

A new NBD Board!



Outgoing Chairman Prof. Oweyegha-Afunaduula handing over the mantle to Board Chairman Dr. Emad Adly

The Nile Basin Discourse General Assembly on October 16th renewed its top leadership with the internationally renowned Dr. Emad Adly returning to become the Chairman after two years of absence from the position. He replaces Prof. Oweyegha-Afunaduula who said he was giving way for fresh leadership of the civil society organisation.

The GA followed a Board meeting the previous day. The Sudan NDF also made sure Board Members present had to see the White Nile's Jebel Aulia Dam a few kilometers south of Khartoum city. The lunch was served to all the visitors at a rest house overlooking the dam.

While accepting the position of NBD Chairman, Dr. Emad acknowledged the challenges ahead particularly resource constraints, social, and political differences in the Nile basin. He pledged to work with

everyone and to be guided by wisdom and knowledge to steer NBD forward. He thanked the Outgoing Executive members, secretariat staff and the NDFs for leading and steering NBD to where it is now.

Among the issues deliberated upon by the General Assembly were Policy and Governance in some NDFs, the roles and mandates of the NDFs, funding and budget allocation, accountability and visibility of NDFs among others.

As the assembly day drew to a close, Dr. M. Shaddad encouraged participants to keep the dialogue alive. He especially pointed at the need for continued support to the NBD cause which is to reduce poverty, address the challenges in the region such as climate change and conflict.

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Focus on NDFs governance structures

BY ABBY ONENCAN

Nile Basin Discourse (NBD's) strength and voice emanates from of its constituents – the ten National Discourse Forums (NDFs). NDFs are the major corner-stones of NBD. One of the major constraining factor to NBD's effectiveness is the lack of adequate strategy and governance structures at the national level to give effect to NBD's organizational vision.

Developing capacity involves the whole person and is a long-term process, not attainable through short training courses. It demands follow up and assistance with reflection on action. One of NBD's core aim in the coming years will be enhancing self-regulation and democratic governance of the

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- Researching Nile Cooperation
- Kenya and the CFA
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- Burundi NDF engaged in transboundary waters

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NBD News

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EDITORIAL

Welcome yet again to another edition of Nile Voices newsletter.

There have been many developments since August. There have also been changes in the NBD top leadership. We bring you highlights from the NBD General Assembly held in Khartoum, Sudan on October 16th, 2010. The Sudan Nile Discourse Forum and the NBD secretariat must be praised for hosting the General Assembly delegates and the Sudan Minister for Irrigation.

The contents of the Nile Voices newsletter should start showing real activities of NBD in the 10 Nile Basin Countries. So far we have some short reports from some of the NDFs. In this edition, you will notice content from the secretariat too and more to come.

The last time we published Nile Voices, we had no Staff in Tanzania and DR Congo. However, now there are staff in Tanzania and the DR Congo. We must start reading about the NBD engagements in those countries soon.

In our next issue, we plan to introduce a section for letters from the readers, and as for this issue, we will publish one reaction to the previous newsletter.

Otherwise, we thank you for taking time to read our news updates and we hope what you read in here will enrich your knowledge about Civil Society engagement in Nile Cooperation and Development. We also request you to spread our news by sharing it with your networks, friends and people of goodwill.

In case you have good ideas on how to better improve our newsletter, do not hesitate to write to the editorial committee by e-mail to: media@nilebasindiscourse.org. Also if you wish to submit an opinion in relation to our activities, please use the same e-mail address.

EX-CHAIR SAYS FAREWELL!



Prof. Oweyegha-Afunaduula

HIS MESSAGE TO THE NBD BOARD AND G.A.

Allow me to express my satisfaction with your positive response to the invitation extended to you by the outgoing Chair to participate in the GA and Board processes in Khartoum Sudan.

It was great being with you as you made befitting decisions to ensure that NBD is a shining example in our region regarding governance change and renewal. You approved all the governance instruments we innovated. You also showed that we do respect our governance instruments to the full at NBD level. This should continue.

I am hopeful and confident that under the leadership of Dr. Emad and the new Board, and with the continuing technical support by our able staff at the NBD Secretariat, our organisation will prosper and become a major weapon with which to build regionalism in such a way that the local and the regional penetrate and support each other.

As we struggle to enhance the visibility of our NDFs, which we must do, let us always remember that NBD is a regional organisation, which must grow as such, and work collectively to ensure that its contribution to building regionalism in our Continent is recognized worldwide.

