



Document from the 7th Africa Water Week,
held in Libreville, Gabon, 29 October – 2
November 2018

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practice in the provision, use and
management of water resources for
sustainable social and economic
development and maintenance of African
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PLENARY SESSION DAILY REPORT
(RAPPORT JOURNALIER DE SESSION PLÉNIÈRE)
‘7TH AFRICA WATER WEEK’
« 7IEME SEMAINE AFRICAINE DE L’EAU »
29 OCT. – 02 NOV. 2018

No.	AWW7-2018SS/15	Version No.	v1r0			Report Date: (Date du rapport)	30-10-2018
Date:	30-10-2018	Times: (Heures)	11:14 AM	to	12:40 PM	Language (Langue)	French
Theme:	Toward Achieving Water Security and Safely Managed Sanitation for Africa						
French theme	‘Vers la Sécurité de l’Eau et des Services d’Assainissement gérés en toute sécurité pour l’Afrique’						
Sub-theme: (Sous-thème)	Water Governance: Re-engineering IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management), the Link Approach in Action						
Session No.	SS15	Title: (Titre)	Implementing IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management) in the 2030 Agenda				
Country: (Pays)	GABON	City: (Ville)	Libreville	Location: (Lieu)	Stade de l’Amitié Sino-Gabonaise, Angondje		
Rapporteurs (Rapporteurs):	Larissa Mboumba				Technical Partner: (Partenaire technique)	SASI GABON	
Further details: (Informations complémentaires)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint Presentation (NO) • Technical Documentation (YES) 						
Abbreviations and acronyms: (Sigles et abréviations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme); DHI; GWP (Global Water Partnership) • IWRM: Integrated Water Resources Management 						

IDENTIFICATION OF THE LEAD CONVENER AND CONTACT (IDENTIFICATION DES RESPONSABLES ET CONTACTS)

Lead Convener (Responsable):	UNEP-DHI
Co-convener (Coresponsable):	UN Environment Programme, GWP
Contact:	

SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION (IDENTIFICATION DES INTERVENANTS)

Moderator (Modérateur):	Prof. Peter Koefoed Bjornsen (United Nations Environment Programme, DHI Centre on Water and Environment)
Speakers (Intervenants):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Peter Koefoed Bjornsen (United Nations Environment Programme, DHI Centre on Water and Environment) • Dr Madiodio Niase (Expert on water, land and the environment)

SESSION OBJECTIVES (OBJECTIFS DE LA SESSION)

- Status of integrated water resources management (IWRM) in Africa

SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)

- Presentation on IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management) and the role of IWRM implementation
- Current status of overall IWRM implementation in Africa

SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)

- IWRM provides a general framework for responding to various demands for water resources. Its main purpose is to ensure that water resources are fairly, sustainably and efficiently developed, managed and used. In the framework of the 2030 Programme, IWRM is expected to progress more concretely, more rapidly and on a broader scale than in the past.
With a view to achieving SDG 6 (Sustainable Development Goal 6), there should be a stronger focus on the mechanisms enabling IWRM implementation and use, including:
 - *sustainable financing, and*
 - *pragmatic problem-solving.*
- The average score achieved by Africa with regard to overall IWRM implementation is lower than the global average, with national performances ranging from very low to medium high. Studies broken down by region show that:
 - North Africa and Southern Africa score highest on IWRM implementation. Countries in these two sub-regions have medium-to-low and medium-to-high levels of implementation. On average, implementation in these sub-regions is slightly higher than in East Africa or West Africa, where some countries score low on implementation.
 - Central Africa is the only part of the African continent that scores low overall on IWRM implementation. This part of the continent has an abundance of water resources, but faces major difficulties in terms of development and access to drinking water and sanitation.
It also presents an enormous potential in terms of hydroelectric development, which is included in certain African targets. Institutional and legal frameworks and professional capacities need to be significantly improved for the development of hydroelectric power, taking duly account of the social and environmental impacts.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES)

Question No.	1	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):	Why do Central African countries have the lowest IWRM implementation indicators, given its substantial water resources?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)	
The Central African paradox is due to the fact that that part of the sub-region is rich in potential water resources, which is not a major factor in IWRM implementation.		Prof. Peter Koefoed Bjornsen	
Decisions have been taken into account by ECCAS heads of state, but awareness needs to be raised among experts in the field, so that they can find solutions that promote the advancement of IWRM implementation in the sub-region.		Dr Madiodio Niasse	

Question No.	2	Author (Auteur):	Participant from Senegal
Wording (Libellé):	How can the states be supported in their efforts?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
Capacity building is required at all levels, namely through economic, political and national awareness raising.			Dr Madiodio Niasse

CONCLUSIONS OF THE SESSION (CONCLUSIONS DE LA SESSION)

- Solutions were provided to improve IWRM implementation in African countries, namely:
 - resource capacity-building to support implementation;
 - harmonising IWRM in African countries;
 - promotion and operationalisation for the development of transboundary cooperation; and
 - analysis of IWRM improvement policies.
- IWRM implementation in Central Africa should be a priority. The African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), with support from the African Union, should strive to facilitate national implementation and provide support for ECCAS.