



Summary of the 80th Meetings Scientific and Technical Council

80th STC

THEME :

**TECHNOLOGICAL
INNOVATIONS
TO IMPROVE THE
PERFORMANCE AND
EFFICIENCY OF WATER
AND SANITATION
OPERATORS IN AFRICA**



**FROM 19th TO 23rd NOVEMBER 2018
DJIBOUTI**





PREAMBLE

Under the theme :

«Technological innovations to improve the performance and efficiency of water and sanitation operators in Africa»,

the 80th session of the Scientific and Technical Council (STC) of the African Water Association (AfWA) was held from November 19 to 23, 2018 in Djibouti, under the aegis of ONEAD (Djibouti Water and Sanitation Corporation).

120 delegates, including Regular Members (water and sanitation utilities), Affiliate Members (WASH sector equipment and technology providers) and individual members met in Djibouti capital city to discuss the issue of access to water and sanitation services on the continent.

Alongside the scientific and technical work, the traditional Exhibition of Water and Sanitation Service Providers was held. A total of 22 exhibitors also met throughout the event to propose their technology to improve the efficiency of water and sanitation utilities.



OPENING CEREMONY

After a short film projection on the technological innovations implemented within ONEAD, for the effective and efficient management of water, the honor went to its Managing Director, Mr. Mohamad FOUAD ABDO, to open the series of speeches. He welcomed all participants and expressed his gratitude to AfWA for organizing this 80th meeting in his country. In presenting the situation of access to water, the Managing Director noted the difficult supply conditions that had led the government to set up a Drinking Water Supply Master Plan. Thus, important projects have been undertaken, including transboundary water supply from Ethiopia to meet the population's demand.

Following this, the Executive Director of AfWA, Mr. Sylvain USHER, thanked the President of the Republic of Djibouti, His Excellency Mr. ISMAÏL OMAR GUELLEH, *«who kindly agreed to have this meeting held in his country and for all the facilities that the delegations have enjoyed since their arrival in Djibouti»*. He congratulated the women of ONEAD for their dynamism and for the perfect organization of this STC. Returning to the transboundary water supply project from Ethiopia, he said that AfWA is very sensitive to it because it contributes to increasing the population's access to drinking water. Addressing the delegates who came to attend the meeting, he stressed the urgent need to share experiences in order to win the challenge of resilience to the problems of the water and sanitation sector, common to Africa.

The President of the STC, Dr. Papa SAMBA DIOP, expressed his joy at meeting the water and sanitation family to discuss the issues in order to find appropriate solutions. He commended the Djibouti people for their hospitality, warm welcome and availability. Approaching the theme of the STC, Dr. Papa SAMBA DIOP recalled a quote from author Robert CAMP in his book *Benchmarking*: *«Whoever wants to improve must measure himself and whoever wants to become the best must compare himself»*. He said he was convinced that the meeting would make it possible to *«revisit the methods of calculating performance in order to achieve good benchmarking»*.

The Minister of Agriculture, Water, Fishery, Livestock and Fisheries Resources of Djibouti, Mr. Mohamad AHMED AWALEH, closed the series of speeches. He stressed the benefits of technological innovations and the sharing of experience in the development of nations; they help severe to meet enormous challenges in situations. The Minister drew everyone's attention on the difficulties ahead in 2050, due to Africa's rapidly growing population. He took the opportunity to invite donors to finance infrastructure that is profitable over time. He finally expressed the wish to see the emergence in Africa of revolutionary technologies that could serve as an example to other nations.

The overall view of Djibouti hydraulic sector and ONEAD were presented to the delegates.



Djibouti's Minister of Agriculture, Water, Fishery, Livestock and Fisheries Resources, Mr. Mohamad AHMED AWALEH, cut the symbolic ribbon marking the opening of the exhibition and the end of the opening ceremony. He visited each one of the 22 exhibitors to discover what they propose as a solution to the issue of access to water and sanitation.



During the exchanges with the exhibitors, the Minister thanked them for their presence at this meeting and encouraged them to continue their search for innovative technologies to solve the problem.



