



African Civil Society Water Resources Development Workshop Report

October 2nd to 4th, 2003
Nairobi, Kenya

Hosted by Environment Liaison Centre International
Organised by Freshwater Action Network International

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	4

DAY ONE, 2ND OCTOBER 2003

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES AND DEVELOPMENT, KENYA, HON MARTHA KARUA.....	5
---	---

PRESENTATIONS

THE GLOBAL WATER SITUATION, JOHN ONDARI.....	6
THE NEPAD PROGRAMME ON WATER, JEAN DOYEN.....	6
EUROPEAN UNION'S WATER INIATIVE (EU-WI), DANIELLE MORLEY.....	7
AMCOW MEETING, ROB SINCLAIR.....	7
CSD AND WATER, ANNABELL WAITITU.....	7

DAY TWO, 3RD OCTOBER 2003

GROUP REPORTS.....	8
--------------------	---

Civil Society Participation in Regional Water Initiatives.....	8
Articulating Initiatives.....	8
Strengthening African Ownership of Water Resource Development Processes.....	9

PRESENTATIONS

FAN, DANIELLE MORLEY.....	9
THE UGANDA WATER AND SANITATION NGO NETWORK (UWASNET), DR. JUUKO FULGENSIO.....	10
ADVOCACY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ZAMBIA (AREZ), CHOZI VINCENT LUNGU.....	10
GROUP DISCUSSIONS /REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS.....	11

DAY THREE, 4TH OCTOBER 2003

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS.....	12
-------------------------------	----

Name.....	13
Problems/needs/opportunities of the network.....	13
Vision.....	13
Mission.....	13
Structure of the network.....	14
Outline of activities for the next two years.....	14
Outline of financial and material resources.....	14

COMMITMENTS BY PARTICIPANTS.....	15
----------------------------------	----

CLOSING OF THE MEETING.....	16
-----------------------------	----

ANNEX I LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	17
------------------------------------	----

ANNEX II LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.....	18
------------------------------------	----



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FAN-Africa Meeting/Advocacy Seminar took place at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi, Kenya, from 2nd to 4th October, 2003. Sponsored by the Freshwater Action Network (FAN) and hosted by the Environment Liaison Centre International (ELCI), it was attended by participants from the following countries: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia as well as by representatives of FAN and ELCI. Some of the participants represented national organizations while others represented national or international water networks. The stated aim of the seminar was to develop a mechanism which would give civil society in Africa a voice in matters of freshwater management, a mechanism for Africa similar to that created by FAN at the international level after the 2nd World Water Forum. The seminar was divided into two parts: presentations by experts representing various organizations including the World Bank and discussions aimed at developing the proposed mechanism.

Following discussion within the groups and the plenary sessions, it was agreed that there was indeed a need for an African network of CSOs working in the area of freshwater to serve as a coordinating mechanism for a common voice and to exert influence at policy levels. This mechanism should be referred to as a "network," participants felt. It should be a membership network and criteria should be laid down for membership. This network would have links with FAN as well as with other networks having common goals.

It was further decided that a task force be identified to move the network forward and that this task force be chosen on a sub-regional basis. Participants from the various sub-regions selected the following representatives:

East Africa	Rosemary Rop, Maji ni Ufanisi, Kenya
West Africa	Malick Gaye, ENDA-RUP, Senegal
Central Africa	Alphonse Issi, MNC Cameroon
North Africa	Essam Nada, Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE), Egypt
Southern Africa	Bethwel Netshiswinshe, Mvula Trust, South Africa

It was also resolved that ELCI should be the network's hosting organization for an initial period of one year.

Participants chose the following name for the network: "African CSOs Network for Water (ANEW)" The vision of the network should be "An Africa where water resources are managed sustainably and where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation" while the proposed mission agreed on by participants was "To facilitate the co-ordination of diverse African voices on watsan."

It was noted that events were about to take place to which African CSOs should have an input, namely, the AMCOW Steering Committee meeting due to take place in Ouagadougou and the PANAFCON meeting scheduled for Addis Ababa. Arrangements were therefore made aimed at ensuring that the voice of ANEW would be heard during these forums.

At the end of the seminar, all the participants committed themselves in writing concerning the role they were willing to play to promote the new network.



INTRODUCTION

The goal of the Nairobi meeting was to establish an African network of NGOs involved in water management, water supply and sanitation in order to influence and develop policies and action plans relating to the WSSD and MDG targets on water in Africa.

The event was a significant beginning to the process of incorporating civil society into the discussions and decisions taken on water management in the region. It addressed the gap caused by a lack of opportunity to meet, network, and coordinate the various actions carried out by local actors and NGOs which have, in many cases, led to innovative strategies and models for managing, financing and mobilizing communities around water supply, sanitation provision and water resource management.

The meeting was held in response to a request from the African members of the Freshwater Action Network who had participated in a series of international water meetings between 2001 and 2003 (Bonn, Johannesburg, Kyoto) and who wanted to create an African network to facilitate their collaboration and to address the specific needs and concerns of African civil society.

ANEW is the beginning of a response to the challenge addressed by African governments to civil society actors asking them to be more organised, accessible and accountable so as to become valued partners in the development and implementation of initiatives aimed at the sustainable management of Africa's water resources and the access by all to safe water and sanitation.

Danielle Morley
FAN coordinator



DAY ONE 2nd October 2003

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The facilitator, Mr. Daudi Waithaka, requested all the participants to introduce themselves. He then read out the seminar's proposed objective which was *"To develop a mechanism that gives civil society organisations in Africa an effective voice in matters related to freshwater management and one that ensures African leadership in and ownership of developments in the water and sanitation sectors on the continent."* Participants expressed agreement with this objective.