In the next 2 years let us all work to ensure that NBD is connected to each and every like organisation in the world. NBD can take the lead in establishing a network of river-based regional civil society organisations in Africa and the world.

As I stressed in my speech to you, let us expand the funding (i.e. resource base) of NBD by launching new programmes -at least 3 new programmes in the next 2 years. One of these, as I have repeatedly said, should be on Climate Change and Development. With only one programme, the future of NBD is not secure. Even the future security of our staff is jeopardised and uncertain.

Thank you once again for the opportunity you gave me to serve as Chair of this great organisation. It was a welcome test of my capacity and resolve to see that NBD goes only one way: forwards.

Farewell

Prof. Oweyegha-Afunaduula
Ex Chair, NBD

The NBD Vision: "A Nile Basin, which is secure, where resources are equitably and sustainably developed and managed, benefiting all its inhabitants."

NBD's New Board

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The new board stands as follows:

Dr. Emad Adly, Chairperson
 Chirchir Wesley, Vice chairperson
 Mama Asia Kapende, Secretary General
 Habiyaremye Jean Baptiste, Treasurer
 Ato. Berhane Kelati, Member
 Ato. Tessera Worq Shimeles, Member
 Emmanuel Nshimirimana, Member
 Dr. Malikusha Meni, Member
 Prof. Asim Moghraby, Member
 Joseph Mulindwa Member

Who left?

- Prof. Oweyegha Afunaduula from Uganda: He was the NBD Chairman since 2008.
- Mohamed Mahmoud from Egypt: He was NBD treasurer since 2008
- Abiy Hailu from Ethiopia: He was the NBD Board Vice Chairman.

Using research to enhance Nile Cooperation

The Nile Research programme recently held a conference to discuss collaborations in the Nile Basin hosted by Makerere University, Kampala, 25th-27th October 2010. The conference climax was the launching of 4 books published by the programme.

NBD PDM&E Officer, Sarah Naigaga, was there and shares her perspective on emerging concerns directly or indirectly linked to Nile cooperation processes.

1. The Nile is a transboundary unit

It is not disputed that transboundary waters form a natural unit and should be treated as such. However, within the Nile Basin are territories, lifestyles, resources, wealth and health among others. It is for this reason that all countries are obliged to cooperate.

2. Little publishing on the Nile cooperation

Notable are the efforts to cooperate on creating institutions for active development (the Nile Sec, ENTRO and NELSAP CU) but there is need to facilitate understanding as some countries strongly say existing arrangements are sufficient and there is no need for signing a new agreement. Unfortunately, there is very little published literature on the Nile Cooperation, making the topic good for further research.

3. Support institutional development to address the knowledge gaps on Nile cooperation

This will address knowledge gaps since it will

enable the multi-disciplines to interact to overcome the current divisions in perception. It should also be observed that all countries have water development plans to address the losses, shortages and challenges but need to cooperate to ensure sufficient availability of the water.

4. Climate change messages should be clear

Climate change is another key factor that should oblige countries to cooperate. Little action has been registered because messages on climate change are not specific enough and therefore possibly being dismissed as a science of speculation. Social factors and interventions are contributory but more awareness about the future climate in the Nile basin and its implications is needed. Little is known and understood about the internal controls or trends. This therefore calls for sympathetic approaches to perceptions and opinions as the agenda and debates emerge but will greatly benefit from research.

5. Strengthen collaborations between researchers and NGOs for wider dissemination of research

There is no doubt collaborations and partnerships in knowledge generation and dissemination will benefit Nile Cooperation. There is need to establish and strengthen collaborations between Researchers and NGOs to fill the knowledge gaps and enrich the available information disseminated by NGOs.

NBD-NBI to jointly mobilise resources



Dr. Wael Khairy

The NBD and NBI will partner in resource mobilisation to address issues regarding water management and Climate Change in the Nile Basin. This was one of the issues that was discussed on October 22, 2010 when the NBD Regional Manager Abby M. Onencan met NBI Executive Director Dr. Wael Khairy at his office in Entebbe.

It was the first time both executives were meeting since they had just recently taken up their positions. Ms Onencan was also introduced to NBI staff during their tea break.

Dr. Khairy on his part promised that NBI will support

and participate in NBD's planned multi-stakeholder forum on Nile Cooperation and Development that has been scheduled for the fourth week of January 2011.