HIGH LEVEL PANEL

After the opening ceremony held earlier in the morning, the afternoon was devoted to various conferences, including the high-level panel. Five panelists briefed delegates and all participants on the theme of the conference.



Mr. Pierre M. TERRIER, Managing Director of VALTERRA INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING, presented his solution called WATA SANITATION SYSTEM, enabling private and public operators to ensure the disposal and treatment of waste materials in urban and rural areas under optimal environmental impact conditions. A center was inaugurated in Djibouti on the margins of the STC meeting.

Mr. Cyrille LEMOINE - Managing Director - VEOLIA- NEROXIS, presented the KAPTA technology for the monitoring and securing of drinking water networks and SWARM for the monitoring and surveillance of fresh water resources.

Mr. Benoit POINSOT - Managing Director of SOC, a subsidiary of the NGE group, a specialist in the water cycle and the French leader in vacuum sanitation, shared his experience of more than 40 years in the processes that make it possible to collect, treat, transport and distribute drinking water; then to collect, treat and return waste water to the natural environment, with the least impact on the environment.



Mr. Mohamed Fouad Abdo - Managing Director of Djibouti Water and Sanitation Corporation (ONEAD) recalled the mission of his corporation, that of implementing the necessary means for the production and distribution of water in the city of Djibouti and in the urban centers of the inland regions. The Company operates and maintains drinking water infrastructure, ensures water quality and protects resources. ONEAD has taken up the challenge of water availability, the fear of thirst



having been overcome with the implementation of the Ethiopia-Djibouti drinking water supply project and the launch of the desalination project, the resource has now become sufficient to support development projects. Sanitation is not to be underestimated and is competing remarkably well with drinking water this year, he said.



Mr. Olivier GOSSO - Director of Production of SODECI (COTE D'IVOIRE) showed how SODECI's technological innovations have been used by SODECI to meet the ever-increasing demands of subscribers, to improve customer relations and the utility's operational and financial performance; to respond to the growing changes in the production tool and workforce, to inspire the confidence of lenders and development partners, to strengthen the company's skills and professionalism and social responsibility. Today, SODECI is one of the main public services in Africa and recognized by professionals in the water sector worldwide. It is the first private public utility in Africa to be certified AFAQ ISO 9001.

Mr. EDNICK MSWELI - Water and Sanitation Project Manager of eTHEKWINI Durban in South Africa, presented eThekweni Water and Sanitation, a unit of the Municipality of Durban, responsible for providing water and sanitation services to all customers in the municipality. The unit is constantly looking for new and innovative ways to provide better services to its customers and has been recognized with numerous Awards and Distinctions.



Presentations of new technologies to accelerate sustainable access to water and sanitation for all in Africa

Case study 1: VINCI CONSTRUCTION - THE LARGE DJIBOUTI PROJECTS

In 2011, the ONEAD (Djibouti Water and Sanitation Corporation) awarded VINCI Construction Grands Projects a contract for the rehabilitation and extension of the drinking water network in the city of Djibouti.



The project consisted in the rehabilitation of 50 km of pipelines and the construction of 6,000 private connections for 39,650 subscribers, the repair of 100 leaks on the existing ONEAD network, the rehabilitation of 4 Reservoirs and 3 water towers, the Construction and rehabilitation of 46 boreholes and Telemetry, the design and construction of metal tanks and pumping stations, the supply of

equipment and operating materials, the audit and leak detection on the entire network, the installation of 13 km of distribution networks and the design and construction of a 6 km vacuum sewerage network.

Case study 2 : EIFFAGE/TEDAGUA - WATER DESALINATION IN DJIBOUTI

Eiffage, through its subsidiary Eiffage Génie Civil, has won the contract to carry out the PEPER project (production of drinking water by renewable energy) in Djibouti.

