REPORT

6TH AMCOW-TAC REGULAR MEETING
HELD ON
THE 11-12TH OCTOBER 2004 AT
SHERATON HOTEL, ADDIS ABABA,
ETHIOPIA
1. **Introduction**

This brief is a report on the outcome of the 6th AMCOW-TAC regular meeting held on the 11-12th October 2004, at the Sheraton Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting was attended by AMCOW-TAC members and Development Partners as contained in the attendance list shown in Annex I.

2. **Scope of the Report**

The scope of the deliberations and report include the following:

3.) AMCOW Memorandum of Understanding
4.) Rules of Procedure
5.) Hosting agreement for AMCOW Secretariat
6.) AMCOW Bi-annual Work Programme
7.) AMCOW Trust Fund
8.) EU Water Initiative:
   * Water Supply and Sanitation
   * Integrated Water Resources Management
   * Finance
   * Research
   * Monitoring
9.) Responses to German G8 Initiative
10.) Presentation by Water Supply Programme (WSP) of World Bank
11.) Water for African Cities
12.) Civil Society Organizations
13.) Agenda for next AMCOW ordinary session in Kampala.

3. **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

At its 5th regular meeting in Tunis on 30th June 2004 the AMCOW-EXCO directed AMCOW-TAC to redesign the proposed AMCOW Constitution as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the following amendments.

Section II, Article 4: Membership:
“That the Council shall be open to all African countries.”

Section IV Article 11
That there shall be a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which will consist of five technical experts from each of the five sub-regions of Africa.

Section VII Article 19:
That the Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force upon signature by two-thirds of member countries.

EXCO further directed the AMCOW-TAC and AMCOW Secretariat to finalize the MOU for the signature of members.
Following the EXCO meeting, TAC held an emergency meeting on 2\textsuperscript{nd} July 2004 in Tunis and tasked the Secretariat to make the necessary corrections.

In line with EXCO and TAC directives the Secretariat made the necessary corrections and presented the MOU to the TAC. After going through the report, the TAC accepted the MOU with some amendments in the Organogram. The TAC further directed the Secretariat to ensure the translation of the MOU into French before the next TAC meeting of TAC in Kampala.

4. **Rules of Procedure**

At the 5\textsuperscript{th} regular meeting in Tunis on 30\textsuperscript{th} June 2004, AMCOW-EXCO directed the AMCOW-TAC to redraft the Rules of Procedure and submit for consideration at the next meeting in Kampala. On this directive, AMCOW-TAC, at an emergency meeting in Tunis, requested member from Tanzania to draft the new rules of procedure. Comments from other countries should be forwarded to Tanzania.

Three draft proposals were presented to this meeting. The proposals are from South African sub-region, West African sub-region and Tanzania. After deliberations, the TAC adopted the Southern African proposals to form the basis for further work. The AMCOW-TAC directed the Secretariat to translate the West African proposal into English and forward it to the TAC member from Lesotho in order to use it to improve the Southern African proposal, which will then be distributed to all TAC members for comment.

5. **Hosting Arrangement for AMCOW Secretariat**

At the 5\textsuperscript{th} regular meeting in Tunis on 30\textsuperscript{th} June 2004, AMCOW-EXCO directed that AMCOW-TAC in liaison with Secretariat should come up with a draft agreement on hosting the Secretariat between Nigeria and AMCOW. The draft agreement should be submitted for consideration of EXCO at the next meeting in Kampala, Uganda, November 2004.

To comply with the directive, the AMCOW-TAC, at its emergency meeting in Tunis, delegated TAC member from Burkina Faso to prepare a draft for hosting agreement.