The meeting at Dr. Khairy's office included NBD's Programme Development, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer Sarah Naigaga and NBI's Stakeholders Participation and Gender Specialist Ms. Emerita Mugorewicyeza.

They also discussed strengthening NBI-NBD communication teams, the role of NBD in the development and dissemination of the Nile Basin environmental policies and how to implement the NBI-NBD Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU).

As a result of the meeting, Dr. Khairy requested that the issue of the NBD-NBI MOU be taken to NBI's think tank to seek ways of improving relations with NBD. He appointed Ms. Emerita Mugorewicyeza as the NBI contact with NBD.

The NBD team later met NBI's Head of Strategic Planning and Management Dr. Canisius Kanangire who stated that NBD is a good and useful partner serving the same vision and almost the same objectives.

Dr. Kanangire emphasised that NBI needs the NBD to complement what its doing.

He said NBI would like to fulfil the promise to implement all that is being done with NBD. He said Emerita was playing a leading role of liaison and this will be good for the Communication desks, national desks and the ED to link up with NBD. He encouraged the NBI's SAPs to work with NBD because they are on the ground.

Dr. Kanangire then expressed the need for more sessions to look at joint activity implementation with NBD and conveyed his thoughts of NBD having grown since 2009 and had now obtained high visibility. He however observed and warned that "as one climbs higher, the risk of falling can be high."

NILE EQUATORIAL LAKES

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Kenyans Support CFA!

By Nancy Mwaka

Most Kenyans are in support for the CFA and are looking forward to the time when it will be a adopted/ratified by all nations of the Nile Basin.

Although they empathize with the situation/ position the other countries find themselves in most residents of the lowlands have for many years contended with effects of floods, displacement, loss of lives and livelihoods, disease outbreak; loss of natural/intrinsic heritage (burial sites, worship areas, recreational facilities)

At the highlands, population pressure and inappropriate farming techniques have led to an influx into the Nile's water towers; and an over dependence of the natural resource base;

leading to wanton destruction of forests.

The entire country feels the effects of the destruction of the Nile's two water towers the Mau and Cherenganyi hills.

With efforts underway to rehabilitation the Mau most Kenyans feel the need to address the problem in the rivers lowlands. They that damming is an option they would like considered especially for rivers Nyando, Yala, Nzoia, Sio and Njoro.

KNDF TO REVIEW CONSTITUTION

The most popular word in Kenyans mouth is indeed a mouthful .Promulgation! After reading, understanding and deciding Kenyans of legal age freely exercised their democratic right by voting for the replacement of our old constitution. On 21st August 2010, Kenya promulgated her new constitution at Uhuru Park, Nairobi. KNDF is not to be left behind. Given the new dispensation KNDF has now embarked on a journey aimed at harmonizing constitution with that of NBD .We even have our very own committee of Experts!!

Other news from KNDF

Progress Report

The KNDF team went on a fact finding mission to the NBI Projects sites of Busia (U.); Malaba (K) Angurai(K) Bomet(K). The team was able to meet up with Ugandan counterparts and were able to hold discussions with the NBI project manager for Mara River Basin; and are holding talks with the SMM project manager.

Planned events

Build-up activities for the national forums. Investigation on compensation policies of the NBI to begin shortly
New office at Mega City along Nairobi road strategically situated next to NGO Coordination board, USAID, JICA and Post office Nakumatt in Kisumu.

Burundi NDF visit Bugesera

Burundi NDF in September 2010 visited the transboundary waters areas of Bugesera in Northern Burundi. The visiting team consisted of 4 persons including a journalist and an official from Burundi's ministry of water and environment. The two others were a consultant and the Burundi NDF National Programme Coordinator.

In a detailed report of their findings the team aimed at analysing: the natural resources of the Bugesera Region and their vulnerability; the usage of water resource in the region and its trend; the existing consultation frameworks related to the utilization of water resources and to analyze protected areas management system in the region and its role in the community development.

On the NDF's national forum, two issues identified for discussion were sustainable management of the transboundary Bugesera Region which faces drought (protection of the Lakes biodiversity, the Kanyaru wetland sustainable management, fish farming resources management); and Creation of a permanent consultation framework between Burundi and Rwanda for a sustainable management of the Bugesera Region aquatic landscape (agreement on the sustainable management of lakes and rivers of Bugesera / Commission for the management of lakes and rivers of Bugesera).

