



WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

**THE 11th JOINT GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA – DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS’ SECTOR
REVIEW 2019**

AGREED MINUTES

**24th - 26th SEPTEMBER 2019
MESTIL HOTEL, KAMPALA**

Introduction

The Water and Environment Sector assesses its performance, sets priority actions (referred to as undertakings) and offers policy guidance through a forum called the Joint Sector Review (JSR). This review is largely guided by the annual Sector Performance Report (SPR) where included are the achievements of annual targets for the key sector performance indicators, agreed actions and attainment of undertakings for the preceding year(s). The JSR, which is normally conducted under a pre-set theme and originating from key emerging sector issues, allows for different stakeholders within and from outside the sector to get an insight into, discuss, and influence sector developments. The JSR then draws conclusions and makes recommendations on the key issues in the sector, whereby binding decisions are formalised into key action areas or undertakings to be endorsed by the Water and Environment Sector Working Group (WESWG). These are implemented in the forth-coming year (s) with the aim of improvement of the overall sector's performance. The JSR's timing is in tandem with the next national budgeting cycle.

1 Theme and Objectives

The 11th JSR took place from the 24th to 26th of September 2019 at Mestil Hotel-Kampala under the theme: *“The Role of Water and Environment in the industrialisation and wealth creation agenda of Uganda”*. The overall aim of the 2019 Joint Sector Review (JSR) in conformity with the theme was to provide policy and strategic guidance on key sector issues with the following specific objectives: -

- i. To review and strengthen approaches on how to overcome the challenges of financing the water and environment sector,
- ii. To assess progress and performance of the sector in relation to the revised key sector performance indicators and the 2018 JSR undertakings,
- iii. To provide policy and strategic guidance to key emerging issues,
- iv. To provide a forum for sharing experiences and lessons learnt from the regions, districts and Local Government.

The Sector Performance Report for the Financial Year (FY) 2018/19 was presented and distributed to all participants during the JSR and may also be downloaded from the ministry website: <https://www.mwe.go.ug/library/sector-performance-reports>

2 Participation at the Joint Sector Review 2019

This year's Joint Sector Review had a total of 342 participants that included staff and/or members from: the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and its de-concentrated structures, semi-autonomous agencies, other Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), officials from selected Local Governments, Bilateral Development Partners, Multilateral Development Partners and UN Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, the private sector, Members of Parliament from various constituencies, academia and the media.

3 Summary of Proceedings

The JSR commenced on Tuesday 24th September 2019 with opening remarks from the Permanent Secretary - Ministry of Water & Environment (MWE); the Lead Development Partner Water and Sanitation – UNICEF and the Lead Development Partner, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)- the World Bank. The Minister of State for Environment Hon. Dr. Goretti Kitutu officiated at the Official opening. The opening ceremony

included the launch of four publications i.e. the National Irrigation Policy, the National Bamboo Strategy, the Monitoring Guide for WASH indicators and the Catchment Management Organisations Procedures Manual.

Prior to the official opening session, there was a review of the sector performance for the previous financial year (2018/19). Four presentations were made on (i) the financial performance for the Water and Environment Sector (2018/19FY) (ii) Water Resources Management (iii) Water Supply and Sanitation and (iv) Environment Management. After the official opening, there was a FY 2018/19 performance of the semi-autonomous agencies namely: National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) and Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA). This was followed by a review of the performance of the National Forestry Authority (NFA), the Water and Sanitation NGO network (UWASNET) and the Environment and Natural Resources Network (ENR CSO network). Each session ended with a plenary discussion on the presentations made. Day 1 of the JSR 2019 was concluded after the plenary discussion of session four.

Wednesday 25th September 2019 (Day 2 of JSR 2019) had three sessions as follows: A plenary session that focused on the Development Partners' response to the sector performance. Remarks on the sector's performance were made by the Lead DP for Water and Sanitation - UNICEF and the Lead DP for Environment and National Resources - World Bank. Thereafter a key note speech focusing on the theme of the JSR 2019 was given by Dr. Fred Muhumuza, a consultant. The session ended with a plenary discussion on the key note speech. The following session had parallel thematic discussions on key issues in the sector and it covered topics including: Mainstreaming ENR and Climate Change, Sector Financing, Humanitarian and Development Response Management of Refugees settlement in host districts, Sanitation, Compliance to Water and Environment Regulations and Water Supply. Prior to the parallel sessions, a preamble was given to allow for targeted discussions on the selected themes. The feedback from the groups was then shared in plenary in the last session of the day. Day 2 ended with a cocktail which provided a platform for networking within the sector.

Thursday 26th September was the third and final day of JSR 2019. It comprised of two sessions, the first one comprising of presentations on emerging issues within the sector and the proposed undertakings for FY 2019/20 and the final session which was the closing session. In the first session of the day, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development shared their perspective of the Water and Environment sector performance for FY2018/19. The last session comprised of closing remarks by the in-coming Lead DP for Water and Sanitation i.e. the country manager of the French Development Agency and the incoming Lead DP for ENR i.e. the country representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Minister of State for Water, Hon. Ronald Kibuule gave the closing speech.

4 Key Issues to Note on the Proceedings

4.1 Session Two: Opening

The Joint Sector Review commenced on Tuesday 24th September 2019 with Session One (this is indicated below). Session Two was the official opening and it started with key note speeches from Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi, the Permanent Secretary, Ms. Birgithe Lund Hhenriksen, Officer in charge of the deputy representative for UNICEF as the Lead DP for Water and Sanitation Sector and Mr. Anthony Thompson, the Country Manager, World Bank as the Lead DP for Environment and Natural Resources (ENR). Thereafter the Joint Sector Review was officially opened by the Minister of State for Environment, Hon. Dr. Mary Goretta Kitutu.

Opening Remarks by Mr. Okidi Okot Alfred PS MWE

The PS-MWE welcomed all participants to the 11th GOU/Development Partners Joint Review of the Water and Environment Sector.

He cautioned members to come up with undertakings that were in line with the budget provisions for the coming FY and with targets that will be achieved and reported on. He said that the outcomes of the review would feed into the budgeting process for 2020/21FY, as it would guide the sector's prioritization process and intervention for inclusion in the Budget Framework Paper and Ministerial Policy Statement.

He requested the following: exploring alternative financing modalities which can complement the efforts of Government, putting in place measures to ensure sustainable use of resources, coming up with practical funding strategies/options for investment in the sector priorities.

Opening remarks by Ms. Birgithe Lund Hhenriksen, Officer in charge of the deputy representative UNICEF. Outgoing Chair, Water Supply and Sanitation Development Partners Group (WSS DPG)

In her remarks, Ms. Lund reiterated that access to clean and safe water, good sanitation and proper hygiene are an essential human right and critical for all aspects of human development. She commended the Government of Uganda with support from her partners on the progress made to increase access to water and sanitation services between 2000 and 2019 from overall 57 per cent to 69 per cent in rural areas, and 79 per cent in urban areas. She recognised that only marginal improvements were made in access to sanitation from 15 per cent in 2000 to 19 per cent in 2016 according to the Uganda Demographic and Health Surveys. She noted that the pace of coverage of water supply in rural areas has been almost stagnant and shows signs of reversal as per the sector performance report this year.

She called for the following; balancing of investment between urban and rural areas recognizing that the drudgery because of lack of water is much more pronounced in rural areas, prioritization of investments in WASH facilities in schools and health facilities and for this to have a joint approach from the related sectors doing more to ensure all our communities and children, especially the most vulnerable are reached with clean and safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene initiatives. She committed to continued engagement to operationalize and monitor the implementation of the refugee response plan.

She reiterated on behalf of Development Partners UNICEF's commitment to support the rural population in Uganda with improved water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives. She appreciated the continued partnership and cooperation to achieve Uganda's Sustainable Development Goals and work towards realization of the NDP II goal of increased household incomes and improved quality of life of the population, while safeguarding our precious environment.

She informed the participants that the DPs have shared their achievements in Chapter 13 of the Sector Performance Report and observed that the sector funding has increased as a result of increased funding by development partners. She then introduced the French Development Agency, (AFD) as the incoming Chair for the Water and Sanitation Development Partners Group.

