



# Summary of the 81<sup>st</sup> Meetings of the Scientific and technical Council

## 81<sup>st</sup> STC

*Group Photo of the participants in the STC Opening Ceremony*



**THEME :**

**Financing, cooperation and capacity building, levers to improve access to drinking water and sanitation services in Africa**

**FROM 1ST TO 5TH APRIL 2019**

**RABAT- MAROC**



### **« Financing, cooperation and capacity building, levers to improve access to drinking water and sanitation services in Africa »,**

It's on this theme that the 81st meeting of the AfWA Scientific and Technical Council was held from 1st to 5th April 2019 in Rabat, Morocco, at the Bouregreg Complex, under the auspices of the National Office for Electricity and Drinking Water, which holds the presidency of the Association for the 2018-2020 term.

Around 200 delegates representing water and sanitation operators, members of the AfWA took part in the meeting.

The first day was marked by the opening ceremony as well as by the various technical conferences. The STC's work took place on 2 and 3 April; followed by the donor round table and technical visits on 4 April. 5 April was devoted to the meeting of the Management Committee followed by the Ordinary General Assembly.





## OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony of 81th meeting of the Scientific and Technical Council took place in the presence of about 1200 people representing delegates from AfWA, the administrative and political authorities of Morocco. It is worth noting the remarkable presence of the Honorary President of the World Water Council, Mr. Loïc Faucon and 3 Moroccan Ministers.

In his opening address, the Director General of ONEE, President of AfWA, Mr. Abderrahim El Hafidi, presented the alarming situation of access to drinking water and sanitation in the world, specifying that half of the people who drink water from unsafe sources live in the continent and the rate of access to sanitation services is 28% in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. El Hafidi then presented ONEE's intervention strategy in Africa, which is mainly based on support and technical assistance for African water operators as well as strengthening their technical and managerial capacities.

Dr. Papa Samba Diop, President of the Scientific and Technical Council, during his address acknowledged that Morocco is a source of inspiration for industry players., «There is so much to discover, so many experiences to share to build the capacity of the members of our Association, which has been working for 40 years to speed up African populations' access to water and sanitation services». The STC President urged the 200 delegates attending the meeting to update technical and technological innovations to respond effectively to the demand of the population.

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Sustainable Development of Morocco, Mr. Aziz Rabbah, spoke of the paradox of management of water unequally accessible in the continent. He called upon the main actors to find the best technologies to manage water, abundant in places, and rare in others, while making its quality a priority. On the issue of funding, the Minister pinpointed that traditional funding schemes are obsolete; he called upon actors to adopt innovative public-private-financial institution solutions that will rapidly respond to the growing and urgent demand for access to water and sanitation.

This demand, according to Mr. Mohcine Jazouli, Minister in charge of Financial Cooperation of Morocco, «should continue to increase until 2050, from 20% to 30% more than its current level. Water stress directly threatens many regions in Africa; it is often due to infrastructure deficit and often necessary works are not within the financial reach of a single state», regretted the Minister, hence the need to «think about new forms of cooperation to federate all key players, to pool the resources and initiatives of countries to be able to meet this daunting challenge.» In this sense, he called for «making sustainable and equitable access to water and sanitation a priority at the continental level»

The representative of the Minister of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, as for him, asked all water stakeholders and governments to mobilise to face the challenges of inadequate infrastructure and lack of funding.

Finally, Mr. Loïc Fauchon, Honorary President of the World Water Council, regretted that water supply does not keep pace with the demand despite the constant efforts of the actors to make it accessible to all. Yet, he pointed out «Africa is a waterlogged planet». He then pointed to the soaring population growth and rising living standards that «require additional bodies of water every day». Since the major responsibility of water operators is «to secure, treat, distribute and finally purify it», he proposed the diversification of available resources as a solution to satisfy agricultural, industrial or domestic demand. Beyond pumping and transfer, Mr. Fauchon advocated water desalination and water reuse, which represent «formidable sources of water resources for the future».





## EXHIBITION

The opening ceremony ended with the opening of the exhibition. About 30 exhibitors from 5 continents presented their technological solution to improve access to water and sanitation in Africa. The Ministers and their delegations as well as all the personalities present at the ceremony were able to visit various stands run by these technology providers.





## HIGH LEVEL PANEL



Mr. Abderrahim EL Hafidi, the high-level panel held on Monday, 1 April was devoted to the World Water Forum to be held in 2021 in Dakar, Senegal to understand African participation in this global meeting of the sector, and Mr. El HAFIDI also made a brief presentation of the objectives and benefits of organising this event for Africa. He took the opportunity to call on delegates and stakeholders to draw the organisers' attention to a strong African mobilisation



For Mr Abdoulaye SENE, this forum should be a response forum. Africa certainly needs solutions, but it needs more answers, solutions which are applied on the ground that produce impacts and allow more men and women to get out of the drudgery of water. He relies on the support of AfWA to make this forum a continental, even global success.



With regard to the participation of the Arab world in the next forum, Eng. Khaldon H. KHASHMAN, Secretary General of ACWUA (Arab, Countries Water Utilities Association), called upon African and Arab countries to join forces because they face similar water and sanitation problems. He warned of possible political issues that might arise during the forum and called for stakeholders to remain focused on the basic needs of populations, including

access to safe drinking water for disadvantaged populations.