On September 17th, 2010, the NDF held its General Assembly at which the new NBD programme was presented, the NDF's 5-year strategic plan was also discussed in addition to networking which was positively welcomed by members.

The NDF is now lobbying to have the "common vision" of environmental organizations presented to the newly elected members of parliament and new government officials.

Fishing in Bugesera



Local people fishing in a Bugesera lake which is drying up

The NBD Mission: "To ensure that a fully informed and basin-wide civil society develops and plays a key role in achieving the vision through proactive and critical influencing of projects, programs and policies of the Nile Basin Initiative and development processes." 5

Rwanda NDF in Climate Change dialogue



Micro hydro power unit in Butaro Sector, Burera District

Recently three institutions (START (The Global Change System for Analysis, Research and Training), Kigali Institute of Science and Technology as well as the University of Dar es Salaam) jointly held a Science Dialogue on Climate Change in Rwanda.

The dialogue was attended by Rwanda's Minister of Environment and Lands of the Republic of Rwanda. Also present were the Rector and Directors of the three institutions, teaching staff from various institutions of higher learning in East Africa.

NBDF Rwanda National Programme Coordinator John Gakumba was invited to make presentations on climate change status in Rwanda on behalf of NBDF-CC DARE Project due to their advocacy and involvement as well as the information disseminated from the NDF's previous funding from the Danish Foreign Ministry with support of UNEP and UNDP CC DARE Program.

According to Gakumba, the results of Rwanda NDF's study on identifying best practices to climate change and their film covering all provinces of Rwanda were some of the most crucial scenarios most appreciated during the presentation.

The two days' workshop was aimed at sourcing and identifying recommendations which the academia can give policy makers in various sub-saharan Africa.

Gakumba says he will share more of the information as they are lobbying for more CIF/World Bank funding for civil society and private sector. "I feel we have achieved some of the most important strategies for a partnership," he says and reveals that he plans to travel to Washington D.C. to participate in another Trust Fund Committee for Clean Technology Transfer.

As a result, he is requesting for recommendations that he can communicate to CIF/World Bank in regard to Clean Technology Transfer Fund for our African region.

Focus on NDFs governance structures

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NDFs as an entry point towards nurturing a Nile Basin where resources are equitably and sustainably developed and managed, benefiting all its inhabitants. This will be done through regular visits, mentorship, coaching, celebrating best practices together and peer to peer learning.

This also involves promoting an NBD organizational culture aimed at: enhancing NDF focus, building strategic partnerships, promoting teamwork, enabling NDFs to take ownership and ensuring that NBD interventions are culturally sensitive. In addition, it will also entail strengthening NBD's direction through strengthening its leadership and management. NDFs capacity to deliver needs to be enhanced through capacity development in: communication, membership development, policy development, client engagement, technical leadership, technology, resource mobilization, analytical thinking & problem solving, project and financial management.

The current NBD programme funded by DFID is key because it is aimed at addressing a number of these capacity development challenges. However, the bulk of the proposed capacity development work lies in helping NBD, as a whole, to correctly identify a combination of systems, structures, styles or environmental factors limiting performance and selecting the right mix of tools, methods and strategies to bring about the required changes.

Implementing the DFID programme for the last 6 months has brought to fore the fact that NBD is a family full of diversity and this should always be taken into account in programming, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation. Diversity streams not only from the different backgrounds, nationalities, languages and religions but to the legal and regulatory fabric that enables the NDFs to operate. A good example is the legal registration of NDFs which might be a right in one country and a privilege in another. To resolve this we must be alive to the real issues on the ground.

NBD strength is dependent on the strength of all its constituent parts. When one of its constituent parts is weak, no matter how strong NBD is, it is weak. Emphasis on strengthening the strong while uplifting the weak should be our focus and we should only give up when we are convinced that we are riding a dead horse.

EAST NILE

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ETHIOPIA NDF'S FORUM SUCCESSFUL

By Ayenew Tesera

The Ethiopian National Discourse Forum (EtNDF) held its national multi-stakeholder forum on September 24, 2010 with three interrelated themes - Benefits and costs of the Cooperative Framework Agreement for Ethiopia, Nile Cooperation and its socio-economic implications for the basin communities in Ethiopia and Environmental challenges to sustainable development in the Eastern Nile basin.

The forum aimed at raising awareness on benefits of Nile cooperation, the costs of non-cooperation and to mobilise support of the public and other stakeholders in Ethiopia to promote Nile cooperation towards positive conclusion while assessing and defining the benefits, risks and vulnerabilities experienced by communities participating in NBI development programs and projects.

