



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

## **Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative**

**Supporting Secondary Urban Centres in the Lake Victoria  
Region to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals**

### **AIDE MEMOIRE**

## **SECOND MEETING OF EAST AFRICAN MINISTERS OF WATER, AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS ON LAKE VICTORIA REGION WATER AND SANITATION INITIATIVE**

**Theme: “Scaling Up of the Lake Victoria Water and  
Sanitation Initiative”**

**Venue: Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda  
22 – 23 April 2009**

## **1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

1.1 Lake Victoria is the world's second largest freshwater lake and the largest in Africa, with a total catchment of 250,000 square kilometres, of which 68,000 km is the actual lake surface. Located in the upper reaches of the Nile River Basin, the lake waters are shared by the three East African Countries of Kenya (6%), Uganda (43%) and Tanzania (51%). Rwanda and Burundi are a part of the upper watershed that drains into Lake Victoria through the Kagera River and between them, occupy about 18% of the lake catchment. The lake is a major transboundary natural resource that is heavily utilized by its bordering countries for fisheries, transportation, tourism, water supply and waste disposal. The Nile Basin outflow is an extremely important freshwater resource for the countries of Uganda, Sudan and Egypt.

1.2 With an estimated population of 35 million people, the Lake Victoria Basin supports one of the densest and poorest populations in the world. Average per capita income is estimated to be less than US\$270, which is about 40% of the average per capita income in sub Saharan Africa. The problems of human poverty and unemployment are widespread, and are compounded by the rapid increase in population, the ongoing public health challenges posed by the high incidence of HIV/AIDS and malaria, unplanned urbanization and environmental degradation.

1.3 For the past 30 years, Lake Victoria has been under considerable pressure from a variety of interlinked human activities, including overfishing, destructive fishing practices, pollution from human and industrial activities, siltation from the erosion of deforested watersheds and enhanced urban runoff with high sediment loads and large volumes of waste products. The sources of pollution are many, and include, untreated sewage, human and animal waste discharged into rivers and drainage channels, maritime transport waste and direct contamination of lake water by human activities on the shore line. The cumulative impact of these activities are now clearly in evidence with Lake Victoria showing various signs of severe environmental distress, including depleted oxygen levels, eutrophication, reduced transparency and increasing levels of microbiological and chemical pollution.

### **Protocol on Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin**

1.4 Given the critical role of Lake Victoria as the most important economic resource in the region, the East African Community has been working with its development partners to establish the necessary cooperative framework to reverse the deteriorating conditions in the lake, promote a more sustainable approach to the management of the resources in the basin and enhance the socio-economic development of the people living in the Lake Victoria Region.

1.5 A Protocol on Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin was signed by the three partner states of the East African Community (Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania) on November 29, 2003, and ratified in November, 2004. The Protocol addresses environmental concerns in and around the lake and sets out an agreement of cooperation in a number of key areas, including, "the sustainable development, management and equitable utilization of water resources" and "the improvement of public health with specific reference to sanitation". The Protocol further established the Lake Victoria Basin Commission as a "body for the sustainable development and management of the Lake Victoria Basin" with a broad range of functions, including

guidance on implementation of sectoral projects and programmes, promotion of capacity building and institutional development and initiation and promotion of programmes that target poverty eradication.

### **The Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative**

1.6 The Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (LVWATSAN) was formally launched on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004 by the Ministers responsible for water from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, with the aim of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for water and sanitation in the secondary towns within the Lake Victoria Basin. LVWATSAN was designed by UN-HABITAT at the request of the East African Ministers of Water. The programme comprises an integrated package of interventions, including water supply and sanitation improvements, solid waste management, drainage improvements in key areas, as well as capacity building and training.

1.7 The overall goal of the Initiative is to meet the MDG targets in water and sanitation in the project towns and to ensure the long term sustainability of the physical interventions. The specific objectives are as follows:

- i) Support pro-poor water and sanitation investments in the secondary urban centres in the Lake Victoria Region;
- ii) Build institutional and human resource capacities at local and regional levels for the sustainability of improved water and sanitation services;
- iii) Facilitate the benefits of upstream water sector reforms to reach the local level in the participating urban centres;
- iv) Reduce the environmental impact of urbanization in the Lake Victoria Basin.