Opening remarks by Mr. Anthony Thompson, Country Manager, World Bank Outgoing Chair, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Development Partners Group (ECC DPG).

In his remarks he emphasised that the JSR provided a renewed opportunity to strengthen the existing synergies between the GoU and Development Partners to implement environment and water programs in a sustainable way and also provided the required sectoral coordination and policy guidance to Government Ministries, agencies and other stakeholders. He noted the timing of the JSR which is linked to the start of preparations for the budgeting process for FY2019/20 and planning for NDP III facilitates consideration of emerging issues such as green growth, mainstreaming environment, climate-resilience and refugee response across sectors in the NDP III.

He called for the following; Government through Parliament to fast-track the passing of the Climate Change

Bill into Law, concerted and coordinated efforts by mandated Government Institutions and stakeholders, to ensure transparent management of forests in the country in-order to curb the continued encroachment and to stop the issuance of illegal titles in both Central Forest Reserves and Local Forest Reserves. He emphasised the need to manage water resources in a holistic manner that addresses wetlands, forests and livelihoods. He also pointed out the need to mainstream environment in manufacturing and transportation sectors as a start. He cautioned that all must commit to eradicating plastics from our environment to realize the future we want. He welcomed UNHCR the in-coming Chair and wished them well.

Official Opening

The JSR 2019 was officially opened by the Minister of State for the Environment; Hon.Dr.Mary Goretti Kitutu. She said that the theme for this year's sector review "The Role of Water and Environment in the industrialisation and wealth creation agenda of Uganda" was appropriate considering that the country is developing the 3rd National Development Plan (NDP 3) whose theme is hinged on industrialisation for inclusive growth and wealth creation.

She warned that the country was facing unprecedented natural resource depletion which represented a constraint to sustainable growth and poverty reduction. The minister informed members that the rate of forest loss in Uganda (2.6% annually) is among the highest globally. Other major issues the sector is facing are land degradation, soil fertility loss, wetland reclamation, and decline in fisheries. The overall cost of environmental degradation is equivalent to 17 percent of GDP of which 11 percent is due to soil degradation. She pointed out that the prospects for economic growth will ultimately be linked to sound and sustainable management of the country's natural capital base, which will require additional efforts to understand better the relationship between natural capital and the economy.

She informed members that in line with the 2015 Presidential pledge and commitment to restore 2.5million hectares of degraded forest landscapes under the "Bonn Challenge" the Ministry of Water and Environment, in addition to the already ongoing restoration interventions like REDD+, FIEFOC, SPGS among others is embarking on a "Greening campaign" that will reinstate the country's indigenous species richness as well as engage local stakeholders in attaining national restoration goals, through increased public awareness and participation in the conservation and protection of indigenous tree species to address ongoing loss and conversion of primary and secondary natural forest.

The minister shared that as of June 2019, the safe water supply coverage stood at 69% (compared to 70% in the previous FY 2017/18). The decline in coverage is attributed to exhaustion of simpler technological options for water supply requiring a shift to more expensive technologies, limited resource envelope that does not match the ever-increasing population in rural areas, and geographical spread of settlements that require more water supply technologies. On the other hand, access to safe drinking water in urban areas has increased to 79% as of June 2019 (up from 74%). The management of water and sanitation by the National Water & Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) has expanded to cover a total of 253 towns, an addition of 15 areas from last financial year.

In the area of Water Resources Management, the Ministry has continued implementing the framework for catchment-based integrated water resources management through the Water Management Zones (WMZs). The zones mobilize and support stakeholders to effectively participate in the establishment of catchment management structures, preparation and implementation of catchment management and water source protection plans. The Water Resources Institute in Entebbe has continued to be a center of excellence for applied research and training, source of information and dialogue on water resources issues in Uganda. She then declared the 11th Joint Government of Uganda/Development Partner's Water and Environment Sector review opened.

Launch of sector documents

The Minister launched 4 key documents:

- The National Irrigation Policy, which will direct the implementation of irrigation interventions to ensure optimal use of the available land and water resources for agricultural production and productivity.
- The National Bamboo Strategy which is a 10-year strategy and costed action plan aimed at ensuring coordinated development of the bamboo industry to propel green economic development and production of high value products targeting domestic, regional and international market.
- The Monitoring guide for WASH indicators (supported by UNICEF) which has further elaborated the WASH sub-sector indicators and simplified these to overcome the challenges that have been facing their implementation.
- The Catchment Management Organisations (CMO) Procedures Manual (Supported by GIZ) which will guide the structure, roles and responsibilities, internal operations and the relationships between CMOs and stakeholders within and outside the catchment.

4.2 Session One: Review of Sector Performance FY 2018/19

This plenary session was chaired by the **Managing Director NWSC Eng. Dr. Silver Mugisha**. It focused on the sector performance for the financial year (2018/19).

Mr. Collins Amany gave a presentation on the financial performance of the Water and Environment Sector FY 2018/19 on behalf of the Commissioner Planning Mr. Samuel Otuba. He informed the audience about the total Water and Environment Sector budget and expressed concern over the low absorption of Conditional Grants in some local governments. He said the sector's share to the national budget increased from 2.8% in the FY 2017/18 to 4.3% in the FY 2018/19. He gave a brief on outputs and highlighted challenges facing financial performance such as: Inadequate local capacity of private sector players (e.g. contractors, consultants and private operators), a reduction in grant financing in the sector and DPs preference for loans yet most of the projects are more or less social projects that don't easily attract loan financing and approval. Land and Property compensation which caused projects delays and food prices that remain subdued due to poor weather conditions and leading to a rise in food inflation.

Ms. Florence Adong, the Director DWRM made a presentation on Water Resources Management. In her presentation the Director reported key outputs of DWRM (refer to SPR). She informed the audience of funds they have generated from non- tax revenue to a tune of 776.85 Million shillings in the year FY 2018/19. The Directorate supports other agencies through Joint Drinking Water Quality Monitoring in Greater Kampala and the Kampala Pollution Task Force (KPTF). She gave a brief of achievements through these interventions as well as achievements under the Leaf II project ADB and GoU funded, and cross cutting water resources management initiatives. She also highlighted a number of challenges that the Directorate is facing. She said that the Directorate will up-scale implementation of catchment planning and water source protection guidelines, will operationalise the 3% contribution for water source protection, adopt satellite data transmission as a cheaper alternative and work on strengthening enforcement of compliance to the laws and regulation. They will carry out a comprehensive assessments of water resources in the oil and gas regions and hold the UWEWK 2020

Eng. Dominic Kavutse, the Acting Director DWD made a presentation on Water Supply and Sanitation. He informed participants that 79.1% of the urban population is now using an improved drinking water source while 57% are using safely managed water sources. He also highlighted some of the challenges facing urban water supply and sanitation. On rural water supply he gave the achievements and then highlighted some of the

challenges. Eng. Kavutse also presented the performance under water for production and finally on Water Utility Regulation.

Mr. Collins Oloya, the Acting Director DEA made a presentation on Environment and Natural Resources Management. He shared the challenges they are facing and proposed an increase in investment for re-opening, demarcating, maintaining and patrolling boundaries and restoration efforts. He also suggested the need for strengthening political and technical oversight of District Development Committees, District Environment Committees and District Land Boards; increment in Environmental Police Patrol Units staffing from 186 to 350 medium terms to reach the approved 600 force; and an increase in support for developing alternative livelihood options for ENR adjacent communities. On the high degradation with unmatched restoration he proposed increasing funding to LGs for restoration efforts and preparing a separate project for restoration as well as developing realistic annual targets for reforestation and wetland restoration based on actual budgets. To address the low transparency in Environmental Impact Assessment processes, impunity and open resistance by illegal wetland users he suggested taking advantage of the current high level political support and the Land Inquiry Commission to cancel titles issued in wetlands, NEMP and NEA review to address all mandate overlaps and sufficient penalty to address non-compliance, making use of the current Climate Change funding window (Adaptation fund and GCF) to develop projects for restoration of wetlands and welcoming willing land owners with wetland portions who want to hand over wetlands to GoU. In conclusion, he noted that the performance of DEA has been moderate for this reporting cycle due to limitation in funding and staffing however with the de-concentration of the directorate and operationalisation of the on-going and pipeline projects more will be achieved especially in the area of monitoring, supervision and coordination of LGs and restoration efforts.

