

*Transboundary water
management and regional
integration in Africa*

Mexico, 18 march 2006

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Participants strongly appeal to all African countries, to AMCOW, to African Basin Agencies and to partners in development:

To support and backstop the IWRM process both at the level of shared basins and at the level of countries considered individually.

- To support the setting up of new transboundary Basin Agencies;**
- To strengthen capacity building at the level of existing Basin Agencies, namely in the framework of NEPAD and AMCOW water components, of the European Union water facility and to facilitate their access to financial resources;**

- **To organize at the level of each basin integrated, reliable and harmonized systems for observation and monitoring purposes as well as for the exchange of informations based on transparency and user-friendly access**
- **To organize, at continent level, a system for the monitoring of transboundary water resources based on systems set up at the level of the various basins;**

- **To elaborate and implement in a concerted and transparent way Master schemes or Basin management plans designed to set the objectives to be achieved in the medium and long terms; these schemes shall be accompanied by concrete multi -annual action programmes and dynamic systems for the follow-up of their implementation.**
- **To improve the systems of education, information and awareness raising for the benefit of populations and to foster the evolution of behaviours vis-à-vis water resources use and management;**

- **As the key to a successful approach in Africa, to further involve users, especially women and the poorest populations, in the management of their own water resources;**
- **To backstop the African Network of Basin Organizations which, under AMCOW and in its capacity as a federating agency and frame of permanent consultation, exchange of field experience, monitoring and dissemination of good practices;**
- **To think over the opportunity to elaborate an International “African Charter of waters”**