1.8 The Initiative is seeking to demonstrate that the MDGs can be achieved in a relatively short time frame (3 years) and that investments can be sustained over the long term by effectively integrating physical infrastructure works, training and capacity building into a balanced and cohesive programme of interventions. The Initiative seeks to develop the right balance between investments on water and sanitation infrastructure in the secondary towns and capacity-building at the local and regional level to sustain programme benefits. It uses a phased approach to implementation which focuses first on immediate interventions designed to deliver immediate results followed by long term interventions requiring larger investments.

1.9 Since the joining of Rwanda and Burundi in EAC, the countries have expressed a wish to join the Initiative. Preliminary assessments have been carried out in Rwanda and Burundi to identify the towns to be included in the programme and a list of 5 towns in each country has been established.

1.10 The Initiative supports the achievement of the EAC “Vision and Strategy Framework for Management and Development of Lake Victoria Basin”, a document which essentially establishes a shared vision and a long term strategic plan for the sustainable management of the resources of the Lake Victoria Basin and the economic development of the region. The Framework outlines sectoral strategies in 5 policy areas, i) Ecosystems, Natural Resources and Environment, ii) Production and Income Generation, iii) Living Conditions, Poverty and Quality of Life, iv) Population and Demography, and v) Governance, Institutions and Policies. The Framework outlines a number of strategies to reduce the environmental pollution of Lake Victoria and improve

the living conditions of the increasing number of people living in the Lake Basin. These include, improved waste management, both solid and liquid, expanded water supply coverage in both urban and rural areas, and better environmental sanitation. The need to build the capacity to plan, construct and manage service delivery systems is also highlighted as well as the need to adopt a coordinated approach within the framework of regional cooperation.

1.11 LVWATSAN complements the other ongoing regional as well as country-based programmes active in the Lake Victoria Basin. Key regional initiatives undertaken in the Lake Victoria Basin include the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), the East African Communities Organization for the Management of Lake Victoria (ECOVIC), the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme (LVEMP), the Lake Victoria Local Region Local Authorities Co-operation (LVRLAC). These regional initiatives have broad objectives mainly focusing on the Lake's conservation of biodiversity, environment, poverty alleviation, networking and cooperation, and capacity building through involvement and empowerment of beneficiary communities. They, however, do not address specifically the provision of basic services in the riparian urban centres, especially provision of water and environmental sanitation. Some of the country-based programmes (often under bilateral funding agreements) focus on provision of water and sanitation, both in urban and rural settings. However, these programmes meet only partially the huge demand for water and sanitation service provision and are not specifically targeted to achieving the MDG targets. The gaps in provision of services are in particular evident for the smaller urban centres, many of which are not catered for under the ongoing activities.

1.12 UN-HABITAT is also actively represented in sector working groups and donor coordination groups to enhance complementarities and align the Initiative with national development priorities of the target countries,

### **Key Programme Achievements**

1.13 Considerable progress has been achieved in the implementation of the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative. Implementation of immediate interventions designed to deliver immediate results in the first phase of the programme is substantially completed and within a short time frame of two years, the programme is already on track to achieving the water and sanitation MDGs in the initial seven towns, namely: Kisii and Homa Bay in Kenya, Nyendo/Ssenyange and Kyotera in Uganda, Bukoba and Muleba in Tanzania, and the border town of Mutukula. Key achievements of the programme are outlined below:

- i) ***Improving access to water and sanitation services*** - The completed works under the water supply component have two important short term results. Firstly, with the water systems now supplying more water, the problems of water rationing have been reduced and over **135,000** persons are now receiving a more reliable and sustainable supply of safe drinking water. Secondly, the improved infrastructure has already provided access to about **25,000** persons (in mostly low income settlements) who previously had no access to safe water supplies. A preliminary assessment of the impact of the sanitation component to date has indicated that these works are providing improved basic sanitation to an estimated **40,300** persons.