In the plenary discussion, the status of the Water Act was of much interest. A discussion also ensued on the variance in the per-capita investment for urban versus rural. It was suggested to stick to reporting on sector performance according to villages rather than districts as the districts keep changing. While the urban sub-sector reported on jobs created other sub-sectors e.g. rural and water for production did not. Stakeholders requested to know the extent of job creation in the other sub-sectors as well. Other aspects not shared that were of interest are; the status of degraded wetlands and the strategy to manage the increasingly degraded wetlands. The sector was cautioned to harmonise the land acquisition process for setting up water infrastructure across its entities i.e. MWE, NWSC as the demand for compensation for example to place water tanks is taking a toll on the sector budget. Concerns were raised on the reported 89% functionality of boreholes which members felt was high compared to what is on ground. On environment the concern was that no country response on Climate Change was presented.

4.3 Session Three: Review of Agency Performance FY 2018/19

This was a plenary session chaired by **Ms. Florence Adong, the Director DWRM**. It comprised of presentations from the semi-autonomous agencies namely: National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), National Water & Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) and the National Forestry Authority (NFA)

Ms. Christine Akello, the Asst. Executive Director of NEMA made a presentation on the Performance of NEMA on behalf of the Executive Director. She presented the achievements of the agency and then shared the emerging issues for NEMA as; increase in atmospheric pollution due to emission of noxious gases, noise mainly from boilers, furnaces and incinerators in industrial facilities, high demand and extraction of construction materials like sand, rock, murrum and water, increased residual impacts of scarred landscape, soil/land degradation, draining of wetlands and un-restored mines and murrum/gravel borrow-pits posing a threat to human life, animals, among others.

Eng. Alex Gisagara, the Director Engineering Services gave a presentation on the performance of large towns under NWSC on behalf of the Managing Director NWSC. He shared the achievements of NWSC, the challenges facing the Corporation and stated that NWSC has made significant achievements in the fulfilment of its mandate and the corporation has put in place measures to address the challenges being faced. He said that NWSC remains committed to fulfilling its mandate in collaboration with all stakeholders and commits to the implementation of the programmes enshrined in the various overarching strategic plans and looks forward to continued Government support in various ways.

Mr. Paul Isabirye, the Director Stations, networks and observation gave a presentation on UNMA's performance for the FY 2018/19 on behalf of the Executive Director UNMA. He informed the JSR about UNMA's successes. He decried some challenges and said that to address these UNMA will increase resource mobilization through robust cost recovery schemes, diversification and commercialization of client specific products (other than those for the common good); periodic review of the staffing structure to ensure UNMA's responsiveness to the dynamic service demands; continuous development of bankable projects and vigilance in the promotion of PPP policy, among others.

Mr. Tom Obong, the Executive Director-NFA gave a presentation on NFA's performance for the FY 2018/19. He shared the overall performance and outcomes of the NFA. He mentioned the opportunities for NFA as: high interest by the public to invest in forest plantations; diverse & differentiated products for revenue generation (Seedlings, Timber,); Biodiversity and beautiful sceneries for Eco-tourism development (Unique species); and Research and Education development. Emerging issues for NFA include; encroachment and illegal timber/tree extraction, unclear forest boundaries, unpredictable climatic changes and finally wild fires which have affected both plantations and savanna woodland areas. He put forward some recommendations to address these challenges including: building staff capacity (mentor, train, and effective supervision), strengthening stakeholder partnerships, strengthening Forest Law Enforcement and increasing funding for forest conservation

4.4 Session Four: CSO Response to the Sector Performance

Session four was a plenary session chaired by **Mr. Collins Oloya, the Acting Director of DEA**. In this session NFA presented (details shared above) and CSOs gave their response on the sector's performance.

4.4.1 UWASNET response to the Sector Performance

Mrs. Yunia Musazzi, the Executive Director UWASNET acknowledged the engagement of 127 CSOs in the sector. She decried the drop in investment within the sector by 29% and in emergency response by 50%. She noted the positive recognition of CSOs contribution towards producing an operation and maintenance framework; a guide to monitoring sector indicators; a refugee and host community response plan; guidelines for mainstreaming environment and climate; and prioritization of rural water schemes. She then presented what the CSOs perceived as the key issues for the sector and recommendations on how to solve these.

She pointed out; inadequate data for monitoring & evaluation, missing indicators for which recommended the incorporation of HCFs and MHM, lack of data reliability which requires fast tracking the national MIS development. On financing, she recognized the financial gap and recommended PSP engagement, self-supply and capitalizing on CSO successful models. On the issue of equitable distribution, Ms. Musazzi said, we should "Leave No One Behind". She also said that there is need to assess the un-served part of the population with prioritization of the least served districts where coverage is between 35% and 55%. and for both urban and rural populations. There is also need to review the Joint Partnership Fund and address the pros and cons.

For effective and sustainable WASH service delivery, the NWSC expansion should prioritize continuous supply to those already connected and fast track sewerage network expansion; on institutional WASH, she recommended that a new baseline is undertaken, the development of guidelines for HCFs and review of line

Ministry MOU. For sustainable sanitation and hygiene, she recommended the integration of CLTS with other approaches and also an area Wide ODF that is beyond the districts. On refugee response, the CSOs noted the negative environmental and social impact in host communities and recommended that there be a 50% to 50% investment in camp and the host communities. There is also need to provide guidelines for faecal sludge management and water infrastructure, O & M and also enhanced coordination of activities.

Last but not least, she implored the Water and Sanitation CSOs to do some internal reflection on CSO coordination, SDG demystification and validation and overall sector assessment.

4.4.2 ENR CSO network response to the Sector Performance

Ms. Micah Asiku, the Executive Director CODECA acknowledged and highlighted the key successes within the sector as follows: accreditation of MWE by the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund which presents a great opportunity for Uganda accessing global climate financing; enactment and endorsement by the President of the National Environment Act (2019) which provides a good foundation for sustainable development with due consideration of environment; conducting of stakeholder consultations on Environment and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for Tilenga and Kingfisher petroleum development projects as well as the ESIA for the related East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP). Restoration of 39,433.4 hectares of wetlands, river bank, streams and forest reserves under Local Governments, Global Climate Fund, Wetlands Management Department, Forest Sector Support Department (FSSD), Sawlog Production Grant Schemes (SPGS), National Forestry Authority (NFA), Farm Income Enhancement for Forestry Conservation (FIEFOC) and Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) project. Raising 49,609,797 tree seedlings that have been plant (translating into over 40,000 hectares) by various stakeholders across the country and certified over 150 commercial nurseries to provide planting materials that meet professional standards. Holding the 2nd Water and Environment Week in 2019, which was used to showcase innovations in the sector, share experiences and jointly discuss key challenges in the sector.

She acknowledged the key achievements and contribution by ENR-CSO (as detailed in the SPR). She noted that resources invested by the ENR-CSOs in Environment, Forestry and Climate sectors in the FY2018/19 are comparable, however the investment is higher under the environment sector and wetlands management received the lowest, followed by governance.

The CSOs have had structured engagement with Parliament on issues and recommendations based on a CSO position paper thereby contributing to the establishment of the Parliamentary Committee on Climate Change. ENR-CSO participated/contributed in the development of the Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan. They have established the Uganda Green Economy Network, which is a platform for CSOs to engage government on the transition path from brown economy to green/blue economy.

They highlighted challenges in the sector and noted that business as usual will not deliver NDP III, Nationally Determined Contributions and Sustainable Development Goals targets for the sector. She noted that inter-institutional collaboration remains a challenge especially with the high impact sectors of energy, mineral development, land, petroleum development, agriculture and how these interface with wetlands, forestry, lands, petroleum infrastructure and wildlife among others. Use of mercury in gold mining and crude methods of mining that exposes the miners to hazardous working environment and environmental degradation (Gold mining in Bugiri, Mubende, Buhwezu, Karamoja). Court rulings in favour of illegal land titling in Bugoma and Buto-Buvuma defying the mandate of responsible bodies (such as Parliament.) that protect forest reserves. On this issue however the PS MWE pointed out that Court rulings are never illegal as courts are mandated to decide disputes in accordance with the law of the land.