The TAC member has prepared the draft hosting agreement and presented the document to this meeting. During the deliberations, it was observed that the initial proposal of hosting agreement should have actually come from the hosting country, Nigeria. This is because, it is the hosting country that knows what she can afford to offer within the provision of her laws. After deliberations, the AMCOW-TAC directed the Secretariat to ask the Nigerian Government to submit proposal for the hosting agreement for consideration of AMCOW. The AMCOW-TAC accepted the proposal prepared by TAC member from Burkina Faso to form the basis for negotiation with Nigeria.
6. **AMCOW Bi-annual Work Programme**

At the 5th regular meeting of AMCOW-EXCO in Tunis on 30th June 2004 a draft of bi-annual work programme for AMCOW was presented to EXCO for consideration. The key points of the proposed work plan are:

i. Support to (the Governing Body - AMCOW) and its institutional organs

ii. Strengthening collaboration with continental bodies

iii. Implementing the AMCOW Ministerial Commitments

iv. Contribute to international events and processes

The EXCO considered the work plan necessary for implementation, review and evaluation purposes. In this regard EXCO directed TAC and the Secretariat to cost the work programme for budgeting purposes and present to EXCO at its next meeting for approval.

As a follow up to the directives of AMCOW-EXCO, the AMCOW-TAC tasked Secretariat to work with UNEP and come up with Financial Figures.

In compliance with EXCO and TAC directives the Secretariat with input from UNEP provided financial figures to the work plan and presented to TAC for consideration. After deliberation, the TAC accepted the work plan, but directed the Secretariat translate the document with assistance of UNEP.

7. **AMCOW Trust Fund**

At the 5th AMCOW-TAC regular meeting in Tunis on 30th June 2004 AMCOW-TAC presented to the EXCO the need to establish a Trust Fund to enable AMCOW mobilize resources for smooth operation of Secretariat and other AMCOW activities. The EXCO accepted the idea and directed TAC to come up with modalities of establishing AMCOW Trust Fund.

As a follow up to the EXCO directives, TAC requested the Secretariat to link up with UNEP to work out the modalities.

In compliance with the EXCO and TAC directives, a proposal on establishing Trust Fund in UNEP was presented to the TAC at this meeting. The proposal contains guidelines on establishing Trust Fund in UNEP and Terms of reference for the administration of a General Trust Fund for AMCOW. After deliberations, the AMCOW-TAC accepted the idea of hosting the Trust Fund with UNEP and agreed with the Guidelines and Terms of Reference presented.
8. **EU Water Initiative**

At the 5th regular meeting of AMCOW-EXCO in Tunis on 30th June 2004 reports from five working groups of EU Water initiative was presented. The five working groups comprising AMCOW-TAC and EU officials addressed the following focal areas identified under the EU Water Initiative:

- Water Supply and Sanitation
- Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)
- Finance
- Research
- Monitoring

TAC agreed, at its emergency meeting in Tunis that the AMCOW-TAC group leaders of the Africa-EU Initiatives should make follow-up to the issues concerning their respective groups.

a) **Water Supply and Sanitation**

The EU presented the progress report on the Water supply and Sanitation component. In the report the TAC was informed that the leadership of the group from the EU side has now shifted from Denmark to Netherlands. Two countries were selected per sub-region to participate in the 1st phase of the programme. The countries were requested to submit direct request for support to the EU after which country dialogue is expected to start. However, so far only Zambia and Ghana made the formal request. Therefore, EU made an appeal to the remaining countries to speed up the process.

AMCOW-TAC lamented on the slow process of the programme due to poor communication and therefore directed the group leader and co-leader to come up with detailed strategy to speed up the implementation process.

The EU informed the meeting that they have some support for AMCOW-TAC and would want to know the requirement of the AMCOW-TAC as well as the authority to enter into support agreement. The AMCOW-TAC thanked the EU for the offer and informed the EU that modality for the setting up a Trust Fund is being worked out. Meanwhile, the EU can go ahead and send their offer formally to the Chair of AMCOW.

b) **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)**

At the previous EXCO meeting in Tunis it was reported that work was in progress on action plans for the five selected basins, within the Euro 10 million allocation of the European Commission. This include:

- Lake Chad with support from Germany
- Orange - Senqu River with support from Germany
As a follow-up to that report the IWRM group reported that studies have been carried out in all the selected river basins. The report of study on each river basin was presented to the AMCOW-TAC. The reports are supposed to be considered and adopted by AMCOW. After satisfaction with the reports, AMCOW will submit them to the respective sub-regional Economic Commissions. The Economic Commission of each sub-region will then make formal request for financing the project from the European Union.

Meanwhile, the EU requested that while AMCOW considers the study reports, new set of basins could be selected for study.

