

MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 6th WATER POLICY COMMITTEE
(WPC) – 31st AUGUST 2018
MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT, LUZIRA

No.	Issue	Recommendations	Responsible Institution
1	Review of status of implementation of recommendations of previous WPC meeting	<p>a) <i>There is need to give special consideration to the issue of sustainability of irrigation schemes through stronger collaboration between Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) and Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) by putting in place an implementation arrangement of the irrigation policy by end of December 2018.</i></p> <p>b) <i>National Water Sewerage Cooperation (NWSC) should continuously update MWE on areas of expansion of supply areas on a quarterly basis for gazettement but also ensure that the gazettement is digital for ease of access.</i></p> <p>c) <i>National Water Sewerage Cooperation (NWSC) should always hold dialogue with DWRM on any plans to extend the supply areas beyond the gazetted area to ensure harmonization prior to extension.</i></p> <p>d) <i>NWSC and Directorate of Water Development (DWD) should continue to ensure that the water sources being developed acquire the necessary permits and certificates before commissioning the schemes.</i></p> <p>e) <i>There is need to ensure that NGOs undertaking drilling of boreholes in various parts of the country seek technical guidance from the relevant agencies including acquisition of the necessary permits taking note of the gazetted areas under NWSC and other water authorities.</i></p> <p>f) <i>DWRM should be more proactive in permit issuance. Key stakeholders should be requested to provide information to DWRM on any illegal water users or waste dischargers for action as part of collaboration.</i></p> <p>g) <i>The ongoing revision of the National Water Policy and Water Act should provide for circumstances where self-supply is allowed to persons/institutions in gazetted areas under NWSC and other water authorities.</i></p> <p>h) <i>Water Resources Institute (WRI) and NWSC training Centre should be continuously engaged to provide strategic and capacity related services to the sector.</i></p> <p>i) <i>NEMA should collect and analyse data from cage fish farmers and make a presentation on the next WPC meeting.</i></p> <p>j) <i>Coordination of different stakeholders on cage fish farming should be strengthened.</i></p> <p>k) <i>While the cancellation of titles in forest reserves and wetlands is ongoing, there is need to fast track demarcation of boundaries for forest reserves and</i></p>	<p>MWE and MAAIF</p> <p>NWSC</p> <p>NWSC and DWRM</p> <p>NWSC and DWD</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>DWRM</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE and NWSC</p> <p>NEMA</p> <p>MAAIF and MWE MWE</p> <p>MAAIF</p>

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		<p>wetlands to help in the mapping.</p> <p>l) Maps showing forests and wetlands boundaries should be disseminated.</p> <p>m) There is need to fast track finalization and implementation of Climate Change Bill.</p> <p>n) Harmonizing vision of management of forests and wetlands should be further strengthened consultatively involving key stakeholders.</p> <p>o) There is need to increase funding and capacity of the local government to enforce laws and polices related to natural resources.</p> <p>p) Coordination among different players in natural resources management should be strengthened.</p> <p>q) Funding for natural resources management should be increased at all levels.</p> <p>r) Proposal on how to manage forests in Uganda should be presented in the next WPC meeting.</p> <p>s) Follow up with Ministry of Land Housing and Urban Development on the proposal in the revision of the Land Act to have District Natural Resources Officer to be part of the District Land Boards to provide the necessary guidance.</p>	<p>MWE</p> <p>MWE/CCD</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE/ULGA/MLHUD</p>
2	National Water Policy and Water Act	a) A revised draft National Water Policy and the Water Act (Amendment) documents should be formally shared with key stakeholders including local government through Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA) to provide further inputs for finalization within two weeks with effect from 31 st August 2018 prior to its submission to the Cabinet Secretariat.	MWE
3	Status of Catchment based Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)	<p>a) All the developed Catchment Management Plans should be widely disseminated for information and use.</p> <p>b) All stakeholders are requested to plan and implement their activities following the catchments and utilize the already developed Catchment Management Plans (CMP) and Catchment Management Organization (CMO) structures.</p> <p>c) Funding for operationalization of catchment based IWRM and strengthening collaboration with various stakeholders should be increased.</p>	MWE/MAAIF/MEMD /LGs /MTIC/UWA/NFA/N WSC
4	National Frame Work for Water Quality Management and Regulation	<p>a) MWE should;</p> <p>i. Mobilize more funding from relevant agencies and partners for development of guidelines and standards for other water users including irrigation water.</p> <p>ii. develop standards for all user categories in the framework for water quality management and regulation.</p>	MWE