She noted that the Uganda Comprehensive Refugee Response Plan has been developed, but requires adequate resources allocation for implementation i.e. 668,299,472 USD. She also noted the very high demand for biomass energy but the regulation of its utilization across the country remains weak.

Key recommendations:

These include: reflection and re-thinking the model/formulae applied for financial allocation to the Water and Environment sector among other priority sectors: expediting the approval of the climate change bill as a framework/tool for supporting enforcement of the policy aspirations to advance climate resilience (adaptation & mitigation); provision of adequate resources for fast-tracking effective implementation of the Water and Environment Sector Plan for Refugees and Host Communities in Uganda by Government and Development Partners, MEMD and NEMA commissioning of research to establish the practices in gold mining industry to generate recommendations to address the environmental concerns and this needs to be extended to other areas such as Oil and Gas exploration and production, MWE, FSSD, NEMA strengthening of enforcement for compliance to ENR laws in respect to investments in agro-commodities (e.g. sugarcane, palm oil,) and this would be achieved through enhancing coordination with MAAIF and other agriculture sector stakeholders. The ENR-CSOs should advance their lobbying, advocacy and independent monitoring role to influence decision making in respect to investments in these agro-commodities to reduce/avoid negative environment and social impacts; fast-tracking development and implementation of strategies for enhancing regulation of sustainable biomass production and utilization for energy consumption. Ministry of Defence to re-assesses their involvement in environment and natural resources and bring to book officers and men that indulge themselves in environmental crime and MAAIF to address concerns over increased use of chemicals (herbicides and pesticides) that not only present environmental hazard but also affect the production chain.

4.5 Session five: Development Partners' response to the Sector Performance

4.5.1 The Lead DP WSS response to the Sector Performance

The remarks were made by **Mr. Shivanarian Singh of UNICEF**. He noted the increased funding to urban water supply which has raised the coverage in urban areas with 2 percentage points to 79%. He however pointed out the actual quantity of use is less than 20 lpc due to higher cost of water. He noted the declining number of people with access to pro-poor facilities (in form of public stand post) in the NWSC managed areas as more emphasis is being put on in-house connections (SPR p.76). He said that the DPs were looking forward to the country-wide tariff review by the Water Utility Regulation Department. At the same time, he cautioned on the need to ensure an affordable tariff under healthy utility management. He noted the varying financial viability of the six Umbrella Authorities (collection in Northern Umbrella is as low as zero %, while the Central Umbrella is at 110%), the lack of standard asset register in the Umbrellas, water meter quality control issues, non-compliance in reporting to the regulation department by the water authorities and pushed the Water Utility Regulation Department to find a solution.

The DPs called for prudence on the conclusions of a study into functionality of water sources used by NWSC; which recommended to reduce dependency on groundwater in preference to surface water based on limited statistics. He said that this may not provide adequate justification for a shift. "Many of the towns outside NWSC are successfully using groundwater sources and may provide significant statistics for such recommendations" Mr Shiva said.

Rural water supply; The DPs called for enhanced focus to rural areas noting that the lack of water in far flanged villages adversely impacts various facets of life of rural communities. They also called for information on basic water supply of institutional water systems, a systemic review into whether indeed gravity flow or mini solar-powered systems are connected to schools and hospitals. On the ten Technical Support Units (TSUs) being reorganized into 6 Rural Water Regional Centres there needs to be a review of what would be the

mandate of these, including also the linkage with other regional and district-level stakeholders in-order to achieve better synergy. The DPs urged the sector to find ways to strengthen the District Water and Sanitation Coordination Committees structures which have become inactive.

Sanitation; The DPs cautioned the ongoing efforts to construct regional faecal sludge treatment plants to treat waste from pit latrines, as it will remain difficult and costly to transport faecal sludge from one district to another”. A working solution to address this gap must be sought. They pointed out the lack of information, synthesis and analysis of the results on the baseline of faecal sludge treatment plans. This was neither in the undertakings chapter nor the sanitation chapter. An analysis should be done of the reasons for the regional variations in hand-washing. DPs also questioned the extent to which the large interventions such as Uganda Sanitation Fund, USAID USHA, DFID SSH4A made a difference in the regional score on handwashing. They recommend to further study how we can improve the effectiveness of FSM plants through demand creation. The mentioned pilot data collection mentioned under other initiatives in Urban Sanitation is not run with the District Health Management Information System (DHMIS) II but with a Sanitation MIS under the Uganda Sanitation Fund with urban sanitation indicators as per the MWE sector performance indicators and other relevant SDG indicators. This shall serve as a one-stop center for sanitation and broader WASH data collection by the local governments/health personnel. In terms of performance of NWSC in sanitation, there is no mention of sewerage connections and any possible underlying reasons explaining the numbers and trends. This information is of importance in determining whether emphasis for funding support should be on full chain of FSM or majorly on FSM plants.

Refugee WASH; The DPs requested to have either a dedicated chapter on refugee and host community support to the sector, or this aspect to be reported in every chapter of the document; as services to refugees have become a main topic for the donors’ support, and forms a substantial input. Over 260,000 people were served, of which 25% were host communities. There is need to reconcile with UNHCR the reported figures of beneficiaries. In view of the ongoing development of O&M framework; it is important to consider the water system in the refugee settlements as part of umbrella gazetting as a way forward to mainstreaming and having an integrated response for refugee and host communities. The handing over of piped schemes in refugee settlements to either UAs or NWSC is still ‘piecemeal’ and needs to be more structurally addressed, including the development of a road map, and the UAs need to be empowered accordingly.

Water for Production; the DPs commended that the Ministry had presented information on the increase in agricultural production with the introduction of irrigation thus showing the advantages of irrigation. They requested to know what has been the unit cost per acreage (based on technology and water source) to better inform planning and the choice of technology and scale. In addition, MWE should try to provide information on the livestock served, as this will give an idea on the existing gap for water supply for livestock. “The MWE is constructing micro irrigation schemes; it would be good to know if there has been uptake and replication by the surrounding farmers, thereby leveraging resources from the private sector/farmers.” It might be useful to explore water for production meeting drinking water needs and vice versa to maximize efficiency of resources. Monitoring the use of water for production is also a requirement of our sector performance monitoring framework.

Water Resources; The DPs pointed out that the report summarizes the status of monitoring stations for both surface and groundwater but doesn’t however, elaborate on the status of the Water Information System for which a number of consultancy studies were carried out. Modernizing data collection and distribution is indispensable and a great way to increase revenue. Current procedures for obtaining water resources data are cumbersome and most stakeholders opt to use indirect measurements (remote sensing and proxy measures) or data derived from simulations.

Permit compliance rates were reported on a yearly basis, which is important. It would however be really helpful to revisit compliance criteria and see whether they are achieving conservation, protection, and efficient use outcomes – beyond just an increase in non-tax revenue. Finally, the status of Catchment Based Integrated

Water Management (CBIWM) and the operation of Water Management Zones are very important topics, and a brief discussion on effectiveness of the zones, as well as on the status of CBIWM would be really useful to have in the main report.

Cross cutting issues:

The DPs noted that while there was progress on many of the undertakings, all undertakings had been phrased to for completion in 218/19 but only two had in fact been substantially achieved. E.g. no progress was made on Undertaking 9 on reinstating a budget line for software activities under the District Conditional Grant, yet it was extended from the previous year. They proposed to take the partially completed undertakings to the logical conclusion and completion as a backlog from this year to avoid that they are forgotten while the issue remains still very much valid as they were the previous year.

Finance: The DPs commended the increase in the share of the water and environment sector funding with the sector receiving 5% of the national budget as opposed to the 3% in earlier years. The sharp increase in funding however is mostly going to the urban sector (where the loans can be paid back). At the same time, funding for rural water supply is decreasing, and water to the conditional grant for water and sanitation in rural areas has been stagnant to some 52 bn UGX for the last 10 years. Though the sector is approaching the 1,900 bn UGX total budget release, our strategic investment plan estimates that a release of over 5,000 bn UGX was needed to reach the sector targets for the year 2018/19 alone; so, we are far from reaching our funding target.