- ii) ***Strengthening the capacity of water service providers*** - Under the fast-track capacity building programme for water utilities, over 120 staff of four utility companies (Kisii and Homa Bay in Kenya and Bukoba and Muleba in Tanzania) have been trained and technical assistance provided to the utilities to improve their operational systems, including billing and revenue collection, water demand management, customer care and mapping. The assistance provided so far has resulted in a significant improvement in utility performance, especially with respect to revenue generation and the reduction in non-revenue water. All of the utility companies now have a strategic management focus with performance improvement plans in place. The capacity building programme is now being scaled up to address the training needs of service providers in another 3 towns. Interventions to improve energy efficiency of water service providers and the use of renewable energy technologies have also been initiated. A feasibility study is underway to set up a micro-hydropower system in Kisii town. A preliminary assessment of the scheme indicated that the mini-hydro system has the potential to significantly reduce the cost of energy for the local water service provider. A waste to energy expert has also been recruited to carry out biogas feasibility studies in eight towns within the Lake Victoria region and in eight other cities of the WAC II. Solar photovoltaic power system will also be set up to light water kiosks and public toilets to extend their operation at night.
- iii) ***Promoting access to adequate sanitation through micro credit schemes*** targeting poor women headed households and vulnerable groups - As part of the LVWATSAN sanitation strategy, micro credit schemes targeting poor women headed households and vulnerable groups have been initiated in Bondo, Homa Bay and Kisii (Kenya), Nyendo, Kyotera and Mutukula in Uganda, and Bukoba Muleba and Mutukula in Tanzania. It is expected that the Initiative will benefit 45,000 people, mainly poor women and vulnerable groups, in 10 cities.
- iv) ***Improving capacity for environmental and solid waste management*** – Solid waste constitutes one of the major sources of environmental pollution in the Lake Victoria Basin. The programme has therefore given priority to solid waste management with good progress already achieved in establishing a model solid waste management system for small towns. The procurement of tractors, skip trailers and containers is now almost complete and the first phase of a training programme for operators has been carried out. The preparation of guidance manuals is in progress and the systems are expected to be fully operational this year. The programme has also supported the preparation of a catchment management strategy for the towns which will be implemented in the coming months as part of a broader programme of capacity building in environmental management.
- v) ***Strengthening stakeholder participation and ownership through citywide multi-stakeholder platforms*** – To encourage ownership at local level, Multi-Stakeholder Forums (MSFs) bringing together representatives of municipal authorities, service providers, local private sector, NGOs, and CBOs have been formed in the project towns. The rationale for setting up the multi-stakeholder forums is to ensure that the interventions under the Lake Victoria Initiative are developed and implemented in a manner that is informed by and responds to the needs of the local stakeholders. Since their formation, the forums have continued to create a meaningful space for town residents, especially the urban

poor, to engage with service providers and the local government on a number of service-related issues.

- vi) **Supporting strategic urban planning** - Through the Initiative, UN-HABITAT is assisting the towns in preparing urban plans to guide their future development and to facilitate the design of the infrastructure works being carried out. In this regard, urban plans have already been completed for 5 of the 7 pilot towns through a participatory process linked to training and capacity building. These plans are to be coupled with priority Action Plans and Investment Plans thereby linking them with budgeting processes of the respective local authorities and of relevant central government ministries. Phase I of the urban planning initiative in the Lake Victoria region is being carried out in Homa Bay and Kisii in Kenya, Masaka and Kyotera in Uganda, and Bukoba and Muleba in Tanzania and the border town of Mutukula.
- vii) **Improving monitoring of water and sanitation coverage** – UN-HABITAT has developed a specialised monitoring tool, designed to establish the baseline coverage levels and track the progress of implementation with regard to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. For the first time, coverage data is available with a spatial reference, thus linking urban planning and infrastructure planning more effectively. The Urban Inequities Survey (UIS) has been implemented in 17 secondary urban centres in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania, in collaboration with National Statistical Offices in each country. This is the first time high resolution satellite imagery has been used during the UIS baseline surveys by the National Statistical Bureaus in the project countries to create the spatial information profile of water, sanitation, solid waste and other infrastructure in each of the enumeration areas in the towns. The findings of the UIS survey in the 17 secondary urban centres are summarized in the Box below.

**Box 1: Access to Improved Water and Sanitation in Secondary Urban Centres**

In Kenya, access to improved water in the towns of Migori, Kisii, Homa Bay, Siaya and Bondo is between 60% and 70%. However, when the quantity, cost, and the time it takes to fetch it are considered, the figures drop pathetically to less than 20%. Access to improved sanitation in the same towns show that more than 50% of households use sanitation facilities. However, when the number of households that share a facility, up to a maximum of 2 households per facility is considered, access drops to about 20%.

The figures in Uganda are rather erratic. In Bugembe, Ggaba and Masaka, access to improved water is over 90% as opposed to Kyotera with only 18 %. Similarly, when the quantity, cost, and the time it takes to fetch it are considered, access to improved water drops significantly by half. Access to improved sanitation is much higher (over 80%). But when the number of households that share a facility, up to a maximum of 2 households per facility, is considered, the number reduces between 13% in Mutukula Bugembe and Kyotera and 30% in the rest of the towns.