Four subjects were presented on the areas of Nile cooperation, academic review of equitable utilisation of the Nile, ENSAP and implications of cooperation on Nile communities and the implications of climate change on Nile resources.

- i. The Nile River Cooperative framework Agreement: background, Negotiation Process, Current Status and the way forward by a representative from Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- ii. An assessment of Benefit Sharing and Equitable Utilization of trans-boundary river basin by Dr. Semu from Addis Ababa University.
- iii. Nile Cooperation and its socio-economic implications for the basin communities in Ethiopia by Dr. Wubalem from ENTRO
- iv. Environmental challenges to sustainable development in the Eastern Nile Basin by Mr. Gideon Asfaw, former Regional Program Manager for NTEAP.

The presentations shed light and availed insight into the process of CFA negotiation and benefits of cooperation to riparian countries by reflecting on the practical developmental implication of non-cooperation on current ENSAP programs.

As the process of negotiation was high level the forum was one of the first venues to facilitate dialogue on the current issues of Nile cooperation for the civil society sector.

Participation at the forum consisted of officials from government, universities and research institutions, civil society organisations, local and international non governmental organisations, professional associations (women, youth and teacher Associations), UN Agencies, development partners or donors and the media, all totalling to 91 participants.

A lively discussion followed the presentations and the background to this is such that the topical issue of Nile cooperation is receiving media coverage triggering off public interest and hence the forum got actively engaged in discussing with



Participants attentive during the National Multi-stakeholder Forum in Addis Ababa

and seeking clarifications from presenters.

The discussion sessions raised the following important points:-

- What does the CFA mean for riparian states?
- What is the way forward for the current status of the CFA, with 5 countries signed, 2 on the way to signing and 2 not signed?
- Why have Rwanda and DRC not signed yet?
- What is the implication of the CFA on ODA?
- What are the implications of non-cooperation on development engagements and programs?

In response, respective presenters stated that the CFA is about realizing equitable and rationale water utilization, the agreement presents a new chapter in the history of Nile cooperation which enables the reversal of colonial legacy and enables states to meet developmental priorities by underscoring the need to poverty reduction and sustainable development.

With respect to the way forward, upon the fulfilment of a 6th signatory, the CFA will enter into force and will be followed by its ratification.

On of the points that emerged from the forum was that it is not clear as to why Rwanda and DRC have not yet signed but are expected to sign in the near future and that there is no linked implication between the CFA process and ODA, the CFA is a matter restricted to national sovereignty which does not allow external involvement.

Participants heard that the implication of non-cooperation is the enhancement of food insecurity, exacerbation of environmental degradation and adverse implications on the progress of current developmental engagements. It was evident from the discussion that the shared sentiment of the participants is that cooperation amongst riparian states is key for mutually benefiting and sustainably utilizing the Nile.

Recommendations to the organizers included extending the level of awareness amongst the sector, enhancing youth participation in dialogues, integrating the gender perspective into thematic issues and facilitating cross learning and sharing amongst other CSOs in other regions of the Nile.

In order to witness the regional impact, there must be increased involvement of the Civil Society in the Nile development and cooperation process. - Dr. Emad Adly, NBD Board Chairman, October 2010.

Sudan NDF hosts NBD-Sec



NBD Regional Manager Ms. Abby Onencan (right) answering a TV journalist's questions at the Sudan News Agency (SUNA) offices in Khartoum City on October 15, 2010



Prof. Asim Mograby (left) and a member of the Sudan NDF at a Press Conference to announce the 4th NBD General Assembly in Khartoum.



Taheer flashing a trademark smile outside the Sudan NDF offices. He was welcoming the NBD Sec. staff who visited the offices October 15, 2010.



LOOK HERE: This is Hind El-Tigani (right) the Sudan NDF Programme Assistant stressing a critical point to the NBD Finance Officer Herbert Wairugala at the SNDF offices in Khartoum.

Finance tips for NDFs

HOW TO GET IT RIGHT THE FIRST TIME

BY HERBERT WAIRUGALA

The need to work as a team so as to achieve our objectives is increasingly becoming more important than ever before. In order to ensure that our vision is observed and our mission on course, the NBD Secretariat is mandated to remit funds to NDFs so that all approved activities in the work plans are implemented. The NDFs in turn are always expected to account for the funds advanced in a specified time frame.

