





Report on the inception and capacity building workshop for the project "strengthening transboundary water governance and cooperation in the IGAD region"



Held on 14^{th -}16th December, 2016 at the Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

List of Abbreviations Need to update table

BRIDGE Building River Dialogue and Governance

Eol Expression of Interest

IGAD Intergovernmental Authority on Development IWRM Integrated Water Resources Management

IUCN International Union for the Conservation of Nature

MoU Memorandum of Understanding

NBI Nile Basin Initiative

NELSAP Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program

NELSAP-CU Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program/ Coordination Unit

NILECOM Nile Council of Ministers

OES Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific

OKACOM Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission

PES Payment for Ecosystems Services

SADC Southern African Development Community

SDC Swiss Development Cooperation

SDG Development....

SMM Sio -Malaba –Malakisi

TAC Technical Advisory Committee
TDA Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
TWM Transboundary Water Management

UN United Nations

UNECE UN Economic Commission for Europe

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Session 1: Opening Session

The inception and capacity building workshop for the project "Strengthening Trans boundary water governance and cooperation in The IGAD region was convened from 14th - 16th December, 2016, at the Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya. The Workshop was attended by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) members from the IGAD Member States and facilitated by regional and international experts and partners implementing the project i.e. the IGAD Secretariat; the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN); and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Water Convention Secretariat as well as representative from the following: Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific (OES) Affairs of the Department of State of United States of America; Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC); Estonia; and Okavango River Basin Commission (OKACOM). The full list of the participants is herein presented as Annex 1 to this report.

Mr. Mohamed Moussa, speaking on behalf of H.E Amb. (Eng) Mahboub Maalim, the Executive Secretary of IGAD, welcomed all the participants including the Development Partners to the Workshop. He thanked the Government of Kenya for hosting the meeting and also congratulated Kenya on the Jamhuri Day celebrations held on 12th December 2016 and emphasized that IGAD recognizes any National Day in the IGAD region as 'IGAD Day'. Mr. Moussa appreciated the Development Partners for supporting the implementation of the IGAD water related programmes such as the one being launched, which will go a long way in supporting the realization of the IGAD Regional Water Policy as well as the IGAD Regional Water Resources Protocol which is being negotiated. He noted that despite the IGAD region being an Arid and Semi-Arid Area (ASAL), the region has enough water resources which if well managed and developed would ensure that there is food security for its people. In this regard, there is need to develop and manage the available water resources in a sustainable manner so that IGAD Member States could enjoy the benefits that come with cooperation

Mr. John Owino, representative of the IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Programme welcomed the participants and highlighted that IUCN started to support the IGAD water governance programme in 2014 through an initiative known as BRIDGE (Building River Dialogue and Governance) funded by Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC). He informed the participants that the project being launched is co-funded by both the SDC and the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) of the US Department of State. He therefore thanked both the OES and the SDC for their efforts in supporting the Transboundary Water governance in the IGAD region.

Ms. Sonja Koeppel, Representative of the UNECE emphasized the importance of Transboundary cooperation which can improve sustainable development, peace and well-being of the IGAD region. She noted that since most basins in the IGAD region are shared, there is need for Transboundary water cooperation which often results in more benefits among the Member States than usually expected. This would help

countries also to implement their global commitments, such as the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on water and in particular SDG target 6.5 which requires all United Nations Member States to implement IWRM at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation. This extent of cooperation will be measured in the future through a dedicated SDG indicator 6.5.2. She affirmed that UNECE is willing to support the finalization and implementation of frameworks that would enhance Transboundary Water Cooperation in the IGAD region. Such support would be based on the experience of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, serviced by UNECE, and the tools developed in this framework such as the Policy Guidance Note on the benefits of transboundary cooperation, which IGAD had actually requested UNECE to apply in a basin in the IGAD region. Ms. Sonja Koeppel applauded IGAD secretariat for the move they have taken in initiating cooperation so that the region can benefit from the process. She thanked the OES and SDC for supporting the process.