Ms. Rosemary Rop, of Maji na Ufanisi, gave the background of the current seminar. She explained that the Freshwater Action Network or FAN had come into being after the 2nd World Water Forum in 2000 to bring water sector NGOs together. During the subsequent WWF which took place in Kyoto in 2003, African NGOs noted that whereas the Northern NGOs were well organised, African civil society was not speaking with one voice. They also realized that, on most issues, Northern countries were setting the agenda. Hence the idea of setting up an African network so as to coordinate the voice of civil society and the current seminar.

KEYNOTE SPEECH BY THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, KENYA, HON MARTHA KARUA, MP, DELIVERED BY THE ASSISTANT MINISTER, HON JOHN MUNYES, MP

Prior to the Minister's speech, Dr. Barbara Gemmill, the Executive Director of ELCI, welcomed both the Minister and the participants to the meeting. She noted that climate change was impacting on water supply throughout the world. Populations were increasing while the volume of water was decreasing. Innovative solutions in which both the public and the private sectors participated were required. She gave an example of Kenya where civil society played a vital role in the provision of water. She felt, however, that NGOs should not only be involved in service delivery – they should also be involved in the formulation of policy. With these few words, she welcomed the Minister to address the meeting.

The Minister started by drawing the attention of the members to the fact that water was a critical but a finite resource on which all life depended. Freshwater resources are an essential component of the earth's hydrosphere but they constitute only 3% of the global water resources. While some parts of the world are well endowed with freshwater resources, Africa has less than 4% of the total global freshwater resources and within Africa, nine countries face serious water scarcity, Kenya being one of them.

Africa is also characterised by extreme climate events, such as floods and droughts which are increasingly frequent due to accelerated climate change. Such extreme climate events have serious economic consequences – the 1997-1998 El Nino event brought about losses of Kshs 132 billion while the La Nina drought of 1998-2000 cost the country Kshs 203 billion.

In order to overcome these problems and to enhance water resources management, the Kenyan Parliament passed the Water Act 2002 and the Ministry has established the Water Resources Management Authority. In addition, a water resources management strategy is being developed which comprises a number of water reform measures. These measures call for the public, private and civil society sectors to play a role. The Ministry will delegate the implementation aspects of the water strategies to actors such as local authorities, the private sector, NGOs or CBOs while it continues to perform regulatory functions.

The Minister concluded by calling on the CSOs present in the meeting to continue performing this essential role in close collaboration with the Ministry. He thanked FAN for organising the meeting and looked forward to the tangible recommendations which the meeting would come up with on the way forward towards better management and development of water resources in Africa. With those remarks, he declared the meeting officially open.

During the discussion which followed, participants expressed appreciation for the views articulated by the Minister, particularly his appeal to the civil society to collaborate with the Ministry. One participant welcomed the passing of the Water Act 2002 by Parliament but noted that the language of this Act was very complicated. It would be important to demystify the language, she felt, so that it could be made use of by CSOs and the general population. The Minister was entirely in agreement with this sentiment and added that there was a need to put the Act, not only into simple English, but also into Kiswahili and other local languages.



PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION BY JOHN ONDARI OF THE WORLD BANK ON THE GLOBAL WATER SITUATION

Mr. Ondari started by painting a bleak picture of the global water situation. World-wide, 1.3 billion people face water scarcity and the number is expected to rise to 2.7 billion by 2025. 2.5 billion people are without appropriate sanitation while 5 million deaths annually are water-related. Conflicts over water are on the increase and the world's waters are drying up. In Africa, 275 million people (40%) have no access to safe water, half of the countries are water stressed and in 9 countries there is less than 10 litres of water a day per person whereas the UN recommends 50.

He, however, noted some positive steps as follows:

- 1992 - UN Conference on the Environment, Rio
- 1992 - Conference on Water and the Environment, Dublin
- 1996 - Formation of GWP and WWC
- 1997 - 1ST WWF in Marrakech
- 1997 - Formation of WCW
- 2000 - 2ND WWF in The Hague
- 2001 - International Conference on Freshwater in Bonn
- 2001 - UN Millennium Declarations and NEPAD
- 2002 - UN Conference on Finance and Development in Monterrey
- 2002 - WSSD in Johannesburg
- 2003 - 3rd WWF in Kyoto

He drew the attention of participants to the various obstacles to the effective financing of water. These include the low rate of return/long payback period for those investing in the sector, inadequate legal framework/weak regulators and the low priority which many governments place on water. In Kenya, for example, civil society organisations spend more on developing water infrastructure than does the government, which tends to concentrate on recurrent expenditure. Kenya spends about ten times (70.1 billion) on health what it spends on water (7.6 billion) while expenditure on water and sanitation represents less than 1% of GDP.

In order to remedy this situation, he concluded by urging the CSOs to promote the idea of water as a basic human right and a basic human need.

PRESENTATION BY JEAN DOYEN OF THE WORLD BANK ON THE NEPAD PROGRAMME

In his presentation, Mr. Doyen explained that four sectors - energy, water and sanitation, transport and information and communications technology - were at the heart of NEPAD's objectives of poverty reduction through growth and full participation in the world economy. (Africa's role in world trade has declined from 4% to 1% during the last 30 years.) To achieve the aims outlined in its action plan, NEPAD will work mainly through the regional economic communities.