Mrs Marième SODA NDIAYE, Representative of the Association of Young Water and Sanitation Professionals of AfWA, Senegal Section and Ambassador of the World Water Council in the context of the preparation of the Dakar Forum, presented the strategic objectives of youth participation, which focus on integration of youth in decision-making bodies, capacity building with the promotion of intergenerational

leadership and the contribution to the process of achieving MDG 6.



Mr. Loïc FAUCHON, Honorary President of the World Water Council, supported that Africans have solutions to the problems of water and sanitation. They invent solutions, sometimes by taking inspiration from what comes from elsewhere, sometimes by doing it directly. Thus, this forum should make it possible to show first the answers that Africa provides to itself, then the answers that the rest of the world provides.





### **Technical Conference 1 : Return on Investment with On-site chlorine production**

Mr. Fabrice PELLOTE, West Africa EVOQUA - France, made an inventory of the chlorination of drinking water in Africa where three possibilities exist, namely the use of calcium hypochlorite, chlorine gas and electrolyzers.

### **Technical Conference 2 : New Technologies for Capacity Building in the Water and Sanitation Sector- H2O Maghreb Project**

Mr. MARDI Abderafie, Coordinator at the ONEE Institute of Water and Sanitation - Morocco, recalled that IEA aims to be a resource and expertise centre for capacity building in the water and sanitation sector at national and regional levels with regard such issues as training, research and development, knowledge management and technical assistance. He then presented the H2O Maghreb Project, designed to improve skills and employability in the water sector, by facilitating learning with a new technological dimension (virtual and augmented reality simulators).

### **Technical Conference 3 : Training Module «Chaire Eau pour tous»**

FABY Antoine, Director of AgroParisTech-FRANCE, presented a training module on the General Management of Urban Water and Sanitation Services, called « Chaire Eau pour tous ». This training is dedicated to talents identified within companies, General Management and dedicated to leaders and future managers and whose age varies from 30 to 50 years. It aims to provide these trainees with managerial skills and know-how to drive change in their businesses.

### **Technical Conference 4 : «Potentials of the Doctoral School for the Development of the Water and Sanitation Sector in Senegal and Africa»**

Mr. Alioune KANE, GIDEL Master Manager, UCAD-DAKAR, explained that in the face of the global water crisis due to climate change, the variability of water resources and the high water demand linked to the fast-growing population, it is imperative to give an answer to the cause of water. Hence, the creation of a doctoral school to bring together all the sciences and professions of water. The objective is to train researchers

and professionals in water sciences and trades, to design and pilot projects in the field, to promote and develop water education and to build capacity.

### **Technical Conference 5 : Executive Master in Water Management and Supply Chain**

Mr. NABIL MOSLEH, Director of Cooperation of EMINES - School of Industrial Management of Mohammed VI Polytechnic University - Morocco, presented the Executive Master in Water Management and Supply Chain project, a project that aims to make Mohammed VI Polytechnic University a world-renowned research university, a leader in Africa with training and research oriented towards business needs. The objective is to train managers able to face the challenges they face in their respective countries in order to improve access to water and sanitation services; and to create a network of Moroccan and African managers to exchange their respective experiences in the water sector.



A welcome cocktail was offered by SOTICI to the delegates





The Scientific and Technical Council is one of the operational bodies of the African Water Association. Its mission is to identify, discuss and propose solutions to managerial (human, financial, legal, communication, etc.) and scientific challenges, technical or environmental. To this end, two to three times a year, AfWA organises STC sessions in which members of different profiles take part.

The STC meeting began on Tuesday, 2 April, 2019, with a minute of silence observed for late Mrs. LENE Isabelle, Production and Operations Director of the Togolese Waters (TdE) and President of the Association of Professional Women of the Water and Sanitation of the TdE, died on Saturday, 22 December 2018.

Subsequently, Mr. Sylvain Usher, Executive Director of AfWA provided an update on the meetings in which AfWA participated. He then presented the results of the programs and projects of EFA and the status of membership fees. He concluded his intervention with the assessment and perspectives of the Association.

Dr. Papa Samba Diop, President of the STC, gave an overview of the Djibouti STC and summarized the activities of the period.

Mr. Mahmood LUTAAYA of the National Water and Sewerage Corporation presented the progress of preparations for the 20th AfWA Congress to be held in 2020 in Uganda.