Dr. Manfred Kauffman, representative of the Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) expressed his pleasure for being part of the team deliberating on the project. He noted that Transboundary Water bodies create environmental, social and economic interdependencies between societies and are instrumental in promoting cooperation. He pointed out that collaboration in management of Transboundary Waters enhance regional security, peace, stability and also improves economic growth and noted that SDC is supporting such interventions to improve water governance in the region.

Ms. Kathryn Pharr, representing the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) of the US Department of State emphasized on the importance of peace and security citing an example of USA as a State that has experienced the benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation. She also acknowledged the project that was being launched as a great move that would aid the realization of the benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation in the IGAD region in the days to come. She finally thanked the IGAD Secretariat and SDC and other partners for facilitating and bringing the IGAD Member States together in the launching and the capacity building workshop.

Mr. James Ntabo, on behalf of the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Water and Irrigation in Kenya welcomed the delegates to the workshop. He informed the members that the Principal Secretary could not attend the meeting since he was held up in other official engagements. Mr. Ntabo further expressed his pleasure to participate in the inception workshop in which the project was being launched. In addition, he appreciated the project implementing partners as well as the Development Partners for their financial support of the process. He noted that the IGAD region does not only have numerous transboundary basins but that the transboundary resources are unevenly distributed which calls for cooperation to realize benefits among Member States. He noted that successful implementation of the IGAD Water Policy will be key in the promotion of transboundary water cooperation. He finally declared the workshop officially opened.

On the morning of the second day (15th December, 2016), the Executive Secretary of IGAD, H.E Amb. (Eng) Mahboub Maalim graced the meeting. He emphasized the

importance of water cooperation in the region since water plays a very key role in the livelihoods of the IGAD Member States. He reiterated that all along the region has been affected by weather and climate related emergencies and resulting need for the Member States to prepare well in advance in order to respond to such emergencies adequately when they occur. He pointed out that he was pleased with the project since his interest for the better part of his profession had been in the water sector. He thanked all the participants and the Development Partners for the opportunity of working with the IGAD Regional team.

Objectives of the Workshop

The presentation on the Objectives and agenda for the workshop was made by Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier, IUCN Global Water Programme. The objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- 1. Launching of the project "Strengthening Transboundary Water Governance in the IGAD Region";
- 2. Identification of the demonstration basin for promoting transboundary water cooperation and carrying out a Benefit Opportunities Assessment Dialogue;
- 3. Capacity building on benefit opportunities assessments and benefit sharing; and
- 4. Agreement on a timeline for the next steps of the project.

To realize these workshop objectives, the agenda for the meeting was adopted without amendments and is appended as annex 2.

Session 2: Introduction to the project

A presentation on the introduction to the project was made by Mr. Fred Mwango Regional Water Expert, IGAD Secretariat. The presentation highlighted the following: the objectives of the project and activities to help realize the objectives of the project; project background; benefit assessment and benefit sharing as well as importance of assessing the benefits opportunities from cooperation in water management in the IGAD Region.

The presentation is appended as annex 3.

Session 3: Overview of approaches to assessing benefit enhancement opportunities

i) Introduction to policy guidance note on the benefits of transboundary water cooperation

A presentation on the introduction to the UNECE Policy Guidance Note on identifying, assessing and communicating benefits of transboundary water cooperation was done by Mr. Harry Liiv from the Ministry of Environment in Estonia.

In his presentation, he highlighted that the Policy Guidance Note had been developed through a global process in the framework of the work carried out under the Water Convention, in response to the request by Parties to develop a framework to guide countries in fully realizing the potential benefits of cooperation. He also highlighted the importance of the Water Convention as a framework to facilitate transboundary water cooperation, for example for the case of Estonian and the Russian Federation. His presentation covered the following areas: introduction to the Helsinki Water Convention, policy guidance on the benefits of transboundary water cooperation and its background, typology of benefits of transboundary water cooperation; benefits assessment exercise for cooperation processes in different stages of development and finally lessons learnt/future applications through projects.