In Tanzania, access to improved water in the towns of Bukoba, Muleba, Geita, Sengerema, Bunda and Mutukula and Musoma ranges between 13% in Muleba and more than 50% in the rest of the towns. When the quantity, cost, and the time it takes to fetch it are considered, the figures drop much further from 3% in Muleba to 45% in Musoma. Access to improved sanitation is erratic, fluctuating between 36% in Sengerema to more than 50% in Bukoba, Geita, Bunda and Musoma. However, when the number of households that share a facility, up to a maximum of 2 households per facility is considered, the number stabilizes between over 30% in Bukoba, Bunda and Musoma to less than 30% in Mutukula, Muleba, Geita and Sengerema.

## **Scaling Up of the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative**

1.14 The above results have demonstrated that the water and sanitation related Millennium Development Goals can be achieved in the secondary towns in the Lake Victoria Basin with a modest level of investments in physical infrastructure and capacity building. The challenge is now to provide the necessary financial resources to scale up the Initiative to further address the water and sanitation problems in the over 200 urban centers in the Lake Victoria Basin.

1.15 A recent partnership with the East African Community has provided a framework of collaboration to expand the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative in another 15 towns in 5 countries, in partnership with the African Development Bank. Funding has been secured from the African Water Facility to undertake a project formulation study, and the selection of a consulting firm completed. The study is scheduled to commence in April, 2009 and is expected to generate a follow up package of investments (estimated at US\$65 million) from the African Development Bank.

1.16 Consultations have also been initiated with the European Investment Bank (EIB) and there are positive indications that the EIB is willing to consider a request for financial support to the Programme once the investment proposals and precise mechanisms for channelling the funds to the participating countries have been worked out and endorsed by the 5 East African Ministers of Water.

1.17 The EIB support will go to medium sized and large towns in the Lake basin and will complement the programme being supported by the AfDB which will largely focus on smaller towns. National and regional coordination mechanisms will be enhanced to ensure that the programmes reinforce and complement each other, especially in the areas of environmental management, training and capacity building.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING**

2.1 This ministerial meeting is a follow up to the first Meeting of the East African Ministers of Water and development partners on Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative held in Nairobi on 5th September, 2008. During the meeting the Ministers resolved to fully support the implementation of the current and next phase of LVWATSAN by committing their Governments to contribute the required counterpart support for both the first phase and for the scaling up of the programme. They also requested the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and other development banks to consider financing capital investments for water and sanitation infrastructure in the expanded programme through concessional loans and grants to national governments. A copy of the Ministerial Declaration emanating from the Nairobi Meeting is provided at **Annex 1** for information.

2.2 The objectives of the meeting are to:

- i. Endorse the scaling up of LVWATSAN by the EAC governments, including programme interventions in large towns but not excluding small/medium sized towns. The meeting is expected to generate clear statements of interest from the

- target large towns for the EIB to pursue project preparation for upscaling LVWATSAN.
- ii. Endorse a consolidated investment proposal, which will form the basis for a detailed formulation study to develop a regional water and sanitation project to be presented to the European Investment Bank for financing. The investment proposal, which will be developed before the meeting and consolidated during the technical session, will include the scope and budget for the proposed interventions, training and capacity building requirements and financing and implementation plan, will be prepared to a sufficient level of detail to facilitate the formulation of a project for EIB appraisal, with proposed capital investments disaggregated into bulk infrastructure and the extension of services to low income and informal settlements.
  - iii. Agree on funding modalities and arrangements, including, the optimum use of loan and grant funds, counterpart contributions from Governments and the mechanisms for the channeling of funds to meet project development costs, capital investments and complementary training and capacity building requirements. A positive indication from the relevant finance ministries that they would consider taking on loans from EIB for the purpose of scaling up LVWATSAN.
  - iv. Agree on an indicative time frame and implementation plan for the detailed project formulation study. An indicative time frame for the formulation study is provided in **Annex 2**.
  - v. Establish precise organizational arrangements for the upscaling of the Programme through the EIB support, including cooperation with other funding agencies and coordination with other programmes and the respective roles and responsibilities of the Governments, the East African Community Secretariat and UN-HABITAT.