NEPAD's role in the water sector is essentially to foster collaboration among countries for the development and management of shared water resources and to support regional initiatives for the accelerated development of water services and for harnessing Africa's potential for hydropower and irrigated agriculture.

NEPAD has come up with a Short Term Action Plan, launched in May 2002. The specific projects and initiatives included in the action plan can be regrouped under the following three themes:

- Management, development and monitoring of water resources comprising regional cooperation for the development and management of trans-boundary river basins, support for country-level implementation of IWRM policies and water resource assessments and monitoring.
- Water supply and sanitation services.
- Enhanced financing for the preparatory work aimed at establishing the Africa Water Facility.

As regards the management and development of Africa's water resources, Mr. Doyen noted that water security was the backbone of any economy. Currently, the economies of most African countries suffer from extreme climate events such as droughts and floods and low levels of artificial storage (114m³ per person in Kenya as compared to 6150 m³ per person in North America). He pointed out that although some NGOs have been against dams, dams play an essential role in helping a low income country to become a middle income country.



Currently, the finances of water in Africa are illogical – below cost water is supplied to a minority who have the capacity to pay more while the poor pay up to 20 times as much for water as the rich. Because of lack of financial resources, the water services cannot be expanded to serve the whole population.

In order to work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, Mr. Doyen put forward a “Road map” which consisted of the following steps:

- **Reform.** The key elements of reform are the establishment of a legal framework and definition of roles, decentralisation and the adopting of private sector management approaches.
- **Capacity building** according to a sequenced approach.
- **Resource mobilisation and financing.** To meet the MDGs, steep increases in the level of investment on water will be necessary. Possible strategies include making effective use of public or donor funds (for example, HIPC funds), private investment and commercial borrowing.

During the question and answer session which followed, participants expressed the view that NEPAD was not engaging civil society and also that it tends to concentrate on mega projects. They also expressed the fear that Public Private Partnerships (PPP) could lead to an increase in tariffs. Mr. Doyen replied that this was not necessarily the case. By merely curbing inefficiency, the private sector could make money out of water without increasing the tariffs. In some instances, PPP could even lead to lower tariffs.

PRESENTATION BY DANIELLE MORLEY ON THE EUROPEAN UNION’S WATER INITIATIVE (EU-WI)

Ms. Morley explained that the EU-WI had been launched during WSSD in the Water Dome. The aims of the initiative include trying to move water up the political agenda, implementing the MDG and WSSD commitments and making the EU development assistance more coherent.

In Africa, EU-WI is working in three areas:

- Water and Sanitation (with Denmark chairing the working group)
- IWRM and Trans-boundary rivers (with France chairing the working group)
- Financing water supply and sanitation (with the UK chairing the working group)

While EU-WI was launched as a “Partnership initiative” and a multi-stakeholder forum (MSF) meets in Brussels four times a year, the role of NGOs (referred to as “partners”) remains unclear and there is a lack of a well defined governance structure or decision-making process. Within Africa, stakeholder participation has been minimal to date and the EU has claimed that this is the responsibility of AMCOW. It is therefore suggested that CSO participation should be formalised and funded and channelled through AMCOW.

The next steps revolve around the Ouagadougou meeting in October, the MSF meeting in Brussels in November and the Addis meeting in December. CSOs should strive to set up “building blocks” consisting of existing initiatives, networks and programmes while AMCOW should create a portfolio of projects for funding.

PRESENTATION ABOUT THE UPCOMING AMCOW MEETING IN ADDIS ABABA

A representative of UNEP, Rob Sinclair, informed participants about the AMCOW meeting due to take place in Addis Ababa from 8th to 12th December 2003. Prior to that, a preparatory meeting would take place in Ouagadougou at the end of October. The focus of the Addis meeting would be on implementation of the international water targets. National reports would be presented and various initiatives, such as the African Water Facility and a water journal, would be launched. He noted that, so far, no civil society participation in this meeting had been planned but since the programme had not as yet been fixed, there was still time for civil society to put forward its ideas for consideration by the meeting.

PRESENTATION BY ANNABELL WAITITU OF ELCI

Ms. Waititu informed participants that although Agenda 21 concerned water, not a great deal was done following Rio. Now, however, now the pace of activities has quickened.

We have the Millennium Development Goals which aim at halving the number of people without access to water and sanitation by 2015 (from a 1990 baseline) while WSSD set a target year of 2005, by which time countries should have in place Integrated Water Resource policies. Finally, the year 2003 has been declared the International Year of Freshwater.



The CSD has formulated a two-year development plan around the cluster of water, sanitation and human settlement. Since the CSD will meet again on 16-26 April 2004, it is important that CSOs try to influence this and other such meetings. Regional meetings will be held and the Addis Conference is the African contribution to the process.

This presentation was followed by a lively debate on various issues. Participants were of the view that we were very far from achieving the MDGs and much more effort would have to be made. Having noted that AMCOW appeared to be the conduit through which recommendations could be channelled to the EU or NEPAD, it was agreed that:

- CSOs should maintain a close relationship with their national ministries of water so that their voice could be heard by AMCOW.
- CSOs should try to unite together on various issues of concern.
- CSOs should be involved in policy formulation right from the design stage and come up with proposals.

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Participants broke into three groups to discuss:

- Civil Society participation in regional initiatives
- Articulating initiatives (Moving towards proposition as well as protestation)
- Strengthening African ownership of water resource development processes

DAY TWO, 3rd October 2003

GROUP REPORTS

The reports from the group discussions of the previous day were presented.

Topic 1: Civil Society Participation in Regional Water Initiatives.