The presentation is appended as annex 4

ii) Benefit assessment in the Cubango-Okavango River Basin

A presentation on the basin assessment in the Cubango-Okavango River Basin (shared among Angola, Namibia and Botswana) was made by Mr. Sekgowa Motsumi, from The Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM). While sharing his experiences in the application of UNECE Policy Guidance Note on benefits of transboundary water cooperation in the Okavango Basin, he noted that while this 'conceptual framework' could be a starting point to guide regional cooperation benefits, it was necessary to adapt it according to the specific basin context.. The highlights of the presentation were as follows: Transboundary Diagnostic Assessment (TDA) - areas of concern and drivers; the OKACOM context/interpretation; the study objectives; the UNECE 'conceptual framework'; the approach - preliminary activities; country's activities; timing and mandates; summary of benefits; initial observation (process learnt and content lessons); and benefits from economic activities and beyond economic activities.

The presentation is appended as annex 5

iii) Road map to benefit sharing and value of benefit opportunities Assessment Dialogue

The presentation was made by Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier, IUCN Global Water Programme provided the workshop participants with the background information about the IUCN's (BRIDGE initiative) approach for benefit sharing, she highlighted the reasons for benefit sharing; principles of benefit sharing and benefit opportunities assessment dialogue. She noted that both the IUCN's and the UNECE's approaches will be harmonized and used in the IGAD's demonstration basin (Sio-Malaba-Malakisi) for promoting benefit sharing and opportunities assessment dialogue that will provide lessons for replication in other IGAD shared transboundary basins

The presentation is appended as annex 6

Discussions- Session 3

During the discussions that followed the presentations, participants made the following observations: the negotiations on the benefit sharing process should begin by first discussing with the countries involved the likely benefits that they and stakeholders at different levels will obtain once the process is complete. In order to ensure success of the process, the involved countries must have knowledge on the actual and potential benefits of cooperation, the benefit sharing, as well as the right perception and mindset. Having the right mindset will ease communication with relevant authorities, promote political goodwill, and speed up decision making thereby easing the negotiation processes particularly at the basin level. Once countries have expressed interest in a joint management of the shared basin, a strategic agreement document can be developed that can lead to a creation of an institutional framework e.g. a Commission that will oversee joint water management, the investments on the ground and also measure the benefits of cooperation in the management of transboundary water resources. In addition, speeding up decision making processes hastens the development of projects on the ground. It was noted that the fewer the countries involved, the faster the process. Identification of the projects that the country wants to embark on is also key in the negotiation processes.

Citing the US and Mexico as an example, countries have to agree on processes involved in cooperation and benefit sharing and their willingness to come to the negotiation table. Example of OKACOM basin riparian countries - Botswana, Angola and Namibia was given as those that have realized the benefits of cooperation that IGAD Member States could learn from. Another example of benefit sharing is that of power sharing among the three countries of Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania in Kagera Basin (Rusumo Falls Hydropower Project)

Session 4: Presentation of the demonstration transboundary basin for benefit opportunity assessment dialogue

i) Selection process of the Demonstration Basin

This presentation was made by Fred Mwango Regional Water Expert, IGAD Secretariat, and highlighted the following: background to the demonstration basin selection; initiation of the selection process for the demonstration basin; criteria for support to a demonstration basin; and the result of the demonstration basin selection process.

The presentation is appended as annex 7.

During the discussions, participants were informed that there was a joint Expression of Interests (EoI) by both the government of Kenya and Uganda supporting the selection of the Sio-Malaba-Malakisi (SMM) River basin.

ii) Demonstration Basin Sio Malaba Malakisi (SMM) by Kenya and Uganda

This joint presentation was made by Ms. Gladys Wekesa and Dr. Callist Tindimugaya TAC Members from Kenya and Uganda respectively. The presentation highlighted the background and the relevance of the SMM basin as a potential demonstration basin and the previous work carried out in the basin by NELSAP-CU Further, participants were informed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was developed and signed by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs in both countries to support the establishment of institutional arrangements for the joint water management and use in the basin.

The presentation is appended as annex 8

Discussions- Session 4

This proposal was then discussed and agreed upon that SMM basin be selected as the demonstration basin for promoting transboundary water cooperation and carrying out a benefit opportunities assessment dialogue. Other basins were welcomed to be proposed to possibly receive support, subject to them meeting the criteria and to additional funding being secured. In the concluding session of the workshop, Somalia and South Sudan expressed their willingness to work with Ethiopia and Kenya on one hand and with Uganda on the other, to prepare additional Eol.