More effort needs to be placed in reporting the off-budget amount, which currently only includes the reported civil society expenditure, and not the funds provided by the off-budget donors, like Japan, Iceland, UNICEF and UNHCR. The Sector Performance Report should summarise, analyse and propose a way forward on various situations as well as include a concluding chapter on critical issues for sector dialogue. For example, safely managed water in rural areas, an SDG indicator adopted by the Sector was not monitored as yet in the SPR. The indicator safely managed drinking water on premises *was* reported on for the urban setting, but the great increase from 20% last year to 57% this year seems too high a jump. This also applies to the reported increase in water supply access from 36% to 56% of the population in small towns and rural growth centres; it is not explained how this important increase could happen. Also, open defecation has reportedly increased in rural areas from 8 to 22.9%, yet this seemingly worrying trend is not questioned, nor explained. Adding the number of newly reported point sources in rural areas to the new solar systems, emergency boreholes and large gravity schemes, it follows that either multiple works were carried out in villages, or the data on coverage of villages is incomplete; enhanced reporting on this indicator could be done through a system in which both point and piped water systems are included in establishing the villages served. If the inputs by off budget support would be added, the situation may be further optimised.

With the new WASH monitoring guide developed by the ministry and launched at the JSR, initial improvements in progress monitoring will be achieved next financial year 2019/20. Strengthening monitoring in line with the SDG reporting should form one of the undertakings for the year 2019/20 in a bid to address reporting gaps in the next sector performance report.

The Development Partners in Water and Sanitation welcomed the achievements made in the sector in Uganda, and expressed that they remain committed to accelerate sustainable development, and support monitoring and reporting to achieve an overall healthy and wealthy population in Uganda.

4.5.2 The Lead DP ENR response to the Sector Performance

The remarks were made by **Ms. Christine Kasedde the Environmental Specialist of the World Bank**. She recognized the recent developments and achievements in the sector e.g. the passing of the National Environment Act in Parliament, the ascension by His Excellency the President and the development of the Climate Change Bill that was approved by Cabinet last month, the success of the second annual Uganda Water

and Environment Week at its world-class facility, the Water Resources Institute in Entebbe with the theme of *Water and Environment as a strategic driver for attainment of the 2030 sustainable development goals* where the Ministry also launched the national REDD+ Strategy and the National Forest Management System that is now providing an annual update on the state of land use and cover in Uganda. She applauded the Ministry on restoration of a total of 734 hectares of wetlands in the FY 2018/19 up from 487.4 hectares, demarcation of 148 km of critical wetlands and increase in Forest plantations establishment by 51480ha over the last 5 years, at a rate of 2.96%. Progress in the wetlands management agenda including development and use of the National Wetlands Atlas to support ongoing wetland coding, demarcation and restoration as well as a process of cancelling titles issued in wetlands. She said that the implementation of the green growth development strategy in collaboration with National Planning Authority is a clear demonstration of government commitment to adopt a low carbon development path as espoused in Vision 2040. She also recognised the completion of the NDC implementation plan which costed plan provides a mechanism for effective development assistance to achieve Uganda's commitments to the Paris Agreement and the sustainable development goals. She applauded the participation and contribution to the 24th meeting of the Conference of Parties on climate change (COP24) in Poland and accreditation for the Adaptation Fund enabling government to have direct access to global financing for climate action. She urged the Ministry to move swiftly to develop fundable proposals for both AF and GCF to be able to utilize any funding window thereof. She commended the sector for their active participation in the humanitarian coordination platforms for both WASH and Environment and in the CRRF Steering Group where it has taken lead in bringing the whole sector on board in the inception of a Water and Environment Refugee Response Plan. She pointed out the status of the FY2018/2019 ENR relevant undertakings.

Ms. Kasedde highlighted a number of challenges of the ENR sector. She challenged the sector to explore mainstreaming environment in manufacturing and transportation sectors as a start. She encouraged a commitment to eradicating plastics from our environment to realize the future we want. She noted the issue of proliferation of brick-burning to satisfy the needs for construction of homesteads and new facilities and the significant demand that it creates for fuel wood. She emphasized that this needs to be addressed in the upcoming mainstreaming guidelines and through completion of environmental impact assessments for all building construction projects.

She pointed out opportunities for the sector including: Financing implementation of integrated catchment management plans which provides an opportunity to realize complementarity of the two subsectors and to activate water and environment as a strategic driver to attain the sustainable development goals. Prioritizing wetlands and forests as part of integrated water resources management. Operationalizing the agreed minimum 3% water source protection arrangement which will go a long way in bridging the gap between investments in infrastructure with catchment management. Payment for ecosystem/environmental services weather based index insurance schemes to generate revenue from climate information; green bonds/environmental performance bonds, biodiversity offsets. Also the Ministry as one of the proposed national Implementing entities for the Green Climate Fund and Adaptation Fund has an opportunity to design integrated projects that address both water and environment resource needs - *the GCF-Wetlands restoration project is a good example.*

Ms. Kasedde said the ECCDPG was committed to continue working with all partners in the sector to achieve the Government's aspirations to reach middle income through its National Development Plan and Vision 2040 and to attain Agenda 2030's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Mainstreaming environment and climate change in other sectors also has a double benefit of reducing degradation while at the same time increasing funding for environmental sustainability. Sectors can start to see mainstreaming as a potential source of revenue as they create links to climate action. To ensure adequate financing for environment mainstreaming, the budget for triggered Environment and Social Impact Assessments and resulting compliance requirements, safeguards and recommendations should be part and parcel of any project budget in any sector.

She noted that the LG funding has been provided for under the National Environment Act 2019 so the Ministry and NEMA working together with the Ministry of Local Government should be able to provide support to Districts to enhance environmental management at the grassroots level. This would promote stakeholder participation, transparency, accountability and ownership by the citizens. On the 2018/19 undertakings, she noted that overall most of the undertakings have been substantially achieved. She urged MWE to complete the remaining pieces of work for all the undertakings to realize their full objectives/ purpose in the next half year.

4.5.3 Key Note Speech

The Role of the Water and Environment in the Industrialization and Wealth Creation Agenda

In his key note speech, Dr. Fred K. Muhumuza, from the School of Economics Makerere University emphasised why water is critical to the success of the economy. He pointed out the linkage between water, environment and agriculture emphasising that water and environment should be central to Uganda's development planning for wealth creation given the fact that the bulk of the population is dependent on agriculture directly or otherwise.

He pointed out that the expanding industrial water usage including the process of electricity production is exerting pressure on water resources. Also, preservation and promotion of tourism are highly dependent on water. Other sectors such as transport, energy, agriculture and industry, power generation and road infrastructure which is affected by water flow systems are all dependent on water and environment. He said that there is need for public education and sensitisation on sanitation and hygiene issues. He noted that there are limited provisions of sanitation spaces on highways and in public institutions; for example, the recent experiences at Kirudu National Referral hospital highlight the challenge of taking matters of sanitation lightly and yet open defecation remains a challenge that is not just a result of cultural practices but negligence by households. Dr. Muhumuza pointed out that the problem of sanitation and hygiene will still persist especially that the District Sanitation and Hygiene Conditional Grant which supported 97 districts in 2018/19 has now been reduced from UGX 21-23Mn to less than UGX 20Mn/yr due to an increase in number of districts. He also noted that the challenge in the inclination of GoU budgets to capital development was likely to undermine the trust pressing the private individuals to make the necessary investments in sanitation and hygiene; but that said, going forward, budget flexibility and increased amounts will be key to arrest the problem.

Dr. Muhumuza highlighted a begging opportunity in rainwater harvesting as it remains within reach of millions of households although many lack the means to tap into it. He noted that most households can only store about 40 litres from a heavy downpour mainly due to lack of storage containers and therefore requested that GoU provides incentives to the production of plastic containers for both households and institutions while vulnerable households such as the elderly, child-headed homes, chronic illness cases, etc. could receive free containers. Besides rainwater harvesting, he noted the implied and growing desire for irrigation which requires a planned irrigation strategy for wealth creation although this is likely to be negatively affected by the volatility in water volumes and quality across the country. Nonetheless, the next NDP proposes to support agro-industrialization by clustering districts into nine (9) agro-ecological zones to be supported to maximize value addition in selected commodities and building special industrial parks. This strategy needs to be harmonized with the zoning of water catchment areas for harmonization of investments in inputs since the future of these agro-ecological zones is bound to change from the current status depending on the initiatives for the management of climate change. That said, he requested that a data base be regularly updated with information on the volumes of water required to support and sustain irrigation in given areas and for specific crop demands; and also the efforts to protect the catchment areas should run parallel if government is to avoid creation of future white elephants.