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		<p>b) <i>NEMA and DWRM should investigate and guide on use of sludge as organic fertilizer; and</i></p> <p>c) <i>Stakeholders should actively participate in implementation of the framework including providing the required funds.</i></p>	NEMA/MWE
5	Rural Water and Sanitation Issues	<p>a) <i>MWE should request UNRA to ensure making provisions for rest areas on highways in the design manuals in a bid to tackle sanitation challenges by travellers.</i></p> <p>b) <i>District Local governments should be mandated to provide sanitation facilities at transport hubs in their areas.</i></p> <p>c) <i>NEMA should ensure inclusion of environmental sanitation in the approval of EIA for highways</i></p> <p>d) <i>NEMA should ensure finished roads are mapped in terms of sanitation requirements and guide UNRA on areas that will need sanitation facilities. NEMA should revise the EIA conditions accordingly.</i></p> <p>e) <i>MWE should consider harmonization of management of public sanitation facilities to improve on the sanitation in public facilities.</i></p>	<p>MWE</p> <p>LGs/ULGA</p> <p>MWE/NEMA</p> <p>NEMA/UNRA</p> <p>MWE</p>
6	Implementation of the National Irrigation Policy and Water for Agricultural production	<p>a) <i>The National Irrigation Policy should be disseminated including a road map for its operationalization.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Upscale funding towards irrigation to meet the overwhelming demand of farmers.</i></p> <p>c) <i>Develop a framework for managing water for agricultural production.</i></p>	MWE/MAAIF
7	Urban Water and Sewerage Issues	<p>a) <i>MWE should explore simple and affordable technologies for waste treatment rather than the conventional treatment methods in view of the limited funding in a bid to address the sanitation challenges in small towns;</i></p> <p>b) <i>There is need to provide more counterpart funds for Sanitation component in donor funded water supply projects;</i></p> <p>c) <i>MWE should continuously review of methods of operations and update them accordingly.</i></p>	MWE
8	Status of Water Resources Institute	<p>a) <i>MWE should continue strengthening operationalization of the Water Resources Institute (WRI) through creating partnerships and synergies.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Funding for operationalization of the WRI should continue to be sought from government, development partners and the private sector.</i></p> <p>c) <i>Ensure provision of a legal framework as an enabling environment for smooth implementation of functions.</i></p>	MWE