### Specialized Committee 1 [SC1] / Management

The mandates assigned to the Specialized Committee n°1 Management (SC1), during the present meetings of the Scientific and Technical Council, concern :

#### Groupe 1 : Communication and knowledge sharing

- The implementation of the AfWA Communication Plan and in particular the 40th anniversary of the AfWA;
- Review of the launch activities (communication component) of the Kampala 2020 Congress;
- Evaluation of activities on the GPC
- An update on the establishment of communities of practice or AfWA Committees within the water and sanitation utilities and to adopt a mechanism for support, monitoring and evaluation of the activities of established communities of practice;

#### Groupe 2 : Capacity building

- Review of the Scholarships Programme;
- The continuation of the reflection on the organization of a major young professionals event;
- Review of activities on Master Classes (in relation to SC2 and SC3);
- The finalization of the organization of the Master Class on Women's Leadership and personal development
- Review of the activity carried out within the framework of the AfWA Competency Management Project and the introduction of a Roster

#### Groupe 3 : Woman Networks

- Setting up partnerships/Benchmarking /Tutoring
- Continuation of the implementation of National Networks
- The review of the common roadmap of the Women's Professional Network and the strategy for the implementation of this Roadmap as well as the strategy for the organization of the women's forum of 2020;
- The organization of the Master Class on leadership and personal development Bamako 2019)
- Organization of a seminar on sanitation
- Establishment of skills database of women Professionals in the Water and Sanitation sector
- 16. The development of TORs for the implementation of a women's

mapping within the water and sanitation companies in Africa

#### **Groupe 4 : STC and ODD Format**

- Finalization of proposals for the new format of STCs and JPOs
- Revision of texts: Rules of Procedure (for elections)
- How do you see the association in the future, the changes to be promoted after the Kampala 2020 congress?
- What should AfWA's participation in the next World Water Forum in Dakar be?

#### **Specialized Committee 2 [SC2] / Technical Management of Drinking Water Operations**

Assignments assigned to SC2 the at this meeting involved :

- assessing the recommendations of the Djibouti STC relating to the work of Specialized Committee 2
- taking stock of preparations for the international symposium on water quality;
- reporting on the training of French-speaking auditors on the audit of water companies;
- finalizing the concept note for the financing and implementation of the new water company audit program;
- reporting on the capacity building project of water quality control laboratories;
- setting up the steering committee and writing the TORs for the non-revenue water workshop for the KAMPALA congress related to the IWA (WLSG).

#### **Specialized Committee 3 [SC3] / Technical Management of Sanitation and Environment**

Assignments assigned to SC3 the at this meeting involved :

- Status of Implementation of the SC3 Roadmap and Monitoring of the Recommendations of the STC at its Djibouti Meeting in November 2018
- Review and Assessment of Activities of Working Groups and Recommendations
- Present and Discuss Progress Report of the RASOP Africa Programme
- Update on the Status of Developing the African Experts' Sanitation Directory

At the end of the work in specialised committees, the delegates made the following recommendations. They were presented by the President of STC to the Executive Committee.

- Setting up communities of practice or AfWA Committee in water and sanitation companies
- Finalizing ToRs of major events of young professionals by the JPAEs of other countries in conjunction with those of Senegal
- Making available to the coordination the list of Professional Women in their network, with their photos and CVs
- Formalizing and implementing Water Sanitation Safety Management Plans (WSSMPs) in conjunction with IWA and WHO
- Developing a reference framework and guide for the implementation of the audit of NRW of different companies
- Organising a NRW symposium to speed up resource mobilisation for the implementation of audits
- Advocating with countries' standardization structures for the purpose of adopting ISO 30500
- Organising a meeting of African structures in charge of resource preservation to define a global action plan on the issue
- Proposing AMCOW to make an inventory of the institutional framework of sanitation in African countries, with the aim of proposing a framework favourable to the development of sanitation





### Donor round table

At the initiative of the President of AfWA, Mr Abderrahim El Hafidi, the Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau Potable (ONEE) of Morocco initiated, on Thursday 4 April 2019, a meeting between national and international donors mainly based in Morocco and the African Water Association. This meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the 81st meeting of AfWA

' Scientific and Technical Council, brought together 9 potential financial partners (the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the Spanish Embassy, the West African Bank, the European Investment Bank, the Delegation of the European Union for the Middle East, the French Development Agency, Morocco section, ATTIJARIWafa Bank and the Banque Centrale Populaire) as well as members of AfWA governance bodies (Executive Committee, Scientific and Technical Council and Executive Directorate) to discuss the financing mechanisms to build the capacities of WASH stakeholders . The objective of this meeting was to discuss the financing mechanisms to build the capacities of WASH stakeholders .

### Executive Board meeting and Ordinary General Assembly

The meeting of the Executive Board of AfWA and the Ordinary General Assembly, took place on Friday, April 5, under the chairmanship of Mr. Abderrahim El Hafidi, President of AfWA and Managing Director of ONEE. The items discussed at these meetings and the decisions taken are available at the secretariat of the Executive Office of AfWA Exécutive de l'AAE.



# 20<sup>th</sup> AfWA CONGRESS

— YOU ARE WELCOME —



Abderrahim El Hafidi  
AfWA President



Dr. Eng. Silver Mugisha  
MD NWSC & Congress  
President



Sylvain USHER  
Executive Director-  
AfWA



Dr. Rose Kaggwa  
Director NWSC &  
Congress Coordinator

— **Kampala, Uganda** —

24<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Breaking new grounds to accelerate access to water and sanitation for all.



المكتب الوطني للكهرباء و الماء الصالح للشرب

Office National de l'Electricité et de l'Eau Potable



## Meetings of the African Water Association

from 1st to 5th April 2019 - Rabat



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