Dr. Muhumuza pointed out the need to consider water for refugees and internal migrations for example the Bidi camp which is currently the largest refugee camp in the world. This needs water, sanitation and hot meals. This

thinking should also consider that most refugees rarely go back home and therefore should be a standing item on the Sector's agenda with rapid response plans including an equivalent of a 'reserve force'. In equal measure is the need to plan for internal migrations of low-income people who continue to increase in slums and similar places that need to be targeted and monitored regularly to inform planned investments. With regards to climate change, he encouraged Uganda to join the rest of the world to find and implement common solutions for a problem that transcends sovereign borders because effects of climate change effects are already manifesting through changing rainfall patterns and total amounts. He also noted with concern Uganda's current stance on preservation of forests and water catchment areas where it is already seen that there is a significant reduction in the forest cover from 15% in 2010 to 9.5% in 2017 while wetland degradation and encroachment has reduced wetland cover from 11.9% in 2012 to 10.9% in 2017.

With respect to alternative source of financing the sector, he stated that the W&E sector has a limited ability to generate own resources to finance the required investments. Therefore, funding to increase investments and realize equity and sustainability has to continuously come from outside the sector e.g. from DPs given the growing limitations on the GoU budget. He proposed reverting to sector basket funding modalities in addition to pure project finance. He pointed out that DPs should be credited for the significant support as this remains the most reliable source of additional finance. He said it was important for the country to look at other resource mobilization avenues such as creation of a unit in the Ministry to solicit for alternative finances including support to private sector initiatives. He then shared a number of financing opportunities that are available for tapping into. He gave the example of Gabon which shall receive US\$ 150M for preserving forests. In this example, he stated that Gabon shall become the first African country to get paid to protect its rainforests as part of a global strategy to deal with climate change. Only a while back, Norway also committed to pay US\$150M, through the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), toward the 10-year agreement. The CAFI was born 4 years ago and includes 6 African nations, global development agencies and European partners. Besides the CAFI, the U.K. government has also announced new climate change and biodiversity funds worth £1.3 billion (\$1.6 billion) which includes 1 billion pounds to support British engineers and scientists to develop "cutting-edge tech" to help low-income countries reduce their carbon emissions while there is another 220 million pounds for the International Biodiversity Fund to preserve the world's endangered species and habitats. Similar to note is yet another 100 million pounds for the Biodiversity Landscape Fund to protect mangroves and forests besides the commitment at UNGA that the UK would double its international climate financing to 11.6 billion pounds.

4.6 Session Six: Thematic Discussions

Session Six was parallel sessions. The groups discussed thematic areas identified by the JSR Secretariat with a focus on critical issues, their causes and proposed practical solutions to address these issues. The discussions were the precursor to the proposed undertakings presented in the next section.

4.7 Session Seven: Undertakings

4.7.1 Status of Undertakings 2018/19

Humanitarian & Development response

Undertaking 1: Develop a water and environment sector Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF) and implementation roadmap for refugee hosting micro-catchments by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was largely achieved.*

Faecal Sludge Management

Undertaking 2: Conduct a baseline on the operation performance of the existing Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTPs) by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was 100% achieved.*

Undertaking 3: Develop a Management Framework for the Faecal Sludge Service chain (including business aspects) by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was 0% achieved and has been carried forward to 2019/20*

Compliance to Water and Environment Laws

Undertaking 4: Upscale water use efficiency in industries to promote voluntary compliance to regulations by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was partially achieved.*

Environment and Natural Resources

Undertaking 5: Develop indicators for ENR mainstreaming for all sectors in order to achieve reduced contributions to degradation by the end of FY 2018/19. *This undertaking was only partially achieved.*

Undertaking 6: Operationalise the Climate Change mainstreaming indicators by the end of FY2018/19. *Partially achieved.*

Undertaking 7: Facilitate a policy shift that promotes energy efficiency and alternatives to charcoal as a form of energy¹ by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was 75% completed.*

Regulation

Undertaking 8: Review and consolidate a Sanctions and Reward mechanism to enhance utility performance for both Umbrella Water Authorities and NWSC by end of FY 2018/2019. *This undertaking was 65% completed.*

Finance

Undertaking 9: Reinstate budget line for software activities under the District Water and Sanitation Conditional Grant. *No progress was made with this indicator since the previous year.*

Undertaking 10: Set up a project preparation and financing taskforce under each department under DWD by the end of the FY 2018/19. *This undertaking was largely achieved.*

4.7.2 Proposed Undertakings 2019/20

Thirteen undertakings have been proposed for the FY 2019/20. Ten are new while one for sanitation has been carried forward from FY 2018/19. Mainstreaming ENR and Climate Change (2 No.), Sector Financing (2 No.), Humanitarian and Development Response Management of Refugee settlements in host districts (2 No.), Water Supply (2 No.), Sanitation (3 No.) and Compliance to Water and Environmental Regulations (2 No.).

Mainstreaming ENR and Climate Change

Undertaking 1: Finalize the mainstreaming guidelines and support preparation of sector specific mainstreaming guidelines for the 4 remaining high impact sectors by FY 2019/20

Undertaking 2: Put in place a strategy and action plan for accelerated implementation of the mainstreaming guidelines including capacity building, resource mobilizing and a framework for reporting by FY 2019/20

Sector Financing

Undertaking 3: Prepare a study to guide parliament on increased financing of Climate Change interventions including contribution from other MDAs by FY 2019/20.

¹ Implement the following actions; i) Facilitate a study to inform the policy options, ii) Prepare a Cabinet paper to provide policy guidance; options and alternatives on e.g. promotion of the use of incentives such as subsidies on Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) & iii) Facilitate the establishment of bio energy plantations in order to reduce pressure on the natural forests.

Undertaking 4: Prepare at least 4 project proposals for approval to be funded under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Adaptation fund by the Ministry and LGs spearheaded by the de-concentrated units focusing on ENR by FY 2019/20

Humanitarian and Development Response Management of Refugee Settlements in Host Districts

Undertaking 5: Upgrade 13 water schemes in refugee hosting districts and integrate management of existing water supply and sanitation into utility management structures sustainably.

Undertaking 6: Restore degraded hotspots within the refugee hosting micro-catchments.

Water Supply

Undertaking 7: Conduct a comprehensive review to identify the causes of water supply inequity and identify strategies to address them by FY 2019/20.

Undertaking 8: Develop and document a sustainable financing strategy for the Umbrella Authorities by FY 2019/20

Sanitation

Undertaking 9: Develop a management framework for faecal sludge service chain (including business aspects) by end of FY 2019/20 (continued from last FY)

Undertaking 10: Disseminate the sanitation monitoring indicators, measurement framework and develop an improved MIS system (digital based) by FY 2019/20

Undertaking 11: Develop a national master plan for improved coverage of “safely managed” sanitation by FY 2019/20

Compliance to Water and Environmental Regulations

Undertaking 12: Develop a strategy and a plan for joint action to enforcement and compliance to Water and Environment Laws using the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) regional structures and Local Governments.

Undertaking 13: Review the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process including approvals, monitoring and enforcing conditions in the EIA certificates

4.8 Session Eight: General Emerging Issues

Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit (BMAU) assessment of Water and Environment sector for the FY2018/19

Ms. Alice Ninsima from the Budget Monitoring and Accountability Unit (BMAU) of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MFPED) stated that her unit tracks the performance of all sectors with a focus on the extent to which the budgets, planned outputs and outcome targets have been achieved including issues of gender and equity compliance. She summarised the performance of all departments in the sector highlighting that there were unspent balances majorly under the three programmes of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation (12.8 billion), Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (8.94 billion) and Natural Resources Management (4.1 billion). These were attributed to procurement delays and land compensation. For UNMA, the unspent balance of over UGX. 1 billion was attributed to staffing gaps that had led to less expenditure on wage and ultimately NSSF contribution due to failure to constitute a Board. Overall performance stood at 73% as of the previous FY. Completed facilities had no major problems however key to note was that out of the 18 outcome indicators in the subprograms monitored, only six (33%) achieved their targets. This reflected poor performance in terms of achieving NDPII Targets.