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9	National Water and Sewerage Cooperation performance issues	<p>a) <i>NWSC should upscale development of faecal sludge management systems and establish appropriate financing mechanisms to support onsite sanitation in public places.</i></p> <p>b) <i>NWSC should prioritize sewerage investments for funding from government, development partners and private sector in view of the increased water supply and consumption to address environment and water resources pollution.</i></p> <p>c) <i>NWSC to explore market finances to implement watsan infrastructure in new towns to augment government efforts in the development of major watsan infrastructure.</i></p> <p>d) <i>WPC endorses the ongoing technological innovations in prepaid, meter assembly and onsite chlorination technologies.</i></p> <p>e) <i>NWSC should give more priority to protect water catchments in line with Water Source Protection guidelines and work closely with relevant agencies such as DWRM, NFA, NEMA, DEA in implementation of Water Source Protection Plans to ensure that the interventions are well guided and sustainable.</i></p> <p>f) <i>NWSC should continue with mapping of boundaries of its operational areas and ensure amendment of gazettes.</i></p>	NWSC
10	National Environmental Management Authority issues	<p>a) <i>The National Environment Act (NEA) and its regulations should provide details of the wetland, rivers and buffer zone that are not covered in the current law.</i></p> <p>b) <i>MWE working with NEMA should fast track approval of the National Environment Policy and enactment of the National Environment (Amendment) Bill.</i></p> <p>c) <i>There is need for continued capacity enhancement through equipping and training of staff to handle compliance monitoring and enforcement</i></p> <p>d) <i>NEMA should continue to strengthen collaboration mechanism through multi-sectoral approaches</i></p> <p>e) <i>There is need to harmonize and clearly spell out the mandates of the different ENR institutions address by the NEA and NEMP and ensure proper coordination.</i></p>	MWE/NEMA
11	Uganda National Meteorological Authority /Climate Change	<p>a) <i>Executive Director UNMA should be on the WPC as an ex-official.</i></p> <p>b) <i>The revised National Water Policy should clearly spell</i></p>	MWE/UNMA MWE



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		<p><i>out the responsibilities of UNMA.</i></p> <p><i>c) There is need to bridge the existing gaps between information generators and information users through proper information sharing mechanism.</i></p> <p><i>d) There is need for DWRM and UNMA to develop a sustainability plan for the monitoring networks to ensure operation and maintenance are prioritised MWE and relevant agencies should support efforts to prepare climate sensitive plan as part of their planning.</i></p> <p><i>e) There is need to strengthen existing climate change coordination structures at various levels.</i></p>	<p>MWE/UNMA</p> <p>MWE/UNMA</p> <p>MWE</p>
12	Fisheries Resources issues in Uganda	<p><i>a) There is need to implement policies and guidelines for the protection of breeding zones to avoid conflicts that arise from aquatic wildlife especially crocodiles and hippos.</i></p> <p><i>b) MAAIF should develop a National framework for Aquaculture Infrastructure Support that provides for alternatives livelihood options to minimize encroachment of fish breeding grounds.</i></p> <p><i>c) MAAIF and MWE should work very closely together to control and manage water weed on water bodies.</i></p> <p><i>d) There is need for all stakeholders to manage their activities in such a way to minimize pollution at source.</i></p> <p><i>e) MAAIF and MWE are urged to prioritize and mobilize funds for the study to assess the impacts of cage fish farming on water resources.</i></p> <p><i>f) MAAIF should formally share the draft Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy with the relevant stakeholders for comments</i></p> <p><i>g) PS MWE should write to PS MAAIF on the issues above.</i></p>	<p>MAAIF/UWA</p> <p>MAAIF</p> <p>MAAIF/MWE</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>MWE/MAAIF</p> <p>MAAIF</p>
13	Hydro Power – Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD)	<p><i>a) Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) should consider adopting designs that enable multiple purpose water use taking advantage of the various topographic nature of the potential sites as opposed to only run-of -river schemes by adopting other technologies.</i></p> <p><i>b) There is need to ensure that studies for environment flow determination should take key consideration of the water demands of the various users including also wildlife and the ecosystem to ensure sustainability.</i></p> <p><i>c) MEMD should coordinate more with MWE and other agencies as they plan hydropower projects to avoid conflict in water use.</i></p> <p><i>d) MEMD should provide projections for future water demand based on various energy sources and</i></p>	<p>MEMD</p> <p>MWE/MEMD</p> <p>MEMD/MWE</p> <p>MEMD</p> <p>MEMD</p>

