

AUTORITE DU BASSIN DE LA VOLTA

VOLTA BASIN AUTHORITY



Benin – Burkina Faso – Côte d'Ivoire – Ghana – Mali - Togo



FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

The 6th Meeting of the VBA Committee of Experts was held from 09 to 11 May 2012 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, in the conference room of Joly Hôtel, Ouaga 2000.

Present at the meeting were:

- Ten (10) members of the Committee of Experts (with Benin absent);
- Representatives of the technical and financial partners, including France, AFD, the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), Seine Normandy Water Agency (AESN), OIEau, DANIDA, WAEMU, GWP-AO, IUCN; Green Cross and CPWF.
- Representatives of the VBA Executive Directorate.

This 6th meeting is consistent with the consolidation framework aimed at operationalizing the permanent organs and the 2012 program of activities of the EU Water Facility project under the theme “VBA capacity development for the implementation of priority actions of its 2010-2014 Strategic Plan”.

At the end of deliberations, the Committee of Experts made the following recommendations:

To the Ministers responsible for Water Resources in the Member States

- To accelerate the process of organization of the Summit of Heads of State towards abrogation of the transitional provisions;
- To prepare a draft decision on the development of the Master Plan for the Basin, which can be submitted to the Summit of the Heads of State;

- To take the necessary steps for the Abidjan Resolution on the payment of contributions to be implemented.

To the National Focal Points

- To systematically transmit to the Executive Directorate information and study documents on the master plans or their equivalent (SDAGE) on the national portions of the basin when they are developed and, generally, submit all data on water;
- To formalize or initiate the establishment of a National Focal Structure by defining its terms of reference and composition in compliance with Article 10 of the Statutes of VBA;

To the Members of the Committee of Experts

- To take ownership of the process of developing the Master Plan for the basin;
- To sensitize all stakeholders on the development of the Master Plan;

To the VBA Executive Directorate

- To commit to the formalization process of the Committee of Experts, including the formulation of bye-laws;
- To transmit the guidelines of the Master Plan of the basin to members of the Forum of Parties for feedback and to members of the Committee of Experts for awareness-creation in the member states;
- To integrate the performance evaluation system of transboundary basin organizations validated by RAOB as one of the reporting tools for VBA organs (Committee of Experts, Forum of Parties, TFP Consultative Group, Council of Ministers);
- To promote the above system of evaluation of IWRM in the respective countries of the basin.

Ouagadougou, 11 May 2012

The Committee of Experts