Session 5: Identification of past and current benefits of transboundary water cooperation

A presentation on identifying the benefits of Transboundary Water Cooperation was delivered by Mr Roberto Martin Hurtado highlighting the following areas: he presented a typology of benefits of transboundary water cooperation building on the one described in the UNECE Policy Guidance Note on the benefits of cooperation, but also on the IUCN's BRIDGE initiative approach. This typology categorizes the benefits of transboundary water governance into four broad areas: economic benefits; ecosystem and social benefits; regional economic cooperation benefits; and geopolitical benefits (peace and security benefits).

The presentation is appended as annex 9

Participants were divided into two working groups; group A and group B. Using the same typology outline, Group A identified current as well as future benefits as a result of cooperation in the White Nile and categorized them as very important or less important. Group B discussed the same issues but for Juba-Shebelle Basin. The outcome of the discussions is herein appended as Annex 10.

Session 6: Stakeholders and beneficiary mapping

This presentation was done by Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier and it highlighted the following areas; the need for watershed being managed with decisions based on sharing benefits equitably among stakeholders; the need to identify real stakeholders and how to identify and differentiate them for their meaningful engagement; repercussion of overlooking certain stakeholder; and lessons from the Senegal River Basin Project which had adopted the principles for benefit-sharing hence established a positive framework for cooperation.

Participants were once again divided into two groups to identify different stakeholders in the same basins (White Nile and Juba-Shabelle Basins) and highlight the ones with strongest influence (strongest voice).

Results of the group discussions are appended as annex 11

Session 7: Opportunities for enhancing benefits and qualitative assessment of benefits enhancing Scenarios

In this session, Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier made a presentation on the identification of benefit-enhancing scenarios giving an example of the Takong as a fictive basin. Participants discussed how different benefits enhancing scenarios could impact different stakeholders. Three groups A, B, and C were formed and each group designed a set of Alternative Water Management Scenarios for the different Stakeholders. Using the IUCN's Benefit Opportunity tool (B.O.A.T) the groups evaluated how the proposed scenarios would affect different stakeholders and what the qualitative outcomes of these scenarios might be in terms of enhanced benefits for the countries and stakeholders involved. Each group then presented its results in the plenary for discussions.

The groups presented their results appended as annex 12

Session 8: Valuation in benefit sharing; Assessment, distribution and Equity.

This presentation by Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier highlighted the valuation and distribution of benefits in the context of benefit-sharing, methods of valuing benefits, the approaches to the distribution of benefits, including trade-off analysis and the distribution of benefits and compensation mechanisms. She pointed out that the benefits derived from water can be direct economic benefits, ecosystem and social benefits, regional economic cooperation benefits, peace and security benefits, as well as greater cooperation in other areas.

This presentation is hereby appended as annex 13

Discussions- Sessions 7 and 8

During the discussion, it was observed that the benefits of transboundary waters cooperation can be categorized as either non consumptive (with regard to downstream users) or consumptive (with regard to upstream users). Citing Payment for Ecosystem Services as an example, the meeting was informed that an example cited in this case is that of the US having greatly benefitted from Payment for Ecosystem (PES) services whereby upstream users benefit more in terms of incentives (for the conservation of environment by use of best management practices) than downstream users.

Session 9: Communicating the benefit of Transboundary Water Cooperation

This session, facilitated by Mr. Roberto Martin Hurtado, highlighted the importance of communicating Transboundary water cooperation benefits, recommendations of how to approach the communication of benefits, handling different audiences, and also cited examples of efforts to communicate benefits of cooperation in basins from different regions.

The presentation is appended as annex 14

Discussions - Session 9

During the discussion, a case study of the Nile Basin Initiative was given citing how communication of shared benefits could be achieved. The meeting highlighted the following as some of the ways in which communication is done in the basin: providing study tour of the basin by NBI countries, observing the Nile Day celebrations at both regional and national level, holding Nilecom meetings, distributing reports to member states, presenting the benefits of cooperation to consultation workshops, through news bulletin/newsletter, press release, and through websites and posters.