Question - *The civil society in Africa has generally been a marginal player in policy formulation and implementation processes. How can we strengthen CS participation in the various regional initiatives?*

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) are not fully involved in the decision making process at regional level. The reasons mentioned included uncoordinated efforts, failure to make use of existing networking mechanisms, lack of follow up and inadequacy of documentation and information flow. Additional problems are negative attitudes on the part of governments towards CSOs, the lack of a framework or political space for CSOs to participate in at the regional level, the competition between governments and NGOs for donor funding and the frequent changes in funding priorities by donors.

The group suggested that CSOs' participation at regional level could be strengthened in the following ways:

- Legal and official requirements such as registration should be complied with
- CSO activities should be coordinated by mapping out objectives, capacity building and outreach (promoting national networks at project level)
- Maintaining correct data, documenting best practices and disseminating information
- Analysing strengths and weakness and building capacity on relevant themes
- Maintaining transparency and accountability
- Funding-raising and lobbying for African governments to allocate funds for CSO activities.
- Working through existing networks, e.g. FAN, or creating a new one and participating fully in the activities of the network(s).

During the plenary discussion, it was suggested that the already existing regional networks (many of which were represented in the current meeting) should be made use of. These include the following: AWN, ANEEJ, CREPA, ECAPP, ECOVIC, ENDA, GWP, GWSPD, ITN, NAWISA, NBI, NBD, NETWAS, RAED, SANTREN, SOK Network, WAWI, WNET, WVP, WELL and WSCC.

Topic 2: Articulating Initiatives

Question - *CSOs need to change now from making protests to proposals. For civil society to be recognised as a credible development partner, there is a need to build capacity to articulate alternatives. How can CSOs fulfil this role?*



Members of this group stressed the importance of the following issues:

- It is important that CSOs be credible to communities, donors, the government as well as to other CSOs. This can only be achieved through transparency and integrity.
- CSOs need to move from theoretical advocacy to developing research data from the field, producing documents and publishing, etc. In this way, they will be seen to be the real experts
- They should adopt the right strategies, build relationships and identify whom to influence, understand procedures and take initiatives.
- CSOs should participate in developing the capacity of national governments and regional institutions
- CSOs should strive to be part of any negotiations from the beginning.
- They should lobby to be part of national delegations (perhaps as observers) during important international meetings
- CSOs should involve the people in their activities as well as network with other CSOs

Topic No. 3: Strengthening African Ownership of Water Resource Development Processes.

Question - *Many regional initiatives are seen to be Northern-driven and Africa as "going along for the ride". How can this situation be reversed?*

In their report to the plenary, members of this group noted that the topic they had been assigned was very large. The situation in the water sector is merely a reflection of major trends prevailing in the world according to which the IMF and other bodies in the North dominate the South.

Nevertheless, there are ways in which this situation can be reversed. These include:

1. Responding with well researched information based on realities in the field
2. Participating with AMCOW in defining an African agenda
3. Redefining our mind set
4. Developing a well informed African mechanism representing civil society that will engage with other partners using home grown ideas and working in close collaboration with governments. These initiatives should be African-owned and African-led.
5. Building capacities of NGOs and governments to understand the objectives or strategies of these initiatives
6. Carrying out advocacy and lobby work
7. NGOs putting their houses in order and ensuring that their integrity is above reproach
8. Working with the government in a relationship of mutual respect.

During the plenary session, participants agreed that it was very important for African CSOs to engage with AMCOW but the main problem was how to achieve this end.

Participants also felt that in order to strengthen African ownership of water development processes, Africa should *self finance more initiatives, rather than depending on donor support*. In other words, we should shift from a dependency mode to an independent mind set. One way to achieve this would be to change the education system and concentrate on skills, rather than on theory.

It was also noted that CSOs always claim to speak on behalf of others, i.e. the poor people who have water problems. One participant affirmed that we can only become a voice by allowing the people on whose behalf we speak to speak for themselves.

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATION BY DANIELLE MORLEY ON FAN

Ms Morley, the FAN coordinator, introduced FAN to those participants who were not yet FAN members. FAN, a global advocacy network, was established in 2000, after the second World Water Forum. It is hosted in WaterAid's London office and is currently funded by a grant from the Dutch Government. The network is made up of 220 organizations around the world.

The membership, which is free, is open to registered NGOs. FAN accepts members with a wide diversity of perspectives and its aim is to increase the number of NGO advocates articulate in water policy and to strengthen the Southern NGO input to the international water policy making process. To achieve this end, it facilitates the participation of Southern NGOs in various international forums, produces briefing notes and organises briefing



meetings to render their participation more effective. In addition, it supports the development of regional networks. For example, a regional network was formed in Central America in February 2003 and the current Nairobi meeting, organised in response to a request from the FAN-Africa members, was part of that process.

In addition to financial and logistical support to facilitate participation in various forums, FAN's activities revolve around information-sharing. It produces a quarterly newsletter and a monthly e-bulletin and it also has a website. Looking to the future, FAN aims to continue building regional networks and to develop advocacy and communication skills through training events.

PRESENTATION BY DR. JUUKO FULGENSIO OF THE UGANDA WATER AND SANITATION NGO NETWORK (UWASNET)

In order to overcome the problems of inadequate coordination between Ugandan NGOs, a national consultative conference was held in February 2000 which, in turn, mandated a task force to establish the network. In November 2000, UWASNET was officially launched with support from the Uganda government, DWD, DANIDA, WaterAid and a task force of 11 NGOs.

