

National Water Policy and the Water Convention



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National Water Policy (1999)

- Originally developed to assist decision-makers and resource users in determining "who does what" and "how", and in **making priorities in the national context** as well as at the sectoral, e.g., private sector, local community and individual levels.
- The basis on which the policy developed was the “Water Action Plan (1995)”, which was a review of the water resources management issues and which provided the foundation for the subsequent water policy and legislation
- **Promotes a new integrated approach** to manage the water resources in ways that are sustainable and most beneficial to the people of Uganda.
- To secure and provide water of adequate quantity and quality for all social and economic needs of the present and future generations with the **full participation of all stakeholders**
- **Revised and updated in 2021** so to sustain and consolidate the gains from more than two decades of implementation and to accommodate new developments and reforms that affect the sustainable development, utilization, protection, conservation and management of water resources

Prevention, control and reduction of transboundary impact

National Water Policy of Uganda (revised 2021)

The strategic intervention to implement is: iv. **Enhance cooperation and participation on trans-boundary basins/shared water resources management and development to maximize benefits for Uganda**

Article 2 General Provisions of the Water Convention, paragraphs 1,2,3;
Article 12 Notification concerning planned measures with possible adverse effects of the Water Courses Convention

Information concerning ...National systems for the licensing, control and monitoring of pollution

National Water Policy 1999 and its revised version of 2021

Equitable water resources allocation and regulation of the use of water resources through a system of permit administration and control of point source wastewater discharge. -DWRM

Article 16 Public information of the Water Convention

Article 21 Prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the Water Courses Convention, Para 3 (a) and (b)

Information concerning ...National systems for the licensing, control and monitoring of pollution 2

The National Environment Act (2019)

Regulating, monitoring, supervising and coordinating all environmental management activities in the country, including **control of non-point source pollution.** – NEMA/DWRM

Article 2 General provisions of the Water Convention, Para 2

Article 21 Prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the Water Courses Convention, Para 2

Integrated Water Resources Planning approach and EIA law and procedures in a Transboundary Context

National Water Policy section 4.3.3(v) - Use environmental impact assessment (EIA) as a planning tool.

National Water Policy section 4.3.3(iii) - Sustainable use to be a key element in planning.

Water Convention **Article 3** Prevention, control and reduction 1 (h) and **Article 9** Bilateral and multilateral cooperation
2 (j) and **Article 12** Notification concerning planned measures with possible adverse effects of the Water Courses Convention

Integrated Water Resources Planning approach and EIA law and procedures in a Transboundary Context 2

- An Environmental Social Assessment (**ESA**) procedure
- Environmental Social Impact Assessment (**ESIA**) analytical process
- A Strategic Environmental Social Assessment (**SEA**)
- **Transboundary collaboration** to manage hazardous chemical spills, especially across national borders

Water Convention Article 3 Prevention, control and reduction 1 (h) and Article 5 research and development Para (a) and (e) Annex iii guidelines for developing water-quality objectives and criteria (e) 2 (j) and

Article 12 Notification concerning planned measures with possible adverse effects of the Water Courses Convention

Economic integration from the use of transboundary water resources

National Water Policy section 4.3.3(vii)

Economic incentives applied with regulatory instruments to avoid water wastage

Water Convention Annex II Guidelines for developing best Environmental Practices, Para 1 (f)

Water resources and inter-sectoral cooperation

National Water Policy section 4.3.3 (viii) - Regional cooperation for the shared water resources. Sustained support towards regional cooperation and collaborations, for broader transboundary water resources management.

Water Convention. Article 9 Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation Para 1 and Article 10 Consultations

Water Courses Convention Article 8 General obligation to cooperate Para 1 and 2.

Water for Socio-Economic Development

National Water Policy section 4.3.3(i), (ii) - Domestic demands to have first priority and Allocation to other uses including water for production to be based on economic, social and environmental values of the water.

National Water Policy section 7.4 (iv) -Ensuring water resources management plans optimize the use of the resources for maximum hydropower production at potential sites and that these are developed to full capacity.

National Water Policy section 6.2 (i) - Promote proper water resource assessment and planning for agricultural production.

Water Convention Annex II guidelines for developing best environmental practices Para 2. (g) and

Water Courses Convention Article 6 Para 1 (b)

Water conservation and demand management

National Water Policy Section 7.2 –

Adequate and appropriate water supply systems will be identified and developed to meet the current and future industrial water demands.