The Workshop also identified the target audience for the communication of benefits, which included local communities, politicians at all levels, technical experts, general public, academic institutions, ministries of finance and planning as well as water users. Some examples of the efforts from different regions highlighted which communication efforts could influence cooperation in basins. It included fast tracking of the processes of negotiations especially on ratification, creating policies and informing Member States of their need to cooperate, and creating awareness policy as well as tools to influence Member States.

Session 10: International Water Law; a framework to facilitate transboundary water cooperation and benefit sharing

In this session, the presentations were made by Juan Carlos Sanchez, IUCN Environmental Law Center and Ms. Sonja Koeppel, UNECE. Mr. Juan Carlos Sanchez's presentation on codification and progressive development of International

Water Law highlighted the following: the provisions of the UN Watercourses Convention – the scope, substantive norms and procedures and its relevance to the transboundary water governance in the IGAD region. Sonja's presentation on the other hand highlighted the 1992 Helsinki Water Convention (for which UNECE provides the Secretariat), comparing it with the UN Watercourses Convention citing their similarities and differences, and also covered activities and lesson learnt under the Water Convention. She explained that the Water Convention aims to protect and ensure the quantity, quality and sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation and provides an intergovernmental platform for the day-to-day development and advancement of transboundary cooperation. Initially negotiated as a regional instrument, it turned into a universally available legal framework for transboundary water cooperation on 1st March 2016, following the entry into force of amendments. Now all United Nations Member States can accede to the Convention.

Ms. Sonja Koeppel also presented the programme of work (including climate change and benefits assessment activities) and institutional framework of the Helsinki Water Convention and explained how IGAD countries can benefit/participate.

The presentation is hereby appended as annex 15

Discussions- Session 10

During the discussions that followed, it was clarified that The UN Watercourses Convention and the 1992 Helsinki Water Convention are entirely compatible and complement each other. However, the Helsinki Water Convention is more comprehensive than the former since it includes both shared surface water and groundwater whereas the UN Watercourses Convention covers only transboundary connected groundwaters. Another key difference is that the Helsinki Water Convention has an institutional framework with a Meeting of the Parties, bodies and a work programme, whereas the UN Watercourses Convention does not have it. More than 30 countries from Africa, including several from the IGAD region have already participated in the Convention's activities; and some have started the accession process. It can be useful to accede to both Conventions as they complement each other and are based on the same principles. They reflect customary international water law governing shared water bodies.

It was also observed that capacity of various stakeholders is uneven in the IGAD region even at the technical level.

Session 11: Legal and institutional aspects of benefit sharing

A presentation made by Mr. Juan Carlos Sanchez on the governance of shared waters highlighted the following areas: Legal foundations and institutional capacity for benefit sharing; the key substantive rules of international water law namely the principle of equitable and reasonable utilization', the duty to prevent significant transboundary harm, and the duty to cooperate in the utilization and protection of an international watercourse and public participation.

The presentation is hereby appended as annex 16

Discussions - Session 11

During the discussions, it was observed that economic consequences should be considered by governments as well as future potential damages and dangers related to the use of the shared waters. It was also noted that during ratification, the aspects of benefit sharing depends on the capacity of the upstream or downstream to negotiate, citing Egypt as a case study of a downstream user of the River Nile.

Session 12: Treaty practice on benefit sharing

The session was facilitated by Mr. Juan Carlos Sanchez and Ms.Sonja Koeppel and involved discussions regarding treaties on Columbia River Basin, Mekong River Basin and The Syr Darya River Basin (Central Asia). Participants were divided into three working groups A, B and C and discussed the treaties with an objective to identify benefit sharing provisions within the assigned treaty in order to gain some knowledge on how such provisions have been incorporated into real life negotiations. Each group identified benefit sharing clauses in the documents provided for this exercise and also identified important missing gaps in the same documents.

The group results are appended as annex 17

The participants learned from the treaties that all involved parties have to be actively engaged in the negotiations if ratification is to be realized. They also learnt that the treaties have similarities and also differences depending on the issues that brought the countries to the negotiating table.