UWASNET aims to contribute to poverty alleviation by increasing access to safe water and sanitation through effective coordination of NGOs/CBOs in the watsan sector. Its specific objectives include strengthening the partnership between NGOs and other stakeholders and facilitating their collaboration with Government departments as well as contributing to developing and implementing sector policies. UWASNET collects and disseminates information, maintains a data base and a resource centre and carries out capacity building and advocacy.

UWASNET is affiliated to international collaborative efforts such as WSSCC, FAN and GWP. It has a good working relationship with the Uganda Government. Because of this, UWASNET is invited to government planning meetings and its input is incorporated. The current thrust is trying to ensure that NGOs have access to government funding accrued from debt relief. It also contributes to national debates on a variety of water issues.

Dr. Jjuuko concluded by affirming that it was also through the joint efforts of the public and private sectors and civic organisations collaborating together, combined with strong advocacy, that the challenges facing the watsan sector could be effectively faced.

PRESENTATION BY CHOZI VINCENT LUNGU OF ADVOCACY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ZAMBIA (AREZ)

Mr. Choji told participants about a project known as the "Kafue River Basin Dialogue" being carried out by AREZ and the Zambia Water Partnership. He explained that more than half the Zambian population lives in this river basin which also provides 60% of the country's hydro-power. The Kafue River Basin is central to Zambia's major commercial activities, such as agriculture, manufacturing and mining, but it is already showing signs of degradation and pollution.

The overall objective of the Dialogue is to contribute to the development of a sustainable framework for river basin management that meets the needs of water, food and environment in Zambia while the specific objectives are to identify the various stakeholders, to contribute to the review of policy and legislation, to raise awareness and to promote information sharing.

AREZ representatives have been carrying out visits to factories situated along the Kafue River to make a study of environmental problems. They have come up with many examples of toxic effluent being washed into the river, leading to the proliferation of weeds, and local people growing food crops like sugar cane in toxic sludge. They also discovered that the effluent discharged into the river by certain factories contains high levels of phosphates and aluminium and this water flows downstream where it is eventually drunk by Lusaka residents.

AREZ hopes to contribute to a review of policy and to a regulatory set-up for the Kafue River Basin with the participation of stakeholders and local communities. Zambia is fortunate enough to have abundant water resources but nevertheless the management of these resources is a critical matter.



GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Participants were asked to break into three groups and to answer the following questions:

1. Do we need a CSO Pan African network on freshwater?
2. If so, will it be a membership organisation?
3. How will it relate to existing networks?
4. Should it link to FAN?
5. What are likely to be the major challenges facing the new network?

Subsequently, the groups presented their reports to the plenary session as outlined below.

Question No. 1 - Do we need a CSO Pan African network on freshwater?

All the groups agreed unanimously that there was a need for an African network of CSOs working on freshwater issues in Africa as a coordinating mechanism for a common voice and to exert influence at policy levels. One group suggested it should be different from existing networks.

Question No. 2 – Should it be a membership organisation?

All the groups proposed that it should be a membership organisation bringing together like-minded organisations and that membership criteria should be set.

Questions Nos. 3 and 4 - How should it be linked to other networks and to FAN?

The ideas of the groups included the suggestion that the new network could be linked to anyone who could further its initiatives and another suggestion was that it should link to networks having common goals.

As for the matter of links to FAN, several views were put forward. One of these was that the new network should become a chapter of FAN while another view was that it should be linked to FAN through collaboration. Some participants proposed that the new network should have links with FAN within well defined parameters.

Question No. 5 - What are likely to be the major challenges facing the new network?

Members of the groups drew up lists of the challenges which the new network would face which included the following:

- Financing and financial sustainability
- Mandates and representation
- Ownership and leadership
- Defining the structure of the network
- Membership criteria
- Political linkages
- Governance
- The size of Africa and its languages
- The commitment of its members

PLENARY DISCUSSIONS

Need for network

Following the recommendation of the three groups, participants in the plenary session also felt there was a need for a policy/advocacy network. After a debate concerning possible alternative terms such as “coalition” and “coordinating structure,” the majority preferred “network.”

Membership

In line with the presentations by the groups, participants expressed the view that the planned structure should be a network with members and that criteria should be laid down for membership.

The type of network needed/Links with FAN and other bodies

Several views were expressed on this issue. Some of the participants felt that the new network should be an integral part of FAN. One opinion put forward to back this up was that FAN is a network that helps regions to further their own agendas. Another participant felt that if FAN is supposed to be international, it needs to be



present in Africa. Members were informed that several NGOs from different parts of the world had come up with the idea of FAN. It was not an idea which had come from the North. Another participant explained that some NGOs in South America used FAN to help set up a network which is still independent and the same thing can be done in Africa. The links with FAN could be as loose or strong as desired, he felt.

Other participants, however, felt that the mechanism should be African and independent so as to effectively negotiate with AU, AMCOW and other such bodies. In other words, it should be an African voice.

It was eventually agreed that a strong African network was required while what remained to be determined was the following;

- Its shape or structure
- The resources required to run it
- The immediate steps that the network should take

As regards the last issue, it was pointed out that there were some events about to take place in which African CSOs needed to make valuable inputs. These included the Steering Committee of AMCOW due to take place in Ouagadougou and the PANAFCON meeting which would be held in Addis Ababa. In Ouagadougou there was to be a parallel meeting for CSOs at the same time. It was also suggested that participants sensitise their ministers on relevant issues before the Ouagadougou meeting.

