

AUTORITE DU BASSIN DE LA  
VOLTA

Direction Exécutive



VOLTA BASIN AUTHORITY  
Executive Directorate



Bénin



Burkina Faso



Côte d'Ivoire



Ghana



Mali



Togo

## 7<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF VBA 10 MAY 2019, KEMPINSKI HOTEL GOLD COAST CITY, ACCRA

### FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Seventh Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Volta Basin Authority (VBA) was held on 10 May 2019 in the conference hall of Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast City, Accra, Republic of Ghana, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Ambroise Niouga OUEDRAOGO, Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso, representing Mr. Samou SEIDOU ADAMI, Minister for Water and Mines of Benin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Volta Basin Authority.

The following are the participants of the Session:

- **Hon. Cecilia Abena DAPAAH**, Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Republic of Ghana;
- **Mr. Didier Lohoury GBOGOU**, Director of Cabinet, representing the Minister of Water and Forestry, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Mr. Serge KONE**, Chargé d'Affaire a.i Mali Embassy in Ghana, representative of the Minister of Energy and Water of the Republic of Mali;
- **Mr. Affo Boni ADJAMA**, Director of Cabinet, representing the Minister of Water, Rural Equipment and Village Hydraulics, of the Republic of Togo.

The session of the Council of Ministers was preceded by a preparatory meeting of the Committee of Experts of the Volta Basin Authority (VBA), from 06 to 09 May 2019 in conference hall of Coconut Groove Regency Hotel, North Ridge, Accra, Republic of Ghana.

After due consideration of the report, the Ministers:

- Congratulated the Committee of Experts for the quality of the documents produced;
- Followed with keen interest the presentation on the difficulties encountered by the Executive Directorate of the Volta Basin Authority.
- Acknowledged the extent of the difficulties met and welcomed solutions proposed by the executive directorate ;
- Welcomed the readiness and commitment manifested by the Technical and Financial Partners to support to the VBA in the achievement of fixed objectives, through partnership.

After the discussions, the Ministers adopted the following resolutions concerning:

1. Approval of the 2016, 2017 and 2018 Progress Report;
2. Approval of the 2019 and 2020 Work Plans and Budgets of the Volta Basin Authority;
3. Approval of the draft Volta Basin Water Charter;
4. Finalization of the VBA Manual for Administrative, Financial and Accounting Procedures latest by July 2019;
5. The application of the VBA Organizational Chart as well as the update of the Job Descriptions and periodic assessment of staff;
6. Conduct an organisational audit by an independent consultant to facilitate decision-making on increasing Member States' contributions to the functioning of the VBA;
7. Thanks to the Member States for the payment of their annual contributions;
8. Approval of audit reports from 2013 to 2016 and continuation of the audit from 2017 to 2018;

The Ministers took note of the presentation of the various projects being prepared within the VBA, the United Nations Conventions on: (i) the "Protection and Use of Transboundary Rivers and International Lakes of 1992"; (ii) the "Law on the Non-Navigational Uses of International Rivers" of 1997, and the draft Volta Basin Water Charter.

In addition, the Ministers agreed on the following:

- Holding of the 8th ordinary meeting of the VBA Council of Ministers in the first quarter of 2021 in Bamako (MALI);
- Organize the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government of the VBA before the end of 2021. To this end, the Ministers are invited to make an appeal to their Heads of State to draw their attention to the importance of adopting the Volta Basin Water Charter.
- The choice of **Hon. Cecilia Abena Dapaah**, Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources, Republic of Ghana to chair the VBA Council of Ministers for the period 2019-2020.

The Ministers were received on appointment by His Excellency NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDU, President of the Republic of Ghana demonstrated his willingness to support the Authority in the implementation of its mandate;

The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the president;

They sent profound gratitude to the Technical and Financial Partners for their constant support to Volta Basin Authority The Ministers expressed their sincere gratitude to **His Excellency Mr. Rock Marc Christian KABORE**, President of Burkina Faso, Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of VBA for his personal involvement in the process that has led to the holding of this session.

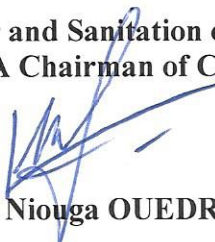
At the end of their deliberations, the Ministers thanked the Water Department, the Government and the people of Ghana for the warm and fraternal welcome they received during their stay in this beautiful country.



Done in Accra, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019, in English and French, both versions being equally authentic.

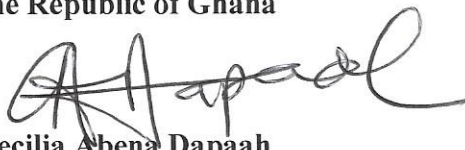
Signed:

**Minister for Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso  
Representative of VBA Chairman of Council of Ministers**



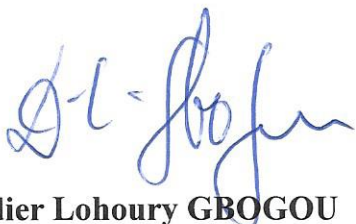
**Ambroise Niouga OUEDRAOGO**

**Minister of Sanitation and Water Resources of  
The Republic of Ghana**



**Cecilia Abena Dapaah**

**Director at the Office of the Minister  
Representing the Minister of Water and  
Forestry of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire**



**Didier Lohoury GBOGOU**

**Director at the Office of the Minister  
Representing the Minister of Water, Rural  
Amenities and Water Supply of the  
Republic of Togo**



**Affo Boni Adjama**

**Chargé d'Affaire a.i Mali Embassy of Mali in  
Ghana, Representative of the Minister of  
Energy and Water of the Republic of Mali**



**Mr. Serge Kone**