From historical perspectives, remittance of funds, which is integrated into accounting for the advance, has always met many challenges and, as a result, led to delayed implementation of activities and also delayed remittance of future funds.

Before the NDF sends the financial reports package, the following should be a check on getting it right the first time:

1. Please enter all the transactions in chronological order following their dates separately for \$ and Local Currency. This should be done immediately there is a transaction being made to avoid a last minute rush and errors.
2. Please check that the \$ and Local Currency Bank Reconciliation Statements have balanced off to zero. The templates were sent with formulae to check the status.
3. Ensure that the codes are entered correctly and that each transaction is coded.
4. The Petty Cash Book should be used whenever funds worth \$200 (or its

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OUTSIDE THE SNDF OFFICE: Herbert Warugala, Ms. Abby Onencan, Ms. Sarah Naigaga, Khalifa (SNDF SC) and Ms Jennifer Kurubeija before leaving the building housing the SNDF office.

NILE BASIN DISCOURSE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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The NBD 2010 GA Delegates

BURUNDI

- Nshimirimana Emmanuel (Chairperson)
- Sikuyavuga Leandre
- Gakima Cecile

RWANDA

- Mr. Habiyaremye J Baptiste (Vice President)
- Safari Emmanuel
- Ms. Mukakamari Dancilla (General Secretary)

ERITREA

- Solomon Fesseha Ewal
- Yosslef Embaye Ghidey
- Berhane Woldeselassie Kelati

DR CONGO

- Octave Kambale Juakali (Chairperson)
- Malikiwisha Meni
- Mathias Kwabene Mwanga

EGYPT

- Dr. Emad Adly (Chairman)
- Mohamed Mohmoud El Sayed
- Raouf Kamal

UGANDA

- Prof. Oweyegha Afunaduula (Chairperson)
- Ms. Sarah Kisolo (General Secretary)
- Mulindwa Joseph

KENYA

- Wesley Chirchir (Chairman)
- Roseline Eshikumo (Treasurer)
- Rev. Joe Asila

TANZANIA

- Ms. Asia K Kapande (Chairperson)
- Mrs. Melania Bitakwate
- Christian Byamungu

ETHIOPIA

- Mr. Feyera Abdi (Chair)
- Mr. Mengesha Workneh
- Mr. Tesseraworq Shimeles (V/Chair)

SUDAN

- Prof. Asim Ibrahim AL Moghrabi (Chairman)
- Mr. Adil Mohamed Ali
- Ms. Magda Hassan



ABBY & ABIY: The NBD Regional Manager Abby Onencan (left) posing with former NBD Board Chair Abiy Hailu at the Jebel Aulia Dam on the White Nile south of Khartoum City.



SPECIAL GUIDE: Prof. M. Shadad explains a point to members of the NBD secretariat and the NBD Board on a bus taking them to see the Jebel Aulia dam.



Former Acting Regional Manager Sarah Naigaga says goodbye to former NBD Board treasurer Mohamed Mahmud

CHALLENGE: The signing of the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA) created more challenges which we hope will be resolved soon. - NBI Head Strategic Planning and Management Dr. Canisius Kanangire while addressing NBD Board-Staff meeting last July. 9



Sudan Minister for Irrigation (2nd left) making his remarks before opening the NBD 4th General Assembly in Khartoum.



NBD Regional Manager Ms. Abby Onencan (right) collecting the filled ballots during the voting session of the General Assembly.



Members of the General Assembly picking up copies of NBD Printed documents and the September 2010 Nile Voices newsletter.

Finance tips for NDFs

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equivalent) have been withdrawn from the bank for petty transactions in the office like tea items, quick stationery purchase, etc. This amount should be replenished once \$150 (or its equivalent) has been used up and the replenished amount should be exactly what was used up. The petty cash reconciliation will then assist the NDF to reconcile the cash in the box with what was spent. Petty cash should be up to \$200 (or its equivalent) at all times.

5. The Summary report gives you an opportunity to list all transactions and view them in one snapshot. They will include all transactions from the bank book for both \$ and Local Currency (in the cheque column) and also those from the petty cash book (in the cash column). The Rate of Exchange will be required for transactions that were made in Local Currency.

6. The BvA\$ will provide information given from the summary report in a more detailed format. It will require the NDF to show monthly transactions according to the dates provided in the summary report. This implies that the BvA\$ should tally with the summary report.