### **3. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY**

3.1 The two-day meeting will comprise a technical session (Day 1) during which the representatives of each of the 5 countries will present and discuss Concept Notes detailing the proposed project in their respective countries. The Concept Notes will set out the indicative scope, budget, training and capacity building requirements, implementation arrangements, and proposed financing modalities, among others. The first day will provide an opportunity to discuss and agree on what is left of larger infrastructure in the larger towns and what - if components are suitably articulated – can potentially form the basis for EIB loan financing.

3.2 The technical meeting will also involve two round tables. The first round table will be led by the Permanent Secretaries of Water. The Round Table will start with statements by Permanent Secretaries of Water on the proposed Infrastructure Investments per country, including the following:

- Concrete endorsement of scaling up of LVWATSAN



- Infrastructure needs of large towns and some other small towns, including infrastructure components that require loan financing and those that require grant support.
- Training and capacity building package.
- Potential coordination and implementation arrangements including tentative time frame.

The statements will be followed by plenary discussions moderated by the session chair. This will be followed by a second Round Table on Financing Modalities led by the Permanent Secretaries of Finance. The Round Table will include an introductory presentation on the EU Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund by the Representative of the European Investment Bank. This will be followed by statements by Permanent Secretaries of Finance on the preferred financing modalities based on their country experiences. The respective Permanent Secretaries in the Ministries of Finance of the 5 countries, are expected to play a key role in advising on the feasible options for channeling loan and grant funds to the projects. The statements will be followed by plenary discussions moderated by the session chair. The technical session will end with the drafting of a Joint Investment Proposal by selected working teams.

3.3 The Ministerial segment (Day 2) will start with a Breakfast Meeting for Honourable Ministers and invited guests. After the opening ceremony, the report of the technical committee will be presented to the ministers and development partners for comments and responses. This will be followed by the adoption and ratification of the Ministerial Statement. A more detailed programme is contained in section 5 below.

3.4 The two-day meeting will be attended by Ministers responsible for water in the respective countries, permanent secretaries of water and finance, Chief Executive Officers of water utilities and mayors of the target towns, among others.

#### 4. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

4.1 **Consolidated Investment Proposal** - The consolidated investment proposal to be developed during the technical session on the first day of the meeting will be based on the concept notes presented by each of the 5 countries on the proposed project in their respective countries. The technical meeting will review these Concept Notes and develop a consolidated investment proposal for submission to the Ministers for endorsement on Day 2.

4.2 **Funding modalities and arrangements** – While the funding modalities and arrangements are likely to be heterogeneous given the differences in the legal and institutional structures and considering the fact that the sector reform processes are at different stages in each country, the meeting will deliberate on the most feasible modalities and arrangements.

4.3 **Organizational Arrangements and Time Frame** - The Meeting will discuss and agree on the roles and responsibilities of the National Governments, the East African Community and UN-HABITAT in the implementation of the expanded programme. The meeting will also agree on a time frame within which to accomplish various project milestones.

## 5. MEETING AGENDA

The Meeting Agenda is shown in the Programme below.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of East African Community Ministers of Water and the Development partners of the UN-HABITAT LVWATSAN

Date: APRIL 22-23, 2009

VENUE: IMPERIAL BOTANICAL BEACH HOTEL, ENTEBBE, UGANDA

#### WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL, 2009 – TECHNICAL MEETING

08:30 Arrival of Participants at Conference Room

#### Plenary Session 1: INTRODUCTION

- 08:30 – 09:00
1. Opening and welcome address by Mr. Obong O. O. David, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment, Government of Uganda
  2. Aims and Objectives of today's technical meeting, by Dr. Graham Alabaster, UN-HABITAT
  3. Overview of current status of LVWATSAN programme by Robert Goodwin, CTA
  4. Introductory remarks by the Representative of the European Investment Bank

#### Plenary Session 2: Technical Presentations by the Country's Representatives

09:00 – 10:15 Presentations (15 min. each) by representatives of Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda

10:15 – 10:45 **COFFEE BREAK**

#### Round Table on Infrastructure Investments ( Led by the Permanent Secretaries of Water)

- 10:45 – 11:45 Statements by Permanent Secretaries of Water on the proposed Infrastructure Investments per country, including the following:
- Concrete endorsement of scaling up of LVWATSAN
  - Infrastructure needs of large towns and some other small towns, including infrastructure components that require loan financing and those that require grant support.
  - Training and capacity building package.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential coordination and implementation arrangements including tentative time frame.</li> </ul> <p>The statements will be followed by plenary discussions moderated by the session chair.</p>
<b>Round Table on Financing Modalities ( Led by the Permanent Secretaries of Finance)</b>	
11:45 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of the EU Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund by the Representative of the European Investment Bank</li> <li>Statements by Permanent Secretaries of Finance on the preferred financing modalities based on their country experiences.</li> </ul> <p>The statements will be followed by plenary discussions moderated by the session chair.</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>Drafting of the Joint Investment Proposals</b>	
14:00 – 18:00	Drafting of Joint Investment Proposals by selected working teams

<b>THURSDAY 23 APRIL, 2009 –MINISTERIAL MEETING</b>	
08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast Meeting for Honourable Ministers and Invited Guests
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival of Invited Participants at Conference Room
09:00 – 09:15	Arrival of Honourable Ministers at Conference Room
09:15 – 09:30	Arrival of Chief Guest

<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	
09:30 – 11:00	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statement by the Under-Secretary General and Executive Director UN-HABITAT, Dr. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka</li> <li>Statement by the Secretary-General of the East African Community</li> <li>Welcoming Remarks by the Minister of Water and Environment, Government of Uganda</li> <li>Official Opening of the meeting by the Chief Guest</li> </ol>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>Plenary Session 1: Report of the Technical Committee</b>	
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Report of the Technical Committee on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed Scope of Infrastructure Investments</li> <li>Training and Capacity Building</li> <li>Funding Modalities, including Proposed Financing by potential</li> </ul>

	<p>financiers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination and Implementation Arrangements</li> <li>• Key Action Points for Follow-up</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:30	Comments and Responses from Ministers and Development Partners
13:30 – 15:00	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>
<b>Plenary Session 2: Adoption and Ratification of Ministerial Statement</b>	
15:00 – 15:30	Presentation of Draft Ministerial Statement
15:30 – 16:00	Responses from Ministers
16:00 – 17:00	Adoption and signing of Ministerial Statement
<b>Closing Ceremony</b>	

**Annex 1: Statement of the East African Ministers of Water on “Meeting the Water and Sanitation MDGs in the Lake Victoria Basin” September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008, Nairobi, Kenya**

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**PREAMBLE**

The Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative (LVWATSAN) is a major programme being implemented in the small towns around Lake Victoria. It is designed to demonstrate that the water and sanitation MDG targets can be achieved in a relatively short time frame with modest investments and that improved water and sanitation services can be sustained over the long term by effectively integrating physical infrastructure works and training and capacity building into a balanced and cohesive programme of interventions. The Programme also aims to promote improved water resources management and mitigate the negative impacts of uncontrolled releases of effluent into the Lake, in the overall context of sustainable environmental management of Lake Victoria Basin resources.

The Programme was designed by UN-HABITAT, at the request of the East African Ministers of Water and was formally launched on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004 on the occasion of the World Water Week in Stockholm. Implementation activities were initiated in June, 2006, with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands and other donors to the UN-HABITAT’s Water and Sanitation Trust Fund.

LVWATSAN is being implemented through partnership arrangements between the participating Governments, the East African Community Secretariat and UN-HABITAT. Following the admission of Rwanda and Burundi as members of the East African Community, and successful efforts by the Lake Victoria Basin Commission and UN-HABITAT to secure funding from the African Water Facility for the preparation of a second phase of the Programme, the partnership has been expanded to include the 5 East African Community Governments, the East African Community Secretariat, UN-HABITAT and the African Development Bank. The European Investment Bank has also expressed interest in supporting the Initiative.

**STATEMENT**

We, the East African Ministers of Water, meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2008,

1. **Reaffirm** our commitment to working with UN-HABITAT, the EAC Secretariat and our development partners to ensure that the MDGs for water and sanitation are achieved in the Lake Victoria Basin.
2. **Recall** the Joint Communiqué delivered at the 4<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in March, 2006 by the Ministers responsible for water in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda which recognised LVWATSAN as a regional programme with potential to fast track the attainment of the MDGs in the Lake Victoria Region and called for an increased level of financial support for the programme.

