DECISIONS OF THE 8th AMCOW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCO) MEETING
Cape Town, 30 July 2010

1. **Report of TAC**: The recommendations of TAC were considered with some amendments.

2. **3rd Africa Water Week**: The Minister of Ethiopia confirmed Ethiopia’s readiness to host the 3rd Africa Water Week in November 2010. The necessary host country agreement for the event should be negotiated forthwith and member states and partners invited to consider extending to the Government of Ethiopia all necessary financial, technical and logistical support for the event. Furthermore, the AMCOW secretariat should explore with the UN-water Africa Agencies the possibility of securing the UN conference facilities in Addis Ababa for the purposes of the 3rd Africa Water Week. The representative of the Minister of Senegal clarified her country’s position on the matter.

3. **AMCOW Trust Fund**: The status of contributions of member States to the AMCOW trust fund was considered. The President of AMCOW emphasized the need for member states to honour the agreement made in the AMCOW MOU which foresees the contribution of USD 10,000 by each country. In furtherance of this objective, the President of AMCOW has dispatched letters urging member states to effect their contributions to AMCOW.

4. **Roadmap of the EXCO meeting**: The president summarized the main conclusions of the EXCO meeting. She also outlined the roadmap to the next EXCO meeting.

5. **Support of UNEP to AMCOW**: The EXCO thanked UNEP and expressed its appreciation for the consistent support and solid contributions to AMCOW work since its inception. The EXCO recommended that all efforts should be made to maintain and enhance the existing close cooperation and to nurture the existing relationship, including support for the implementation of AMCOW’s work programme.

6. **Atlas of Africa’s Water Resources**: EXCO expressed its appreciation of and satisfaction with the draft Atlas of Africa’s Water Resources whose preparation is spearheaded by UNEP on behalf of UN-Water Africa in response to the decision of EXCO at its meeting in July 2009 in Abuja. EXCO recommended that the Atlas be finalized and where possible to include subregional information in the Atlas. In addition to those listed as authors of the foreword, the President of AMCOW proposed and EXCO endorsed that her Excellency, President Mrs. Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia should be one of the authors of the foreword. As much as possible the Atlas should be ready for formal presentation to EXCO at its meeting in November 2010.

7. **Support of GTZ/BMZ to AMCOW**: EXCO expressed appreciation of all the partners for their constant support. It also welcomed the recent decision of the German Government (GTZ/BMZ) to provide financial support to the Secretariat of AMCOW.
8. **AMCOW as STC of AUC**: EXCO recognized the need for AMCOW to engage the Chairperson of the AUC and the Commissioner for the Department of Rural Agriculture and Economy with the view to have a better clarification of the implications of AMCOW’s specialized technical committee status of the AU. Towards this end EXCO recommended the need to:

   a. undertake the necessary institutionalize dialogue between AMCOW and the AUC in order to improve the working relationship.

   b. regularly keep under review the cooperation arrangements and their modalities to ensure a harmonious relationship.

   c. always maintain AMCOW’s identity as a regional Ministerial Body on Water and Sanitation whilst at the same time performing the expected role of a specialized technical committee of the AU. However, AMCOW should maintain its autonomy efficiency and the momentum it has created.

9. **Executive Secretary’s salary**: EXCO endorsed the president’s emergency measures taken by the President in authorizing payments of the Executive Secretary’s salary for the period February – June 2010 and to settle the salary arrears for May–October 2008 as soon as funds become available.

10. **Payment for services rendered**: EXCO endorsed the settlement of outstanding payment, for services rendered for document preparation and translation into French, in connection with the organization of the 7th session of AMCOW/2nd Africa water Week/2nd PANAFCON (Johannesburg, South Africa, November 2009).

11. **African Water Facility**: The report presented by H.E. Bruno Jean-Richard Itoua, Chairman of the Governing Council of the African water Facility was endorsed by the Executive Committee.

12. **Country Status Overviews by the World Bank WSP-AF**: The presentation of Country Status Overviews by the World Bank WSP-AF was highly appreciated by AMCOW. EXCO recommended that other countries not yet covered under the exercise should be included in any subsequent phase. EXCO also took note of similar work done by the AfDB and recommended that a joint meeting of AMCOW, AfDB and World Bank WSP-AF be held for the purpose of presenting to EXCO an integrated and harmonized presentation at its November 2010 meeting scheduled for Addis Ababa.

13. **8th Ordinary Session of AMCOW**: Libya offered to host the 8th Ordinary Session of AMCOW in Syrte. The offer was endorsed by EXCO.

14. **Ousseynou Diop of the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program for Africa**: Tribute was paid to the late Ousseynou Diop of the World Bank Water and Sanitation Program for Africa, who played a lead role in implementing on behalf of AMCOW, the follow up to the eThekwini declaration and within that framework the development of a considerable number of national sanitation action plans. Mr. Diop died shortly after the 7th session of AMCOW held in Johannesburg. A posthumous award to honor his contributions will be made under the AMCOW AfricaSan Awards Initiative that launches today.

15. **Profound gratitude**: The Minister of Nigeria on behalf of the EXCO members and the participants expressed profound gratitude to the President of AMCOW and her team for the diligent and efficient manner in which she conducted the meeting.