



For immediate release

Not an official document  
For media only

## PRESS RELEASE

### **AWF supports Monitoring and Evaluation coordination in the African Water Sector** *In the fringe of the M&E Meeting AWF signed a Grant Agreement to formulate Burundi IWRM Plan*

**Tunis, 25 September 2006:** The African Water Facility (AWF) organized on 21-22 September 2006 in Tunis a regional consultative meeting, under the auspices of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and with the cooperation of the African Development Bank (AfDB) to share experiences and build partnership to support African countries in water sector monitoring and evaluation.

The meeting, gathering 85 experts in Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) representing national, regional and international institutions, was opened by H.E. Abdelmalek Sellal, Minister of Water Resources of the Republic of Algeria. Two Ministers, H.E. Bruno Jean Richard Itoua, Minister of Water Resources and Energy of the Republic of Congo Brazzaville, AMCOW Central Africa Vice President; and H.E. Jenipher Namuyangu, Minister of State of Water of the Republic of Uganda also attended and chaired prominent sessions. The participants were welcomed by Ms. Zeinab El-Bakri, Vice-President, Operations of the African Development Bank, host institution of the AWF.

The overall objective of the meeting is to enhance synergy in water sector M&E through sharing information, networking and coordinating activities. More specifically, this interactive conference among key stakeholders in this area, both at political and technical level including the African Union, AMCOW and NEPAD, international organizations such as JMP, OECD, IBNet, AfDB, WSP, UNICEF, WHO and regional and sub-regional organizations (ECOWAS, West African Water Initiative -WAWI) aimed to identify the links to be reinforced between the global M&E level (JMP) and national level.

Ultimately, the goal of the meeting is to develop the basis for a mechanism to coordinate technical and financial support to the M&E activities in Africa, at the national, sub-regional and regional level, in order to properly target resources within the framework for permanent consultation among the partners and the dialogue with AMCOW.

Moreover, the participants affirmed the significance of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) relative to water and sanitation as the overarching basis for assessing global performance in the water sector, but stressed the need for a uniquely African approach for target-setting and the definition of the required M&E.

At the closing session, the participants proposed concrete Action Plan to transform the Africa Water Vision for the year 2025 of an Africa-centered water sector monitoring and evaluation to reality. These plans focused on three levels. Firstly, the primacy of country-owned water sector M&E; secondly an improved collaboration among regional and sub-regional water sector M&E institutions and finally adding value to country-level water sector M&E through strengthening the M&E chain.

In the fringe of the M&E meeting Mr. Kordjé Bedoumra, Director of the AWF, signed a Grant Agreement of **€ 480 000** to facilitate the formulation of Burundi's Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Plan with Mr. Audace Ndayizeye, Executive Director of the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat (NBI-SEC), host institution of The Global Water Partnership (GWP), facilitator of the project at the request of Burundi's Government. GWP is an international partnership with the mission to support the development of national IWRM plans. The objective of the project is for Burundi to achieving a sustainable water resource management regime contributing to social equity, economic efficiency and environmental sustainability in the country. This will result in improved health and sanitary conditions of communities, improved water related livelihoods, gains to agriculture from improved land and water management, reduced risk of floods and droughts.

The African Water Facility (AWF) is an initiative led by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) to mobilize financial resources for water sector development in Africa. Created in 2004, the AWF is hosted and managed by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

CONTACT: Sabrina Hadjadj Aoul– Tel : +216 71 10 36 98 – E-mail : s.hadjadjaoul@afdb.org

► African Water Facility– Tel.: +216 71 10 20 55 – Fax: +216 71 10 37 44 – E-mail: [africanwaterfacility@afdb.org](mailto:africanwaterfacility@afdb.org)

PRESS RELEASES ARE ALSO POSTED ON ADB WEBSITE AT: [WWW.AFDB.ORG](http://WWW.AFDB.ORG)