Session 13: Next steps under the project

A comprehensive work plan (Fig. 1) for the project was presented by Dr. Isabelle Fauconnier highlighting both the basin and regional activities. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the road map as presented in the work plan, however, they expressed their interest to have some more demonstration basin covered in future especially the ones shared between Ethiopia and Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia as well as South Sudan and Uganda.

Fig. 1 Proposed work plan - Basin and Regional Activities

Activities	20	16	6 2017												2018										
	10	1 1	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1 0	1 1	1 2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1
Activity 1.1 and 3.1 – IGAD Water Protocol Negotiation and Capacity Building in IWL and Hydrodiplomacy				W																					

Activity 1.2 and 3.1 -		
IGAD Water related data		
protocol and policy and		
capacity building on		
(relevant topic TBD)		
Activity 1.3 – Selection of w		
the demonstration basin		
agreement		
	+ +	
recommendations on basin		
& sub-basin level		
institutional frameworks for		
water resources		
management in the		
selected demonstration		
basin		
Activity 1.5 and 3.1 – st st		
Study Tour to gain		
experiences from the		
International Sava River		
Basin Commission and the		
Rhine River Commission		
plus the IUCN BRIDGE		
Academy Activity 1.6 – Dialogue	++	
institutional framework for		
river basin governance		
Activity 2.1 and 3.1 -		
Dialogue on benefit		
opportunities assessments		
and benefit sharing at the		
IGAD TAC level		
Activity 2.2.1 and 3.1 -		
Initiation of a Benefit		
Opportunities Assessment		
Dialogue at basin level and		
capacity building on benefit		
sharing sharing on bottom		
Activity 2.2.2 - Detailed a a a		
qualitative assessment of a		
subset of collaborative		
water management		
solutions from national to		
local levels in the basin	\bot	
Activity 2.2.3 - Adaptation a a a		
of Benefit-sharing		
Opportunities Assessment		
Tool (BOAT)		
Activity 2.2.4 - Identifying w		
Collaborative Water		
Management Solutions and		
Opportunities for Benefits		
Enhancement		
Activity 2.3 – identification		
of investment and		
development opportunities		
for the enhancement of		
shared benefits by		
development partners and		

stakeholders														
Quarterly and final reports		q		q		q		q	q		q			fr
(technical and financial)		r		r		r		r	r		r			

Key:

Yellow – regional activities; green – basin level activities; w – workshops; st – study tour; a – assessment/analysis; gr – quarterly reports; fr – final report

Comments on the inception workshop by the participants

The TAC member for Djibouti appreciated IGAD Secretariat for the invitation to the workshop and expressed his pleasure to participate in the launching of the project. He was very impressed with the inception workshop, which comprehensively covered significant areas in context and content regarding transboundary water related issues.

The TAC member for South Sudan praised the workshop for its wide scope regarding Transboundary water issues and urged all the IGAD Member States to selflessly work together in all areas for their common good. He was happy to learn that some negotiation processes can take a long time before the actual institution is put in place, citing a case study of Helsinki Water Convention which took twenty (20) years before it became fully operational. In addition, he noted the interest of his country joining the UN Watercourses Convention. He finally thanked and appreciated the facilitators, Development Partners and IGAD Secretariat for organizing this important workshop.

The TAC member for Uganda thanked the organizers of the workshop and appreciated the lessons learnt as very key as far as Transboundary Water issues are concerned. He thanked the TAC members and Project Partners for selecting the Sio Malaba Malakisi catchment as the demonstration basin for this Project and further requested the IGAD Secretariat to consider more catchments as demonstration basins in future. He finally thanked all for the participants for making the workshop a success.

The TAC member for Kenya appreciated fact that the workshop was very educative and comprehensively covered transboundary water governance, capacity building and international water law among other areas. She pointed out that transboundary water governance will further promote cooperation and eventually help to alleviate the challenges faced in shared basins. She further expressed her pleasure to have learnt new aspects of transboundary water benefits assessment, communication and sharing of benefits that come with cooperation. Additionally, she noted that enough time is needed to discuss the UN Watercourses Convention, the Helsinki Water Convention as well as international Water law. She finally thanked the participants, facilitators, Development Partners, and the IGAD Secretariat for making the workshop a success and that she looks forward into working with them in the near future.