The project, carried out in a consortium between EIFFAGE/TEDAGUA, a Spanish water treatment specialist, includes a desalination unit with a treatment capacity of 22,500 m³/day and a set of structures that will eventually guarantee a total production capacity of 45,000 m³/day. A 5,000 m³ reservoir and a 700 mm diameter pipe 8.5 km long complete the operation, in particular to connect the plant to the city's drinking water distribution network.



The plant, built in the Doraleh district, will contribute to the country's water independence and ensure the production of locally treated water for the people of Djibouti.



TECHNICAL CONFERENCES

Technical Conference 1: ITRON's solutions to accelerate the performance and efficiency of water and sanitation utilities in Africa

Technical Conference 2: COOPERATION ACTIONS IN AFRICA - SIAAP (Syndicat Interdépartemental pour l'Assainissement de l'Agglomération Parisienne) - France

Decentralized cooperation, together with international outreach actions, constitutes one of the pillars of SIAAP's international policy. It takes the form of projects that SIAAP is co-constructing with local partners.

Requested by foreign local authorities, the Union sets up cooperation actions with them - and often with other French partners - which can take different forms, namely: the implementation of sanitation master plans, the strengthening of institutional and administrative capacities of communities, the strengthening of technical capacities, financial support.

Technical Conference 3: THE KNOWLEDGE SHARING PLATFORM - TEK READER - Australia



Mr. ROSS McCaul - Head of Market Development - presented Tek Reader technology that combines intelligent content with the power of the Web. It provides an immersive eReader experience in an autonomous, identifiable and interactive online environment. This technology transforms essential static PDF documentation into high-performance digital resources while delivering an exceptional user experience on any mobile or desktop device browser. It includes an elegant, intuitive and powerful user interface managed in the cloud with nothing to download.

Technical Conference 4: SOLUTIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE PERFORMANCE OF POTABLE WATER NETWORKS - LACROIX Sofrel- France

Mr. BIARD Olivier - Export Director - AFRICA - presented TELEGESTION as an essential tool for improving the operator's performance and SECTORIZATION (DMA/PMA) as an essential basis for the reduction of non-revenue waters (NRW).



WELCOME COCKTAIL

ONEAD offered a welcome cocktail to its guests in the gardens of the Kempinski Hotel.





OPENING SESSION



The Scientific and Technical Council is one of the operational bodies of the African Water Association. Its mission is to identify, discuss and propose solutions to managerial (human, financial, legal, communication, etc.), scientific, technical or environmental challenges. To this end, two to three times a year, AfWA organizes STC sessions with members from different profiles.

The STC meeting started on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Mr. Sylvain Usher, Executive Director of the AfWA, provided an update on the meetings in which AfWA had participated. He then presented the status of AfWA's programs and projects as well as the status of membership fees. He concluded his intervention with the assessment and perspectives of the Association.

Dr. Papa Samba Diop, President of the STC, gave an overview of the STC in Kampala and summarized the activities of the second half of the year.

Mr. Mahmood LUTAAYA of the National Water and Sewerage Corporation presented the status of preparations for the 20th AfWA Congress to be held in Uganda in 2020. He took the opportunity to submit to the delegates, at their choice, the proposed logos designed for the occasion.



SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES SESSIONS

The STC is subdivided into four Specialized Committees (SCs) according to the skills of each participant. These are:

SC1 : *Management* ; **SC2** : *Technical Management of Drinking Water Operations*; **SC3** : *Technical Management of Sanitation and Environment*.
SC4 : *Strategy*.

Specialized Committee 1 (SC1) / Management

The session of SC1 was focused on the following items:

- ▶ **Follow-up of the recommendations of the Kampala STC**
- ▶ **Implementation and activity report from July to November 2018**

COMMUNICATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

- Operationalize and disseminate the use of the Knowledge Management and Sharing Platform;
- Develop a procedure to feed the GPC Platform, define the role of each and set up a Community of Practices in each company;
- Set up a TF to propose a new format for holding STCs;
- Support STC's participation in the international conference on water and sanitation on the shores of the Dex River;
- Ensure the visibility of STC actions through ICTs, national and regional media.