3. **Acknowledge** the need to fully integrate LVWATSAN into the overall development agenda of the East African Community through the Lake Victoria Basin Commission.
4. **Further acknowledge** the alarming drop in Lake levels, and the continued environmental degradation of the Lake.
5. **Commend** the Government of the Netherlands for providing financial support for the first phase of LVWATSAN.
6. **Note** that considerable progress has been achieved in the implementation of the Initiative in the towns covered during the first phase of the Initiative. These include Kisii and Homa Bay in Kenya, Masaka and Kyotera in Uganda, Bukoba and Muleba in Tanzania and the border town of Mutukula.
7. **Recognize** the need to provide the necessary financial resources to scale up the Initiative to further address the water and sanitation problems in the over 200 urban centres in the Lake Victoria Basin.
8. **Welcome** the financial assistance being provided by the African Water Facility for the preparation of a second phase of the programme which will extend activities to another 15 towns, including towns in Rwanda and Burundi.
9. **Recognize** that training and capacity building is critical in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the first phase and the scaling up of the programme.
10. **Further recognize** the need to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the National Governments, the East African Community and UN-HABITAT as the programme expands to the next phase.
11. **Agree** that LVWATSAN be integrated and harmonized with other ongoing initiatives in the member States along the lines of SWAP.
12. **Acknowledge** the need to accelerate the integration of LVWATSAN into national Water and Sanitation Development plans of member States to enhance ownership and Capacity Building for Local Institutions.
13. **Commend** UNHABITAT for the leadership role and initiative in implementing the Project to date.

## RESOLUTION

We, therefore, in the spirit of regional cooperation, and with a common goal,

1. **Resolve** to fully support the implementation of the current and next phase of LVWATSAN by committing our Governments to contribute the required counterpart support for both the first phase and for the scaling up of the programme.
2. **Jointly agree** to raise funds to further support the implementation of the current phase and for the scaling up of the programme.

3. **Jointly and collectively agree** to address the issues of receding Lake level, watershed management, overall water resources management, and urban pollution control, within the collaborative framework of the LVBC.
4. **Call upon** UN-HABITAT and the East African Community to immediately expedite the Project Formulation Study to expand the Initiative to an additional 15 towns.
5. **Further call upon** donors to provide an increased level of funding for the capacity building component of LVWATSAN, through the UN-HABITAT Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the programme and also to enable UN-HABITAT to provide effective technical and management support for the scaling up of the Programme.
6. **Further call upon** donors to support the East African Community, through the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, to provide staffing and an operational budget to coordinate the Project Formulation Study for Phase II and to interface with the governments, UN-HABITAT, the African Development Bank and other stakeholders during the expansion of the programme.
7. **Request** the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and other development banks to consider financing capital investments for water and sanitation infrastructure in the expanded programme through concessional loans and grants to national governments.
8. **Further request** the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank and other development partners to provide technical assistance to support UN-HABITAT through the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund to facilitate the training and capacity building component of the programme.
9. **Agree that** the LVWATSAN be integrated and harmonized with other ongoing initiatives in the member States along the lines of SWAP.
10. **Decide** to meet within a year to assess progress made.

Thank the Government of the Republic of Kenya for hosting the meeting.

Delivered on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2008 during the Meeting of East African Ministers of Water, and Development Partners on the Lake Victoria Region Water and Sanitation Initiative.

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Hon. Maria Mutagamba, Minister of Water and Environment, Republic of Uganda

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Hon. Charity Ngilu, Minister of Water and Irrigation, Republic of Kenya

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Hon. Prof. Mark Mwandosya, Minister of Water and Irrigation, United Republic of Tanzania

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Hon. Dr. Samuel Ndayiragije, Minister of Water, Energy and Mines, Republic of Burundi

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Hon. Stanislas Kamanzi, Minister of Natural Resources, Republic of Rwanda

**Witnessed by:**

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Dr. Anna Tibaijuka, Under-Secretary General UN and Executive Director UN-HABITAT

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H.E. Ambassador Juma Volter Mwapachu, Secretary-General, East African Community



## Annex 2: Tentative Time Frame

### Timelines for EIB Investments in the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative Programme

Week	Apr-2009		May-2009		Jun-2009		Jul-2009		Aug-2009		Sep-2009		Oct-2009		Nov-2009		Dec-2009		Jan-2010	Feb-2010	Mar-2010	Apr-2010
	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-II	III-IV	I-IV	I-IV	I-IV	I-IV
	Key Milestones																					
1																						
2																						
3																						
4																						
5																						
6																						
7																						

**Key:**

\*\*\* Entebbe 22-23rd April

\*\*\*\* 2nd Meeting to review the Investment Plan