She commended the sector on good practices e.g. the wastewater treatment plant in Bugolobi, particularly the Nakivubo and Kinawataka sewer connection which is improving waste water management; the catchment approach which promotes coordinated planning, development and management of water and related resources. She also commended the bridge in the service gap in rural areas through the bulk water transfer strategy; mini solar powered piped water supply systems in the rural areas-improved access, waiting time and distance; and small scale irrigation schemes that improved livelihoods.

Issues noted in the sector were; late procurement which hampered procurement of works with administrative reviews and delayed initiations; unavailability of land for development of government projects which causes delays; inadequate planning as seen by the over commitments and many players; absence of clear/coordinated mechanisms for data collection and analysis of sector indicators/NDPII targets; none prioritization of Environment and Natural Resources in planning/ budgeting and continuous degradation of environment; and un matching GoU tax contribution to donor payments.

Going forward she recommended that the accounting officers adhere to procurement plans and penalties instituted where possible; MDAs only plan to implement projects where all land related issues have been cleared; MDAs practice Integrated approach to planning, development and management of water and related resources to create synergies, avoid delays and over commitments; MDAs set up clear and coordinated mechanisms for data collection and analysis for outcome indicators and the sector prioritize ENRs in planning/budgeting and enforce environmental laws.

Breaking Down Silos: Collective Action for a Water Secure Greater Kampala

This is against the backdrop that the Water (security) crisis ranks among the Top 5 Global Risks identified every year since 2012. Mr. Mathew Parr, the Country Coordinator for the International Water Stewardship Programme made a case for collective action for a water secure greater Kampala through an integrated water security action and investment plan in the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area. This is to support sustainable social and economic development. This would be through land use, catchments and ecosystems; water supply and sanitation; solid waste management and effluent management.

Enhancing Climate Change Mainstreaming through Climate change disaster risk and its institutionalization in government planning and budgetary processes

Mr. Semambo Muhammad from the Climate Change Department made a presentation on the progress on institutionalization and mainstreaming of climate actions. 3 NDC focal points institutions contribute by: hosting and building capacity on the use of the screening tools MWE/CCD, Climate Change Budgeting Tagging (adjustment of the PBS to include a climate code) MoFPED and Sector and Local Government Planning Guidelines and issuance of certificates of compliance (NPA). This has already led to success recorded under CDRS such as having online and offline CDRS tools that have been customized for 5 pilot sectors (i.e. Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Water and Environment); climate risk, adaptation country profile and Climate Change Knowledge Portal (CCKP) developed, Capacity Building and Roll out plan done and the Training of 62 ToTs from different Institutions (CCD, MoEMD, NPA, MAAIF, MoFPED CSO and 3 LGs). He also noted that with the World Bank partnership, CCD has developed a web page prototype of the CDRS tools.

He noted that institutionalization and mainstreaming of climate action into national budget is being done through; identifying, classifying and tracking climate change and/or green growth related appropriations in Uganda's National Budget. Evaluating and use of results to inform decision-makers about the performance of climate appropriations. MoFPED and the NPA have integrated Climate and Disaster Risk Screening and Climate Change Budget Tagging in the planning call circular. The MoFPED has provided for CCBT roll out in

the Budget Call Circular for the Budget FY 2020/21. The MoFPED has initiated reforms in the PBS to accommodate climate budget tagging.

The State of Climate of Uganda in 2018

Mrs. Margaret N. Serwanja from UNMA presented the annual state of climate in Uganda which showed the extent of climate variability and change in the country. The Year 2018 was the 7th warmest year on record over Uganda since 1950 following the years: 2009, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2011 and 2014; the rate of temperature increase for the same period 1950 -2018 is 0.23 °C/decade and in recent years: 1990-2018, it is slightly higher at 0.24 °C/decade. The Year 2019 is so far warmer than both 2018 and 2017 although it was stated that higher warming was occurring over the western part of Uganda while Eastern Uganda is warming at a lower rate compared to other regions. This calls for further study to explain these specific observations. Most of Uganda received near normal rainfall ($75\% \leq \text{Rainfall} \leq 125$) but the Northern and northeastern parts received above normal rainfall ($>125\%$) while eastern and southwestern parts exhibit significantly increasing annual rainfall amounts. Mrs. Serwanja implored the country to see climate as a catalyst for industrialization where by such a report is meant to raise awareness and help in formulation of plans and policies and where there is a favorable climate, this should ensure availability of raw materials including water and energy resources for our industries. She further noted that green development that carefully considers the environmental and social impacts of development needs to be embraced so as to achieve sustainable development (minimizing emission of greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere) while urging all stakeholders to make use of the freely available weather and climate products (seasonal, dekadal and daily forecasts) and other information/ advisories from UNMA as a catalyst for Uganda's industrialization.

Leaving no one behind

Ms. Maria Nyanzi of Twaweza East Africa shared a Ugandan citizen's views and experiences on water, sanitation and hygiene. She noted that about 75% households access water from an improved source. She noted that the urban and wealthier households are better off. She further stated that the most common water source is a borehole with pump for both rural and urban areas although the average water collection time is 54 minutes with poorer and rural households experiencing longer than this average. It is also worth noting that 2 out of 3 households treat their water to make it safer to drink while 8 out of 10 households harvest rain water.

The role of Natural Capital Accounting in Uganda's development planning and policy implementation

Mr. Ronald Kaggwa from the National Planning Authority demonstrated how natural resources contribute to the economy and how the economy affects natural resources whereby integrating such information provided a broader picture of development progress than standard measures such as GDP. He informed participants that the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) is the chair of the National Steering Committee and provided these key policy messages:

NCA offers empirical and quantitative information to support evidence-based policymaking and development planning. Through time series data, NCA assists in monitoring resource stocks and user trends over time, which can be used to analyse the impacts of various development and resource policies. NCA information can also be used to generate future development scenarios (e.g. resource intensity by sector). Natural resources and biodiversity offer new opportunities for green growth and development, which can be estimated through the NCA. NCA derives indicators on resource efficiency, monitors the development over time and explore how development policies may affect resource use. NCA can be applied at different spatial levels, making it relevant for national development planning as well as sectoral development planning and local government planning. It shows the country's changing natural wealth and its use. It also shows the degree of sustainable development and contributes to the monitoring of NDP III and various SDG indicators, including the level of savings and investments adjusted for depletion and degradation of assets (ANSI or SBI).

In his submission, he mentioned the key challenges in implementation being: inadequate capacity in compilation of NCA data gaps and weak institution collaboration and coordination, limited capacity in use of NCA for economic modelling and forecasting for policy and decision making, inadequate but increasing appreciation of NCA by policy makers. Suffice to note that bureaucracy and government hierarchy is still frustrating and also there is difficulty in shifting from business as usual within the system. Nonetheless, he suggested the following to improve the situation: drafting a National Plan for the Implementation of SEEA which aligns with the Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD), UBOS' operational unit for satellite accounting, Institutionalized NCA related data collection and analysis, establishment of the Uganda Natural Capital Forum and Capacity building in MDAs especially in UBOS.

Building Uganda's National Forestry Monitoring System (NFMS)

Mr. John Begumana, a GIS Expert with NFA shared that Uganda is building a NFMS by expanding stakeholder participation and at same time maintaining a robust measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) functionality. So far the key outputs and way forward have been: understanding where deforestation is taking place (tomcat.nfa-fmis.net/collect/), the direct (proximate) and indirect drivers of deforestation and degradation; assessing afforestation and reforestation efforts by monitoring of the performance of national results-based actions that should be fully measured, reported and verified and also the performance of policies and measures from other sectors which have implications for REDD+ , active participation in REDD+ and support to other related developments e.g. NDC. Enhancing the monitoring aspects of NFMS whereby emerging technologies are used to regularly assess the forest area change like changes in carbon stocks (emission factors) and estimate emissions from biomass burning; improved analysis & reporting through the National GHG information system, analysis of drivers and, factors of forest change, establishment of reference emission level and regular updating, national and international reporting and registry.