The facilitator put forward the following proposals to the plenary:

1. A clear definition of the forum that they wanted to develop be arrived at.
2. Members prepare themselves for substantive engagement in the coming events
3. One organisation be selected to host and guide the preparation for the coming events
4. A task force be nominated to consolidate the thinking of this workshop and propose the next steps in the formation of the forum

Participants agreed to the first three proposals. As for the last one regarding the task force, it was agreed to but there were differences of opinion on how this task force should be constituted. One suggestion was that members of the task force be selected based on their expertise or experience in the process while another was that the task force be organised by sectors (for example, finance, water resources and service delivery). The view, however, that prevailed was that the task force should be based on sub-regions (i.e. East, West, North, Central and Southern). It was also agreed that this task force should have the right to co-opt experts as required. As for the duties of the task force, it was agreed that these should be to:

- Prepare for coming events
- Take the development of the forum forward

Since it had been decided that members of the task force would be selected on a sub-regional basis, participants were asked to break into sub-regional groups and to choose their representatives. The following representatives were selected:

East Africa	Rosemary Rop, Maji ni Ufanisi, Kenya
West Africa	Malick Gaye, ENDA-RUP, Senegal
Central Africa	Alphonse Issi, MNC Cameroon
North Africa	Essam Nada, Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE), Egypt
Southern Africa	Bethwel Netshiswinshe, Mvula Trust, South Africa

A final point was raised from the floor concerning funding. The FAN representative replied that FAN was committed to this initiative and would assist with funding for the task force for the time being.

DAY THREE Saturday, 4th October 2003

PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS

The following agenda was adopted for the day:

1. Nomination of hosting organisation
2. Group work – defining the forum that we need
3. Presentations/discussion and consensus building
4. Commitments by members and by task force
5. A.O.B.



Starting with point no. 1, it was unanimously agreed that ELCI be the hosting organization for an initial period of one year.

Participants were then asked to break into three groups and to define the network needed, including the following:

1. Name
2. The problems/needs/opportunities that the network is to address
3. Vision
4. Mission
5. Structure of the network, including governance mechanisms
6. Outline of activities for the next two years.
7. Outline of financial and material resources needed for the network to operate

REPORTS FROM THE GROUPS

1. Name

Three names were proposed by the different groups as follows:

- Afrifresh network
- African Civil Society Coalition on Water
- African CSOs Network for Water (ANEW)

The last of these - **African CSOs Network for Water (ANEW)** – was selected by the plenary session.

2. The problems/needs/opportunities that the network is to address

The issues raised by the groups included the following:

- Lack of political space for CSOs
- Scarce water resources
- Lack of involvement by CSOs
- Absence of a unified voice of African CSOs at national and international levels
- Need to provide a platform for the voices of CSOs in Africa
- Importance of raising the profile of African CSOs and their work
- Need to influence and impact on national and global policies
- Need to provide an opportunity for CSOs to know each other and network
- Importance of taking advantage of the present international interest in dealing with freshwater issues in Africa – (NEPAD, AMCOW & MDGs have put issues of freshwater on the agenda)
- Opportunities provided by debt relief arrangements which allow resources to be channelled to the water sector
- Importance of taking advantage of the EU – WI's promise of one billion euros for water
- Need to work through existing networks
- Opportunity presented by FAN which has agreed to jump-start the process by funding capacity building

3. Vision

The three groups articulated their vision for the network in the following ways:

“An Africa where water resources are managed sustainably and everyone has access to safe water and sanitation.”

“An Africa where water resources are managed sustainably and where everyone has access to safe water.”

“Towards clean water for all African communities.”

The plenary session chose the following vision:

“An Africa where water resources are managed sustainably and where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation.”

4. Mission

The groups had come up with a number of potential missions as follows:

- To facilitate the co-ordination of diverse African voices on watsan
- To effectively involve African CSOs in decision making processes at national, regional, and international levels on watsan development policy



- To build a representative voice for African CSOs on water and sanitation
- To equip African CSOs to effectively engage in water and sanitation policy development
- To facilitate the effective articulation of CS voices in Africa and advocate for efficient and equitable management of water resources
- To mobilise African communities to take responsibility to manage their water sustainably.

These various formulations were discussed and eventually the first one was selected by the plenary session as the proposed mission –

“To facilitate the co-ordination of diverse African voices on watsan.”

5. Structure of the network, including governance mechanisms

It was suggested during the group reports that the principles which should underpin the network were that the structure should be membership-based and made up of like-minded people. It should be inclusive, transparent, accountable and democratic. The organisation should be owned by its members since power will be vested in them. In other words, the governance should represent the voices of the people.

The governance mechanisms proposed by the groups were as follows:

- Task force
- Secretariat housed at ELCI
- AGM/General Assembly
- Sub regional secretariats/focal points

The plenary session agreed that all of the governance mechanisms suggested by the groups would be required at a later date. In the meantime, it was agreed that the task force would organise itself and if it so wishes, elect a chairperson. It was furthermore agreed that the coordinator, at that time Annabell of ELCI, would be an ex-officio member of the task force.

A question was raised as to whether the network would be registered and if so, where and as what. Participants agreed that it could be registered in any African country as a continent-wide organisation at a future date.

