IWRM in West Africa: adaptation strategies, in a proven context of climate change ", is very topical and calls out to all the players at whatever level, for awareness of the phenomenon and its impact on the water resources in order to refine better the adaptation strategies.

Before I conclude my remark, I would like to thank all those who agreed to participate in this ceremony, which contributes to the 3rd General Ordinary Assembly, which as I hope and do wish, will be a new start towards strengthening integrated water resources management in West Africa.

Thank you for your attention.

SPEECH OF THE CHAIR OF CI - CWP AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF GWP/ WA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. N'Dri KOFFI

Distinguished Delegate of the Prime Minister;

Excellency, the Right Honourable Minister of Environment, Water and Forests;

Mrs Chair of the Global Water Partnership;

Mr Chair of the West African Regional Water Partnership,

Chairs of the Regional Water Partnerships,

Chairs of Country Partnerships;

Directors of Central Administration;

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members of the Steering committee and the Scientific and Technical Council of Côte d'Ivoire Country Water Partnership;

Executive Secretaries of the Country Partnerships,

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Honourable guests,

When in last July in Accra the Steering committee of the West African Regional Water Partnership (GWP/WA) entrusted the Country Water Partnership of Côte d'Ivoire (CWP CI) with the organization of these meetings, it undoubtedly did not gauge the great honour that it made us but also and more especially the heavy responsibility that it entrusted to the one of the lately born Country Water Partnerships in West Africa.

The 3rd General Assembly of partners of the West African Regional Water Partnership (GWP/WA) in Abidjan whose first expressions started since last 23 January takes on in our opinion a very particular significance.

The Meeting of Abidjan, as a happy combination of circumstances, comes around the following activities and events:

- ✓ Appointment of the new Chair of the Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO) and her first visit in Africa as part of her new functions.
- ✓ Recruitment of the new Executive Secretary of the Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO)
- ✓ Nomination of new the Chair of the Regional Water Partnership (GWP/WA) to be ratified by the General Assembly.
- ✓ Year 1 in the implementation of the Project of Improvement of Water Governance in West Africa called PIWAG
- ✓ Development of the new strategy of the Global Water Partnership over the period 2009-2013
- ✓ Development of the Water Partnership network with new CWPs, which are knocking at the door.
- ✓ Return to normal political and social life in Côte d'Ivoire.
- ✓ 10 years of the Global Water Partnership presence in Africa.

The Convention of Abidjan is the quality of the Participants in attendance:

- ✓ The presence of the Chair of the Global Water Partnership (GWPO)
- ✓ The presence of Ministers and Members of the Technical Committee of the Council of Ministers on Water (AMCOW)
- ✓ The presence of the Chairs of other Regional Partnerships in Africa.

The Convention of Abidjan is the theme around which the participants will deliberate and exchange: **IWRM in West Africa: Strategy of adaptation in a context of proven climate change.**

Everyone speaks of climate change because of its consequences. Experts will discuss this issue and especially of its impact at the level of environment, water resources management, agriculture, energy, etc.

This theme will lead we are convinced of it, to intense and informative debates,

The Convention of Abidjan is the quality and density of meetings:

- ✓ The Training Workshop on the mobilization of funds which has been just completed

- ✓ The Budget Committee meeting
- ✓ The CWPs and TEC meeting
- ✓ The Steering committee meeting
- ✓ The General Assembly of GWP/ WA Partners itself.
- ✓ The Panel on the central theme of the GAP
- ✓ Special GWP/WA –AMCOW session.
- ✓ AMCOW parallel meetings.

The Convention of Abidjan is the number and quality of the participants:

- ✓ More than one hundred people from 20 countries all over the world are present
- ✓ As many Ivorians will take part in the different activities.

The Convention of Abidjan is especially the involvement of the political and administrative authorities of Côte d'Ivoire, which accepted the large family of Water Partnership to coming in the Economic Capital city of Côte d'Ivoire.

Distinguished Delegate of the Prime Minister;

You would please extend to the Prime Minister the expression of our never-ending appreciation for the support, which the Government provided us. We know the importance, which his Government attaches to water.

The Convention of Abidjan falls into line with the commitment of His Excellency President Laurent GBAGBO to play a foreground role at the international level through the ECOWAS at the subregional level in particular and in Africa in general.

We are also grateful to the Honourable Minister of Environment, Forestry and Water Resources and with his collaborators who supported us in the organisation of these meetings.

The Convention of Abidjan is maybe the Country Water Partnership of Côte d'Ivoire (CWP CI). Nevertheless, it took a Steering Committee involving women and men coming from Ministries, private Companies and civil society several months without sparing a single effort nor their time to offer you an organization up to the expectations of all.

Quite recently, a bad company one should not associate with, the Convention of Abidjan offers the international and subregional community the opportunity to find out that Côte d'Ivoire is and remains what it has never ceased to be in spite of the crisis: a welcoming land, a place of hospitality and shared happiness.

As you can see this meeting for the Water Partnership of Côte d'Ivoire has multiple and essential stakes.

This is why in our membership of the Steering Committee we want to call upon your indulgence to forgive us for any shortcomings as might have occurred in the organization.

Mrs Chair of the Global Water Partnership,

Mr Chair of the West African Regional Water Partnership,

Chairs of Country Partnerships,

Today is a great day for Côte d'Ivoire CWP.

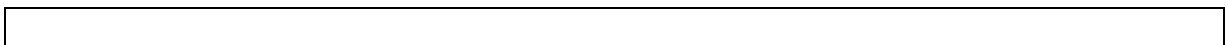
Holding these meetings in Abidjan, your presence at our sides is a great reason of comfort and encouragement. They are worth our 2 years of advocacy, lobbying, to make known and to establish Côte d'Ivoire CWP in the scene of the water sector of Côte d'Ivoire.

After you leave, at the end of these meetings the authorities, the administration, the Partners of Côte d'Ivoire CWP, the development partners based in Côte d'Ivoire, will look differently at Côte d'Ivoire CWP. Côte d'Ivoire CWP will no longer be seen as a small NGO.

After you leave, people will demand a little more from Côte d'Ivoire CWP.

We are very grateful to you for this respect and trust mark.

The Chair



CONTACTS

M. Dam Mogbanté

dammogbante@gmail.com

GWP WA Secretariat -Ouagadougou

Telephone: +226 503 66 212

Fax: +226 503 66 208

M. Axel Julié

axel.julie@gwpforum.org

GWP Secretariat

Telephone : + 46 (0)8 522 126 67

Fax : +46 (0)8 522 126 31

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