Water Convention -Article 2 general provisions

2. (b) and (d) and;

Water Courses Convention Article 24 Management

1 (a) and (b)

Water allocation for the environment/sustaining aquatic ecosystems

National Water Policy section 4.3.3 (ii) - Allocation to other uses including for production agriculture, industry and hydropower to be based on economic social and environmental values of the water.

National Water Policy section 5 (i) - Allocation of water for commercial livestock, irrigation and aqua – culture will be done considering the economic, social and environmental value of the water.

Water Convention Article 17 Para 2 (a) and (b)

Climate change

National Water Policy section 6.2 - Promote development of water supply for agricultural production in order to modernize agriculture and mitigate effects of climatic variation on rain fed agriculture

Article 1 definitions for the purposes of this (water) convention, 2

Water quality standards (Receiving water quality standards, effluent discharge standards)

National Water Policy section 8.5.3.(ii) -

Setting up abstraction and waste discharge permit system, efficacy of procedures, reactions of permit holders and impact on affected sources.

Water Convention Article 3 (para 2) and Article 12

Water quality standards (Receiving water quality standards, effluent discharge standards) 2

National Water Policy section 7.2 - The discharge of effluent from industrial areas will be subject to a permit in line with the environment and water status

Water Convention -Article 16 Public information Para 1 (a), (b) and (c)

Water Convention Annex 1 (e)

Water pollution control

National Water Policy section 2.2 - Economic activities which can pollute water and render it unfit for other uses must be controlled.

National Water Policy section 4.3.3 (vi) - Apply polluter pays principles.

Water Convention Article 2 General provisions Para 5 (b) **and Article 21** Para 1

Protection from floods and droughts

National Water Policy section 8.1 (v) - Assessment will be made of the response of the water resource in time of emergencies of the water uses, which draw upon the resource. This will indicate whether a detailed strategy in response to emergency situations should be formulated such strategy may involve limiting total allocations in perpetuity, or reducing the allocations of selected categories of users during these periods and in consultation with the relevant sectors

Water Convention -Article 11 joint monitoring and assessment Para 1 and
Water Courses Convention Article 28 Para 1

Water resources information, management and exchange

National Water Policy section 4.3.4 (i) and Section 4.3.4 (ii) -

Data collection and information management by: Establishing and sustaining a monitoring and assessment system for water resources and Establishment of a management information system (MIS) at all levels

Water Convention -Article 11 joint monitoring and assessment Para 1 and
Water Courses Convention Article 9 Para 1

Water resources information, management and exchange 2

National Water Policy section 6.4.5(9ii) - Data and information exchange: Dissemination of relevant information for planning, development and use of water resources and Promotion of exchange of information and experience between farmers

Water Convention -Article 13 exchange of information between riparian parties Para 1, 2 and

Water Courses Convention Article 9 Para 2

Research and Development

National Water Policy Section 6.4.2 - Demand-driven water sector research and technology development:

- Promotion of appropriate and cost-effective technologies preferably locally made/available.
- Sharing of research findings and information

The National Water Policy revised (2021) - Establishment of the Water Resource Institute to support problem solving research, technology transfer, applied training innovations and other skill development programs

Water Convention -Article 2 general provisions Para 5 (a)

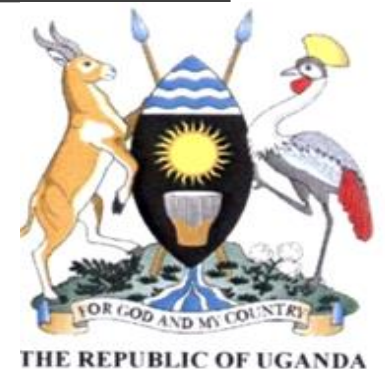
In conclusion:

Provisions of the National Water Policy Framework and Articles of both the UN Water Convention (1992) and UN Water Courses Convention (1997), are to a great extent in harmony with each other.

Uganda is part of the international community and is committed to implementing internationally agreed principles and dispensations related to good water resources management and development principles.

These dispensations, among others, include the United Nations **Water Convention** (1992), in addition to the **UN Water Courses Convention** (1997) already recognized in the proposed National Water Policy (2021).

Thank you for your attention



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