7. The Quarterly Expenditure Report will then summarize the transactions entered in the BvA\$ per budget code. This also implies that this report will reconcile with BvA\$ and the Summary report.

8. Remember that the financial report and the progress report should always read from the same page.

The above will need to always be accompanied with a scanned copy of the bank statements and hard copies of all payment vouchers to be sent to the Secretariat.

If the above financial reporting steps are followed, then you will have gotten it right the first time.

FOCUS ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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A brief about Dr. Emad and NBD

His interest in the environment developed at an early age especially backed by his father who already called him a doctor as a child. He was born September 3, 1957, raised and educated on Manial Island on the River Nile. He grew up seeing both the eastern and western banks of the Nile for the first 30 years of his life. Today this father of two is again the Chair of the Nile Basin Discourse.

His environment career was started with some university colleagues with whom they established the Arab Office for youth and environment (AOYE) in 1978 two years before he graduated in Medicine. His turning point was however in 1979 when UNESCO asked AOYE to implement for three years, a programme on environmental education all over the country (Egypt), bringing him into contact with CBOs, Private sector, Research Organisations, and many others.

In 1981, Dr. Emad for the first time attended a UN conference on new and renewable energy. It was right after that conference that he got more involved in national, regional and international movements and conferences.

"I was one of the leaders preparing for the civil society movements for the Rio 1992 till Jo'burg 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development," he says.

For the Nile Basin activism, his entrance was when he was invited to attend a meeting at the IUCN headquarters in 2002. At this meeting, he vividly recalls that he was with other civil society leaders from eight Nile Basin countries. It was at this meeting, organized by IUCN, World Bank and UNDP where the idea of was mooted to establish a Nile Basin Discourse that will involve the civil society in Nile Basin development and cooperation.

"With my colleagues and founders we established the Nile Discourse Forums in 8 countries. We had a Desk in Entebbe, Uganda. Our first General Assembly was in Nairobi in December 2003 where I was elected unanimously as Chair of NBD. However, one year later we had to close down our office in Entebbe due to lack of funding," says Dr. Emad.

"In March 2003 we sent a delegation Kyoto, Japan to attend the World Water forum. It was here that we met a number of donors including DFID who later in 2005 presented it's willingness to revive NBD," he says.

He has also worked for UNDP where he now chairs the Small grants programme of the Global Environmental Facility.

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What a great team you led! Former NBD Board Treasurer Mogamed Mahmoud seems to be telling Former chair prof. Oweyegha Afunaduula.



All those who seconded the candidate, please step forward: (L-R) Emmanuel Nshimirimaana, Rosalyn Eshikumo, Abby Onencan, and Dr. Malikwisha verifying the ballots.

“WHY NBD? There is a growing perception that the Civil Society can add value to the Nile Basin intergovernmental processes.” - Sarah Naigaga, Acting Regional Manager at the NBD staff induction (2010-2012)



Dr. Emad Adly (right) chairing the first adhoc executive meeting of the new NBD Board immediately after the members were elected.



PDM & E Officer Sarah Naigaga (left) meeting NBD's Advocacy Officers Bethlehem Mengistu (EN subregion) and Emmanuel Rugumire Makuza (NEL subregion) in Khartoum.



Drink Nile, eat Nile; One Nile - One Family. NBD General Assembly members at the dinner soon after the assembly.

Dr. Emad and NBD

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In his plans for NBD, Dr. Emad believes that in order for the organisation to be strong, it must have strong NDFs so that they can realise a regional impact.

He says that in order to witness the regional impact, there must be increased involvement of the Civil Society in the Nile development and cooperation process. He wants to expand and enhance NBD's participation in regional and transboundary cooperation.

He plans to strengthen NBD's partnership with NBI and with different regional, African organisations or programmes while making NBD the voice of the CS in those organisations.

He also says it will be very important to partner with NBI and all its institutions both regional and national.

“We want to give a model of Unity in the Nile Basin, that governments may not have the ability to show,” he asserts.

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Dates and times are subject to change Please check our website for additional information

EVENTS UPDATE

NEL subregion

NBD Subregional Forum
Kigali, Rwanda

Stakeholders' Forum
November 24th-25th
Kampala, Uganda

Other upcoming events
NBI Media training workshop
- November 16th-19th
Kigali, Rwanda

EN subregion

NBD Subregional Forum
February 2011
- 20th - 21st - Cairo, Egypt

Other upcoming events
3rd African Water week
November
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

NILE VOICES

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