The representative of the OES noted that she was impressed by the energy the project implementing partners IGAD Secretariat, IUCN, UNECE as well as other

supporting partners such as SDC are putting in making sure that there is better understanding in the governance and cooperation among IGAD member states with regard to development and sustainable management of Transboundary Waters in the region. She also expressed her satisfaction with the interactive discussions and group exercises and also appreciated the effort of the Member States in ensuring that the workshop was a success.

The representative of the OKACOM greatly appreciated the invitation to the inception workshop, and felt honored to share the commission's experiences in the Okavango basin with the participants of the workshop. He thanked the IGAD secretariat for its efforts in discussing Transboundary Water issues in the region and looks forward to participate in such workshops in future.

The representative of the UNECE welcomed the high interest the participants, especially on International Water Law. She stressed on the importance of communicating benefits of cooperation. She further thanked the IGAD Secretariat and other partners for their efforts in order to improve transboundary waters cooperation in the near future and look forward to work with IGAD, IUCN and other Development Partners in the IGAD Region

The representative of Estonia appreciated the effort of the IGAD Secretariat in helping its Member States to have a legal framework for sharing the benefits of transboundary water cooperation. He stated that the IGAD region and its Member States are on the right path and that a framework agreement will be key in ensuring governments cooperation in Transboundary Water issues in future.

The representative of USAID commended IGAD Secretariat for the efforts it has undertaken to implement the project and observed that the IGAD region, just like other regions with similar challenges, will be learning a lot from Southern Africa region. He added that the workshop gave various experts sufficient time to interact and share ideas.

SESSION 14: CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Fred Mwango, IGAD Regional Water Expert recognized all the organizations represented and thanked all the members for actively participating in the inception workshop. He acknowledged that the workshop had been very informative especially on the benefits of transboundary water cooperation. He also noted that transboundary waters governance and cooperation is a broad topic that needs to be well understood by involved parties. He further stressed that capacity needs to be built to bring all countries to the same level. Mr. Mwango appreciated Kenya and Uganda for submitting their expression of interest for SMM as a demonstration basin. He finally thanked the Chairs for various sessions, the facilitators, Development Partners, and all participants for their efforts in making the workshop a success.

Ms Sonja Koeppel, representative of UNECE appreciated the workshop participants for their active participation. She stated that any questions concerning the presentations she made in the workshop could be communicated directly via her

email. She further informed the participants that she is looking forward to working with IGAD Secretariat, IUCN as well as the IGAD Member States. She noted that there no readymade solution for all transboundary waters basins since each basin has its own challenges.

Dr Isabelle, representative of IUCN, expressed her gratitude for the participants' attention and active participation during the workshop, which launches a very promising Project in which the project partners together with the TAC Members and Stakeholders in Kenya and Uganda will work hard to demonstrate the benefits of transboundary water cooperation.

Mr. John Owino, representative of the IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Programme rated the level of participation as very impressive and informed the members that IUCN and UNECE would combine approaches on transboundary water governance and will apply them in the demonstration basin for the benefit of the basin stakeholders and the IGAD region at large. He also noted that there is a lot of demand on capacity building on transboundary water governance in the region and that apart from SMM, other basins need to be considered, covering mostly conflict prone areas. He finally wished participants safe journey back to their respective countries.

Ms. Kathryn Pharr, representing the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) of the US Department of State appreciated the IGAD Secretariat, IUCN, UNECE and SDC for facilitating the workshop. She noted that the workshop was of great importance to the participating countries and once the processes are finalized the regions will reap benefits of joint governance and cooperation. She finally thanked participants for actively participating in the workshop and working overtime.

Ms. Gladys Wekesa, TAC Member for Kenya in her closing remarks thanked all the members for their support and active participation in the workshop. She rated the workshop as one of the best in the region so far. She further expressed her gratitude for the opportunity the workshop created to interact with different professionals and expert from different regions in the world and wished all participants safe flight back to their respective countries.

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