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		<p><i>technologies.</i></p> <p>e) <i>MEMD should invest in protection of catchments supporting hydropower infrastructure to ensure availability of water resources and protection of hydro power infrastructure.</i></p> <p>f) <i>MEMD should put in place mechanism for managing waste from mines and tailing dams.</i></p> <p>g) <i>MEMD should put in place mechanism for regulating extraction of peat from wetlands.</i></p>	<p>MEMD</p> <p>MEMD</p> <p>MWE/MEMD</p>
14	Policy and Planning Department	<p>a) <i>All sectors such as roads, energy, agriculture, urban planning and water supply should give greater attention to key water related issues such as flooding, climate change, environmental protection and equity during planning of their programmes.</i></p> <p>b) <i>There is need upscale catchment management by all agencies involved in investment in projects to minimize water related risks.</i></p> <p>c) <i>MWE and NEMA should upscale compliance and enforcement of sand mining activities to reduce on environmental degradation and pollution of water resources.</i></p> <p>d) <i>MWE and MAAIF in consultation with Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development should ensure that land acquisition for development projects should always be fast tracked prior to commencement of projects.</i></p> <p>e) <i>There is need to prioritize issue of O&M in water infrastructure projects through capacity building in new technologies among other interventions</i></p>	MWE/NEMA/MAAIF
15	International & Trans-boundary Water Affairs	<p>a) <i>There is need to develop a framework for transboundary infrastructure projects ownership, operation and management.</i></p> <p>b) <i>There is need to optimise utilization of the Nile waters considering its transboundary nature and continued pressure on the water resources.</i></p>	<p>MWE</p> <p>MWE</p>
16	Wetland Management Issues	<p>a) <i>MWE should continue to follow up on the revision of Wetland Policy and enactment of Wetland Bill in order to address key wetland management issues.</i></p> <p>b) <i>There is need to strengthen the existing Environment Protection Police Unit to enable deployment into the regional and deconcentrated structures of MWE.</i></p> <p>c) <i>MWE, NEMA and Ministry of Lands Housing and</i></p>	MWE/NEMA

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		<p><i>Urban Development should fast track the implementation of cabinet directive on cancellation of titles in wetlands and water bodies with involvement of the relevant agencies and continue the demarcation of wetlands.</i></p> <p><i>d) Promote transparency in EIA issuance through appropriate approaches including constituting a multi-sectoral team to approve issuance of EIA certificates.</i></p> <p><i>e) Identify economically tested wise-use options for livelihood enhancement with emphasis on value addition.</i></p> <p><i>f) NEMA should present the current mechanism being used for implementation of payment for ecosystem as a means of funding for environment conservation in the next WPC meeting.</i></p> <p><i>g) Explore into Incentives systems and mechanisms including rewards to individuals and institutions for good conservation practices. Mechanisms for disincentive systems such as penalties and sanctions for non-compliance should also be identified and strengthened.</i></p> <p><i>h) There is need to prioritise restoration of wetlands to reduce the rate of degradation.</i></p>	
17	Uganda Wildlife Authority Issues	<p><i>a) There is need to ensure that every development of infrastructure project should put in place measures including payment for ecosystem services to protect the catchment.</i></p> <p><i>b) There should be a levy imposed on degradation of water catchment/water sources.</i></p> <p><i>c) Water development programmes should consider water needs for people and wildlife in protected areas.</i></p>	<p>UWA</p> <p>MWE/UWA</p>
18	AOB	<p><i>a) MWE should operationalize Regulation 14 of the Water Resources Regulations 1998 and establish a Sub-committee to advise the WPC on technical matters. Members of the WPC should submit two members of the Sub-committee to the PS MWE by 7th September 2018.</i></p> <p><i>b) Coordinated planning, development and management of water and related resources should be strengthened to ensure that the country is supported to achieve middle income status and vision 2040.</i></p> <p><i>c) Develop and implement strategies that minimize degradation of quantity and quality of water resources</i></p>	<p>MWE</p> <p>WPC</p> <p>MWE</p> <p>DWRM</p>

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		<i>arising from all uses.</i>	
		d) <i>Next WPC meeting should focus on reporting on status of implementation of WPC recommendations.</i>	WPC
		e) <i>The WPC should annually review its performance.</i>	WPC

Signed by:



Chairman,
Water Policy Committee



Secretary,
Water Policy Committee