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Identify new topics and organize master classes;
- Capitalize on ongoing programs and strengthen Benchmarking;
- Seek opportunities for partnerships with training and other institutions;
- Develop a skills Roster.

WOMEN'S NETWORKS

- Define the terms of support for or participation of the women's network in the various activities of the STC;
- Define the format, participate in the organization of the Women's Forum and prepare in close collaboration with the host country the 3rd Women's Forum;
- Develop a Directory of Women's Competencies in the Network.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

- Ensure the follow-up of the Scholarships program with the DEx;
- Ensure the follow-up of the national JPAEA committees;
- Monitor and contribute to the preparation of the next JPAEA Forum.

STC AND ODD FORMAT

Propose a new format for STCs and ODDs

Specialized Committee 2 (SC2) / Technical Management of Drinking Water Operations

The sessions of SC 2 focused on the following:

1. Evaluate the recommendation of the Kampala STC relating to Specialized Committee;
2. Finalize the terms of reference of the international symposium on water quality;
3. Draft the concept note for the financing and implementation of the new audit program of water utilities;
4. Finalize the training programs (Anglophone et Francophone) for auditors members of the in OUAGAGDOUGOU and LILONGWE;
5. Provide the status of the capacity building project for water quality control laboratories.

Specialized Committee 3 (CS3) / Technical Management of Sanitation and Environment.

The sessions of SC 3 focused on the following:

1. Status of implementation of the SC3 roadmap;
2. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Kampala stc/July 2018;
3. Review/evaluation of the activities of the working groups and recommendations;
 - 3.1. «Fecal Sludge Management» Working Group,
 - 3.2. «Toilet for All» Working Group,
 - 3.3. «Preservation of Water Resources in Africa and Resilience to Climate Change» Working Group,
 - 3.4. «Sanitation Performance Indicators» Working Group,
4. Presentation and discussion of the progress of RASOP Africa;
5. Update on the development of the directory of African sanitation experts;
6. Monitoring and updating of the sanitation Master Class program.



THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STC

At the end of the sessions of the specialized committees, the delegates made the following recommendations:

- Streamline the opening ceremony, limiting it to three speeches (host company, AfWA, host country official) and at the inauguration of the ODD;
- Produce a press release after the end of the sessions;
- limit to 4 the number of paid Technical Conferences on the 1st day of the sessions;
- Alternate (one STC out of 2) between the high-level panel and a benchmarking activity focused on sharing innovative experiences of one or more member companies in a field (HR, Finance, Customer Management...), which is not necessarily directly related to the STC;
- Dedicate 2 days to the sessions of the SCs;
- Keep the current structure of STC: 3 CSs and Task Forces created

as required;

- Create a formal slot for interaction between exhibitors and delegates (1h/day - after the lunch break).

General recommendations have been made to ensure the good performance and productivity of the SCs. These recommendations are as follows:

- Ensure the appropriate logistical arrangements (registration, transport, etc.);
- Conduct a survey to assess member utilities' expectations in order to identify themes;
- Institute an annual prize on a theme defined each year, based on criteria defined at the beginning of the year. A guideline will guide the process;
- Make an appeal to the DGs to appoint delegates by SC for a minimum period of 2 years (5 consecutive STCs);
- Endorse the outsourcing of the Exhibition activity to ensure a minimum of resources for AfWA
- Standardize the format of CS reports.





PARALLEL MEETING

In addition to the STC's session, Mr. Ben TAB de ISLES - Great Britain, initiated the traditional meeting of water and sanitation utilities, members of the technological innovation platform.

Executive Board meeting

The meeting of the Executive Board of the African Water Association took place on Friday, November 23, under the chairmanship of Mr. ABDERRAHIM EL AFIDI, President of AfWA and Managing Director. The meeting began with a minute of silence observed in memory of: MOHAMED AG ALARFACH from MALI and JEAN PAUL TSHIAMALA from DRC who passed away during the year.

The items discussed at this meeting and the decisions taken are available at the secretariat of the Executive Office of AfWA.



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