In response to the report, AMCOW-TAC lamented that there was no enough consultation of the African partners with consequent little input from them in the report. This negates the sense of Africa ownership of the report, as agreed in the Strategic Partnership between AMCOW and EU. After deliberations, it was agreed that AMCOW-TAC contact all the stakeholders of the project and come up with response to EU on the report. It was also agreed that work on the five selected basins be consolidated before selection of the new basins.

On the National IWRM Action Plan of countries, the EU reported that 17 countries are being assisted by the Global Water Partnership to come up with their plans. The Global Water Partnership is also collecting the experiences of these countries for the benefit of other countries. After deliberations, the AMCOW-TAC instructed the working group members to liaise with Global Water Partnership to obtain the progress reports and report back to TAC at the next meeting in Kampala.

c) **Finance**

The Working Group had its last meeting in London in 8 October 2004. The London meeting produced a work programme for 2005. It was noted that AMCOW did not receive invitation of the London meeting and therefore did not participate.

d) **Research**

It was reported that EU is very much interested in this component. In order to have effective African participation, it was recommended that institutions specialized in Water research be identified in each sub-region and be incorporated in the working group. To this end, the Secretariat was instructed to write to AMCOW-TAC members of the Research working group of the decision of AMCOW-TAC for necessary follow-up.

e) **Monitoring and Evaluation**

It was reported that Italy is the lead member of this group from the EU side. A draft work programme has been prepared and Monitoring will follow from the
other four working groups. For this group, it was also recommended that specialized institution be identified from the African side and be incorporated.

f.) EUWI Working group.

It was observed that there is need to restructure AMCO-W-TAC membership of all the working groups, including the leadership. The EU was therefore to work with existing arrangement, pending the final arrangement at the next AMCO meeting in Kampala in November 2004. It was also agreed that at some points specialized groups might be invited to contribute in the activities of the working groups.

g.) ACP-Water Facility

The EU informed the meeting that the ACP-Water Facility has been finally approved. The Facility is applicable to ACP countries only, but open to Central and Local Authorities, as well as NGO’s. The facility is aimed to contributing to achieve Millennium Development Goals. It therefore covers all issues related to MDG’s.

Projects proposals will be called for at the end of October. The selection process is expected to be completed by March 2005, after which the project preparation will start. The EU confirmed that the Facility is a grant and guidelines for the project proposal was submitted to the AMCO-TAC.

AMCO-TAC appreciated the establishment of the Facility and urged the EU to ease up the procedures of accessing the funds.

9. German G8 Nepad Initiative

At the 5th regular meeting of AMCO-EXCO in Tunis on 30th June 2004 the AMCO TAC, after consultation with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), submitted proposal for consideration of EXCO.

The project proposal was made up of three components:

- Competence centres at river basin level
- Knowledge management of baseline information on river basin
- Policy development

After deliberations, the EXCO directed AMCO-TAC to liaise with the respective German organization (GTZ) to review the project components to tally with needs of the poor in Africa and present it to the next EXCO meeting in Kampala.

In line with this, the TAC, at emergency meeting in Tunis reviewed the project components as follows:

i. Co-operation among river basin organizations
ii. Baseline information for infrastructure development
iii. Capacity building for policy development
TAC also agreed that:

i. Only the first 2 million Euro will be used for this project

ii. Any subsequent fund will have to be used projects to be agreed by
AMCOW

iii. Project component (iii) above will be used to improve AMCOW
Secretariat and establishment of AMCOW’s sub-regional structures.

iv. A committee comprising Uganda, Lesotho, Republic of Congo, Senegal
and NEPAD to review further the proposed document.

As a result of the above, the TAC member from Uganda further reviewed the
proposed document and represented to TAC at this meeting for the consideration
of TAC. The meeting was informed that the Chair had written to the German
Government thanking the Government for the offer and informing them of the
decision of EXCO to review the proposal to conform to the need of the African
poor. GTZ thanked the Chair for the letter as well as the TAC for working in
cooperation with GTZ.

AMCOW-TAC agreed that the 2.0 million Euro earmarked for the project is too
small for any meaningful investment. However, the proposal still does not address
the key components proposed in the last emergency meeting of the AMCOW-TAC.
Specifically, the issues of strengthening the institutions of AMCOW and preparatory
work for infrastructures investment need to be given emphasis in the proposal.
Therefore, the TAC member from Kenya, in the absence of Uganda, was tasked to
further review the document to address the concerns raised.