5 Closing Session

The Lead DP position for the Water and Sanitation Sub-sector and co-chair of the Water and Environment Sector Working Group, was handed over from UNICEF to the French Development Agency. Similarly, the Lead Donor position for the Environment and Natural Resources, and co-chair of the Water and Environment Sector Working Group was handed over to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from the World Bank.

Mr. Hatem Chakroun, the Country Director of AFD, in his capacity as the In-coming Chair for the WSS sub-sector thanked the MWE for successfully organizing this joint annual review, and continuing to strive in promoting sustainable development of Uganda's natural resources for the well-being of all people in Uganda. He thanked UNICEF for ably and passionately chairing the Water and Sanitation Development Partners Group over the past year and coordinating support to government towards realising sector undertakings and addressing upcoming sector issues next to other programmes and projects. Last but not least, he thanked the water and sanitation development partners group for trusting AFD with the role of chairing the Group and the ministry leadership for the good working relationship with the group.

He noted that the theme of the JSR 2019 augers well with Agence Française de Développement (AFD) who have since 1997 created jobs and strengthened the private sector, built high-quality infrastructure, helped with the fight against climate change and protect natural resources. He also shared the current areas AFD is financing. Mr. Chakroun highlighted the key priorities over the next year as improving sector financing especially for rural water supply. He announced that together with the European Union, AFD is committing about 80 million Euros for water and sanitation in Isingiro district to address the needs of the rural population. He said there was need for viability and sustainability of the water and sanitation sector on issues of the subdivision between urban and rural population. Also in terms of responsibilities for the management, operation and maintenance of the schemes between NWSC and UAs especially under MWE's strategy to promote bulk water transfer to supply both rural and urban areas. He recommended that guidelines be gazetted

for handing over the utility management of piped water schemes to either an Umbrella Authority or NWSC. Secondly, he urged the sector to delineate the supply areas for each scheme which should facilitate determining the responsibility for water supply for a geographical area and thus help to ensure that everybody will be served within these areas. He further expressed concern over the management and operation of faecal sludge treatment plants that have been developed in the past years and not operating as they are supposed to.

Mr. Chakroun shared the commitment from the DPs to support Uganda on the issues of irrigation and water for production which he sees as important for industrialization, job creation and wealth creation in Uganda. Nonetheless, he emphasised the need to continue and improve the monitoring of performance of water and sanitation in schools, health centres and other institutions while also stressing the need to invest in effective integrated water resource management systems and for implementation of the catchment management plans that have been developed in the past years especially under the rapid economic growth which would put water sources, both in terms of quality and quantity under significant pressure. In his concluding remarks, Mr. Chakroun appreciated the proposed undertakings especially those in relation to regulation and refugees and pledged AFD's commitment to provide its support to implement all agreed sector initiatives. He requested for continued dedication of the sector through transparency, efficiency and effectiveness to delivery on its promise to Uganda.

Thereafter, **Mr Joel Boutroue who is the UNHCR Country Representative** made his closing remarks in his capacity as the incoming Chair for ENR. He congratulated MWE for organizing well the 11th Joint Sector Review (JSR) where he noted that the drafting of several key undertakings will set the pace for strategic priority and action in the sector for the coming year. In the same light, he thanked the outgoing chair, the World Bank, for their efforts in the past year and also both the Ministry and DPs for entrusting this role to UNHCR for the coming year.

Mr. Boutroue strongly reflected on this year's theme "The role of water and environment in the industrialization and wealth creation agenda of Uganda," to this, he expressed support in mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals in the coming third National Development Plan especially in light of increased domestic consumption, export and a very young population which relies on sustainable natural resource management. Although he did appreciate NEMA for doing EIAs, he stressed the need to follow up on compliance and effective enforcement. He equally called for more incentives from NFA for increased forest cover on private landholdings and innovative financing approaches in Uganda especially by demonstrating value-added by water and environment services to other sectors including energy, agriculture and tourism which could be directed back into natural resource management efforts.

Mr. Boutroue added his voice to the pressure exerted by refugee and host populations on forest resources especially for construction and firewood. To this, he pledged increasing quotas for sustainably sourced construction poles for new arrivals while also engaging refugee and host communities to plant and maintains more than hectares of trees under cash for work arrangement and also increasing on energy-saving stoves. He noted that air and noise pollution was an emerging key issue creating concern to which he informed the meeting that the group would like to support an undertaking to increase monitoring and implementation of air pollution and emissions controls. Similarly, he took note of the issues raised by the DWRM about pollution to water resources and called for a holistic rather than piecemeal approach to management of land, water and air resources which would also produce better controls of artisanal mining and more resources for pollution prevention and monitoring. He commended MWE for making operational the climate change mainstreaming indicators and drafting ENR general and WASH sub-sector mainstreaming guidelines. On the issues of climate resilience, he raised concern about the increasing forest fires and also appreciated a grassroots farmer who requested for better and timely access to climate data and information from UNMA.

In closing, Mr. Boutroue once again thanked the Ministry for the achievements registered so far and also committed UNHCR to strive to compile and communicate to Government the Development Partners' work

plan as well as the scope and mapping of various DP support to facilitate improved coordination with the hope that together with MWE, sector partners and Development Partners continue to jointly **shift issues into opportunities, ideas into action** and to realize thriving and sustainable economic development anchored in sustainable natural resource management and climate-resilience in Uganda, the rich and fertile Pearl of Africa.

Closing Remarks by the Minister of State for Water, Hon. Kibuule Ronald;

The minister thanked the participants for attending this very important review of the Water and Environment sector. He reiterated the theme “The role of water and environment in the industrialisation and wealth creation agenda of Uganda” and the hope that this had effectively guided the discussions for developing the necessary policy adjustments or refinements that will benefit service delivery. He called upon all the stakeholders in their various capacities to take the lead in implementing the agreed undertakings. He assured Local Government leaders of the ministry’s commitment to offer both financial and technical support in relation to the ministry’s mandate and vision and to meet the SDGs. He emphasized that provision of safe and clean water and sanitation facilities is a basic human right as per Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals and thus re-emphasize the need to work together to deliver on this. He said, “As we plan and implement the sector activities as a Ministry, we request that you utilize the District Water Officers, Technical Support Unit staff, staff from the Water Management Zones, Umbrella Authorities and my technical team at the ministry as they are always available to offer support. In the same spirit we at the ministry, the practice is an open door policy so that at any time, you can consult the political leaders”.

He expressed that in this year’s review, everyone needed to appreciate the issues raised which include; coming up with deliberate financing strategies to improve coverage of water and functionality of existing water facilities, enforcement of laws and regulations for environment and natural resources but in particular hastening the process of demarcation opening and maintenance of wetland and forestry boundaries and wetlands. He thanked the Development Partners for the technical and financial support, the line ministries, agencies, the private sector, Non-Government Organizations, the Local Government leaders and the media for their contribution to the sector. He then wished all journey mercies with a reminder to be torch bearers for the water and environment sector.

He then declared the 11th Joint Government of Uganda/Donor Review of the Water and Environment Sector 2019 closed.

6 Conclusion

The thematic groups responsible for implementing the undertakings will polish them up ready for submission to the next Water and Environment Sector Working Group (WESWG) meeting. Thematic group members and lead institutions will then formulate work plans and ensure that milestones, actions with indicators, a time frame for achievement of the undertaking and a realistic budget form part of these work plans.

All parties have agreed to implement the undertakings and recommendations summarised in these minutes.

Mr Alfred Okot Okidi
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Water and
Environment

On behalf of the
Government of Uganda

Signed:

Kampala, 15th October 2019

Mr. Hatem Chakroun
Country Manager
French Development Agency

On behalf of the **Development
Partners, Environment and
Natural Resources**

Signed:

FOR:

Kampala, 15th October 2019

^{for}
Mr. Joel Boutroue
Country Representative
UNHCR

On behalf of the **Development
Partners, Water and Sanitation**

Signed:

Kampala, 15th October 2019

¹ Implement the following actions; i) Facilitate a study to inform the policy options, ii) Prepare a Cabinet paper to provide policy guidance; options and alternatives on e.g. promotion of the use of incentives such as subsidies on Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) & iii) Facilitate the establishment of bio energy plantations in order to reduce pressure on the natural forests.