



## **River basin organizations and benefits of transboundary water cooperation**

**Parallel Technical Session during the Africa Water Week, 19 July 2016, 4.00 – 5.30 p.m., Mikumi Hall, Julius Nyere International Convention Centre**

**Organizers:** UNECE, IUCN, UNESCO, GWP, ANBO, Green Cross, WWF

River basin organizations are crucial for reasonable and equitable use of transboundary waters and play an important role in implementing the SDG on water and in particular target 6.5 on IWRM and transboundary cooperation. Legal frameworks at different levels, including the global Water Conventions, define the general rules and principles for cooperation.

The session will start with an introductory presentation on legal frameworks, followed by a presentation from the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission where the benefits of transboundary cooperation are being identified and assessed. Subsequently, short presentations introduce recent experiences of new basin organizations or agreements in Africa and beyond followed by a discussion.

### **Provisional programme**

Introduction by the moderator, *Mr. Rethabile Mosisili, Chair, ANBO*

Legal frameworks for transboundary cooperation at global, basin and national level  
*Mr. Alejandro Iza, IUCN*

How to assess benefits of transboundary cooperation?  
*Mr. Ebenizario Chonguica, Executive Secretary OKACOM*

Recent experiences of new basin organizations or agreements in Africa and beyond

**River Mékrou**  
*Mr. Corneille Ahouansou, GWP West Africa*

**Lake Kivu- Ruzizi**  
*Mr. Jean-Paul Nyembo Mwamba, Democratic Republic of Congo*

**Declaration of principles on the Grand renaissance dam on the Nile**  
*Mr. Fred Mwangi, IGAD*

**SADC and LIMCOM**  
*Mr. Phera Ramoeli, SADC*

**How transboundary cooperation in the Danube has evolved under the influence of global agreements**  
*Mr. Peter Kovacs, Hungary*

Discussion

Closing remarks