10. Water Supply Programme (WSP) of World Bank Presentation

A representative of WSP made presentation to AMCOW-TAC. In the presentation he
reiterated the commitment of WSP to work with AMCOW and confirmed the
readiness of WSP to offer assistance to AMCOW activities. He then indicated that
WSP has developed three working documents, which he feels could be useful to
African countries in the planning of water resources management. The documents
are:

1. Generic guidelines for developing road maps for MDG’s
2. Resource flow studies (Zambia, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia)
3. Micro financing of community based projects

The AMCOW-TAC thanked the WSP for showing great commitment to work with and
offer assistance to AMCOW. AMCOW-TAC recalled that WSP made earlier
commitment in Tunis to support WSS working group of AMCOW. The commitment
of WSP was further demonstrated by recent offer to support delegates from some
countries to AMCOW ordinary session in Kampala.

On the proposal of WSP to present some document at the next AMCOW meeting,
the AMCOW-TAC welcomed the proposal and requested WSP to submit the
documents in both English and French to AMCOW Secretariat for distribution to
AMCOW-TAC members. The WSP was further requested to present the documents at the next AMCOW-TAC meeting in Kampala.

11. Water for African Cities

AMCOW-TAC presented a UN-Habitat document to EXCO meeting in Tunis on 30 June 2004 on “Water for African cities” Phase II, which contained proposal on the potentials for linkages with AMCOW processes.

The EXCO directed TAC to analyze this proposal and present its recommendations to the EXCO of Ministers prior to the General Assembly of AMCOW holding in Kampala, Uganda in November 2004.

As a follow-up to this directive, AMCOW-TAC requested TAC member from Kenya to work further with UN-Habitat and come up with recommendations.

In line with the directives of EXCO and TAC, the Kenyan TAC member made presentation to AMCOW-TAC at this meeting. He informed the meeting that the UN-Habitat reiterated their desire to work with AMCOW. After deliberations, the AMCOW-TAC agreed that UN-Habitat make their presentation to the next AMCOW-TAC meeting in Kampala.

12. Civil Society Organisation:

At the ordinary session of AMCOW in Addis Ababa, December 2003, the AMCOW reaffirmed its commitment to work with Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in order to promote the process of achieving the MDG’ for Africa. AMCOW however, advised the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to form themselves into a unified group in order to facilitate proper dialogue with AMCOW.

As a result of this, the CSO wrote to the Chair of AMCOW to express their preparedness in coming together under one umbrella as directed by AMCOW. They also expressed their eagerness to participate in subsequent AMCOW activities under a unified group.

On the instruction of the Chair, the CSO were invited to the AMCOW-TAC meeting in Addis Ababa. At this meeting the CSO made presentation to the AMCOW-TAC. In their presentation, the CSO expressed their thanks to AMCOW for accepting to work with them. They reiterated the common goal they have with AMCOW, which is to provide water to the poor people of Africa. They urged AMCOW to tap the expert knowledge that they have in the water related matters.

The AMCOW-TAC appreciated the role of the CSO and was happy to learn that the CSO have organized themselves into a recognized body that AMCOW can engage with.

13. Agenda for next AMCOW ordinary session in Kampala
At the 5th Meeting of AMCOW-EXCO in Tunis on 2nd July 2004 an agenda was approved for the next ordinary session in Kampala. Afterwards, the Host Minister, Her Excellency Maria Mutagamba, called a meeting in Kenya to make preparation for the Kampala meeting. One TAC member was called from each sub-region for the meeting. The meeting looked at the program approved by EXCO in Tunis and felt the need to make adjustment to allow side events to the meeting. This, it was thought, will attract more publicity and support to AMCOW.

The adjusted programme was presented to this meeting. After deliberation, it was concluded that the main meeting of AMCOW be separated from the side events and be given more priority. As a result of this, a new programme which contains only events that require Ministers attention was redrafted (the new programme is attached). It is assumed that the side events will go parallel to the main events as arranged in the programme prepared at preparatory meeting in Kenya.