6. Outline of activities for the next two years.

The three groups came up with a number of suggestions concerning the activities which the task force should undertake during the next two years. These included:

- Training and capacity building for network members
- Outreach to existing CSOs and networks in Africa and elsewhere
- Developing criteria for membership
- Organising a General assembly by end of a 12 month period
- Promoting the emergence of national CSOs networks that engage in national policy dialogue
- Fundraising
- Participating in AMCOW and other meetings
- Setting up a database and a website
- Advocacy
- Publishing
- Doing feedback at the national level
- Drafting the charter or constitution
- Dissemination and awareness creation

7. Outline of financial and material resources needed for the network to operate

The three groups mentioned some of the financial and materials resources required which included the following:

- Funding for a dedicated full time or part time staff member to carry out the activities of the network
- Funding for travel to major meetings and events
- Funding for capacity building and training of network members
- Office space and equipment



The plenary session discussed both the activities to be undertaken and the financial resources required and it was agreed that the task force would prioritise them. The FAN representative was asked whether FAN could assist and she replied that FAN had some financial resources which it could allocate to the task force. She also clarified that FAN was waiting for a decision later in the month in connection with a funding proposal for 2004/05 which included a budget for ANEW. She suggested that the task force could also approach donors for funds.

Participants requested that the task force undertake the following:

- That it disseminate the workshop report to important stakeholders.
- That it prepare for the Ouagadougou and Addis meetings as well as for the AfriCities meeting to take place in December in Yaounde
- That it harmonise and actualise conclusions arrived at during this meeting
- That it organise an AGM within 18 months. (This could perhaps be organised around another meeting.)
- That it launch the network formally

It was furthermore resolved that the participants who were planning to attend the meeting in Ouagadougou should represent ANEW in that forum. These participants were Philippe Carette of CIDRI, Moussa Sangare of Green Cross, Alphonse Issi of MNC Cameroun, Eva Kouassi-Komian of Water and Sanitation NGO Network (Burkina Faso) and Felix Adegnika of the Municipal Development Partnership.

COMMITMENTS BY PARTICIPANTS

Participants were finally requested to commit their organisations to carrying out various activities which would promote the new network. These commitments were written down and read out to the participants as follows:

- **Africa 21st century**
Time and information sharing
- **Arab Office for Youth And Environment**
Access to Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED) secretariat, information sharing on Nile Basin Initiative, publicising network during a meeting to be held in October, space, time and helping develop website
- **African Reference Group on Water (ARGOW)**
Supporting the positions put forward
- **CREPA**
Linking ANEW with other networks, e.g. SOK and RED, organising meetings in West Africa and promoting ANEW in those countries, providing space for a national secretariat of ANEW, fundraising, advocacy.
- **Eau Vive, Acacia and Green Cross (Burkina Faso)**
Inviting ANEW to a CSOs workshop scheduled for 27-28th October in Ouagadougou
- **ELCI**
Offering to draft proposals for ANEW based on information and ideas put forward by the task force, posting information about the network on ELCI's website and facilitating communication
- **ENDA (Senegal)**
Hosting the sub-regional secretariat during the interim period, disseminating information about the network at national and sub-regional levels
- **ENDA (Magreb)**
Disseminating information about the network through website and bulletins and other tasks
- **FAN**
Seed money for activities and network building, website and e-bulletin for dissemination, list serve for communications, links with policy makers, logistical support for Addis conference information on up-coming events



- **Friends of Nomads International**
Linking up with national organisations, helping in organising meetings in the sub-region
- **Foundation Help**
Publicising the network on website
- **Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation**
Information about existing CSOs and networks, dissemination of information about the meeting within Ghana, liaising with the sub-regional task force and providing it with information
- **ITDG-EA**
Technical expertise in water and sanitation
- **Kalahari Conservation Society**
Personal time, hosting meetings, putting information in magazine
- **Living Water International**
Dissemination of information about ANEW in its newsletter, voluntary assistance and expertise
- **MDP**
Setting up network in West and Central Africa (12 countries)
- **Mvula Trust**
Participating in the task force, publicising the network in South Africa and within SADC.
- **Maji na Ufanisi/AWN**
Convening the Kenya network, expertise, space on website, voluntary staff for communication with members
- **National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) Uganda**
Publicising the activities of the network in its bi-monthly magazine
- **Nigerian Conservation Foundation**
Helping develop a Nigerian network and a watsan database for the sub-region, hosting meetings, dissemination of information about the network through the media and to the various levels of the Nigerian government
- **Society for Water and Public Health Protection (SWAPHEP)**
Helping form the Nigerian network, disseminating reports about the network on the website, in its newsletter, the mass media etc., informing the Federal Ministry of Water about the network, hosting meetings.
- **UWASNET (Uganda)**
Informing the Minister of Water about the vision, mission etc. of the network for inclusion in her presentation at the AMCOW meeting, disseminating information about the network in its magazine, attending meetings
- **Young Volunteers for Environment, Togo**
Being the focal point for the national network, helping to organise sub-regional meetings, disseminating information about the network on its website

CLOSING OF THE MEETING

Simon Thuo of the Global Water Partnership in Uganda thanked the participants for the very useful ideas which they had presented during the meeting. He also thanked the organisers for organising the forum. He expressed the view that the newly founded network would henceforth play an essential role in giving African civil society a voice on water issues. In conclusion, he declared the seminar officially closed.



ANNEX I - LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AU	African Union
AMCOW	African Ministers Council on Water
ANEW	African SCOs Network for Water
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CSD	Commission on Sustainable Development
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
ELCI	Environment Liaison Centre International
EU – WI	European Union – Water Initiative
FAN	Freshwater Action Network
GWP	Global Water Partnership
HIPC	Highly Indebted Poor Countries
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MSF	Multi-stakeholder Forum
NEPAD	New Partnership for African Development
PANAFCON	PanAfrican Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water
PPP	Public Private Partnerships
UWASNET	Uganda Water And Sanitation Ngo Network
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
Watsan	Water and sanitation
WWC	World Water Council
WSSCC	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
WWF	World Water Forum
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development



ANNEX II LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY	TEL	E-Mail
Daoud Tari Abkula	Friends of Nomads International (FONI)	Kenya	254-6452494	
Matilda Musumba	Henreich Boll Foundation	Kenya	254-02-3744227	Matildah <matildah@hbfha.com>
Adekanla Majekodunmi	Nigerian Conservation Foundation	Nigeria	234-01-2642497-8	ncf@hyperia.com ademajekodunmi@yahoo.com
Rosemary Rop	Maji na Ufanisi (Water and Development)	Kenya	254-02-2727107/8	Rosemary Rop rosemary.rop@maji-na-ufanisi.org
Opiata Odindo	Kituo Cha Sheria	Kenya	254-02-576295	odindoo@yahoo.com
Stephen Kirimi	National Council Of NGOs	Kenya	254-02-574657/72	ngocouncil@bidii.com
Bereket Gebretsion	Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church	Ethiopia	251-1-515844	B_M_G_Tsion@yahoo.com
Frank Muramuzi	National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)	Uganda	256-41-534453	Napesbc <napesbc@napesbc.afsat.com>
Essam NADA	Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE)	Egypt	+20-2-5161519	aoye@link.net
Alphonse Issi	Mouvement National des Consommateurs	Cameroon	237-2223002	Alphonse Issa < monacocm@yahoo.fr >
Begona Inara	AMECEA	Kenya	020-578008	begoinarra@wananchi.com
Hope E. Ogbeido	Society for Water & Public Health Protection (SWAPHEP)	Nigeria	080-23-442419	swaphep@yahoo.com hope@swaphep.virtualactivism.net
Isaack Oenga	ITDG	Kenya	254-2-2713540	Isaack.oenga@itdg.or.ke
Moses NSEGE	Foundation Help	Tanzania	+255-28-2620575	fhelp@juasun.net
Dzamshie Efua	Young Volunteers For Environment (JVE)	Togo	228-220112	yvetogo@hotmail.com
Simon Thuo	Global Water Partnership-Eastern Africa	Uganda	256-41-321424	sthuo@NILESEC.ORG
Courtney Pugh	Living Water International	Kenya	254-0733946492	Courtneypugh@wananchi.com
Adegnika Felix	Municipal Development Partnership (MDP)	West and Central Africa	229-300560	fadegnika@pdm-net.org
Kouassi-Komlan Eva	CREPA	Burkina Faso	226-366210/11	eltos24@hotmail.com
Malick Gaye	ENDA TM	Senegal	221-8220942	rup@enda.sn , endarup@yahoo.com
Esther Mwaura Muiru	GROOTS KENYA	Kenya	254-20-2718977	groots@grootskenya.org
Patrick G. Muraguri	Africa 21 st Century Organisation	Kenya	254-02-4444833	P_muraguri@yahoo.com
Dr. Jjuuko Fulgensio	UWASNET	Uganda	256-41-510358	jfulgensio@yahoo.com ngocoord@uwasnet.org



NAME	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY	TEL	E-Mail
Thomas Sayibu Imoro	Ghana Coalition of NGOs in Water & Sanitation	Ghana	233-071-23086 233-024-521342	Thomas Sayibu Imoro <sayibu@hotmail.com>
Tracy Molefi	Kalahari Conservation Society	Botswana	267-3974557	projects@kcs.org.bw
Dia Abdoul Ousmane	ENDA MAGHREB	Morocco	212-756414/15	endamaghreb@enda.org.ma>
Bethuel Netshiswinshe	The MVULA TRUST	South Africa	27-11-4033425	bethuel@mvula.co.za
Chozi V. Lungu	ARE Zambia	Zambia	260-1-294086	advocacy@zamtel.zm
Joseph E. Swai	Eco Programs	Tanzania	255-027-2753638	josephswai@yahoo.com>
Abonyai Kiogora	African Water Network (AWN)	Kenya	254-02-2715502	Abonyai2000@yahoo.com
Arthur Achola	Consumer Information Network	Kenya	254-02-073343519	cin@insightkenya.com
Bazie Jean Bosco	EAU VIVE	Niger	227-72-49-3890	<jb-evnig@intnet.ne>
Dzameshie Efua	Young Volunteers For Environment	Togo	228-2200112	<yvetogo@hotmail.com>
Philippe CARETTE	CIDRI	East Southern Africa	254-722-528294	cidri@wananchi.com
Richard Twam K.B.	Volta Basin Development Foundation	Ghana	00233-24-825320	<rtwumus@yahoo.com>
James Aminatey K.	Volta Basin development Foundation	Ghana	00233-24-577321	<rtwumus@yahoo.com>
Moussa SANGARE	Green Cross Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	00226-344077 00226-627882	greencross.burkinafaso@fasonet.bf msangare73@yahoo.fr
Danielle Morley	Freshwater Action Network	UK	44-020-77934522	Danielle@freshwateraction.net
Barbara Gemmill	Environment Liaison Centre International	Kenya	254-02-576114/9	barbarag@elci.org
Annabel Waititu	Environment Liaison Centre International	Kenya	254-02-576114/9	annabellw@elci.org
Eunice S. Warue	Environment Liaison Centre International	Kenya	254-02-576114/9	eunicew@elci.org
Lynne Mansure	RAPPORTEUR	Kenya	254-04524107	soito@todays.co.ke
Daudi Waithaka	FACILITATOR	Kenya	254-733-726491	pdfafrica@yahoo.com



