



## REGIONAL PROCESS SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

### 10<sup>TH</sup> WORLD WATER FORUM

***This Regional Session Description Form 2 is for the specified program of the session.***

***Mercredi 22 mai 2024, 16:40 - 18:10***

*\*The Regional session description 1 (online form) is separately requested for the Regional session coordinators to deliver a concise session outline with the contact info and the logistical requests.*

**Regional Session Code and Title:**

RF5 Accelerating sustainable management of transboundary water resources for growth, peace, and poverty reduction in Africa

**Regional Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):**

**SESSION COORDINATORS:**

Phera RAMOELI, Executive Secretary, Okavango River Commission (OKAKOM),  
[phera@okacom.org](mailto:phera@okacom.org)

Dr Ababakar MBAYE, Directeur Environnement et Développement durable  
Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal (OMVS)  
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*Session Co-Coordinator: Government of Cote d'Ivoire*

**Regional Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):**

In Africa has nearly 80 transboundary water basins and 38 transboundary aquifers, with 33% of the population living in regions that rely on these shared water resources. There is merit for Basin Organisations and Regional Economic communities (RECs) and countries to prioritise water resources management as well as water services provision as essential ingredients for economic growth, poverty alleviation and inclusive socio-economic development. There is need to bear in mind strong, causal relationship between water security and socio-economic growth. Governments together with transboundary basin organisations and RECs have a responsibility to ensure that development strategies and policy frameworks - at both regional and country levels - are prepared in a way that recognises development of water resources, as a prerequisite and driver for growth.

Further, governments together with transboundary basin organisations and RECs need also to give more attention to increased awareness and political commitment towards groundwater. There are growing calls on the Africa continent for better representation of groundwater in water policies and major sustainable water-focused programmes at various levels across the continent towards Africa Union Agenda 2063.

On the other hand, there is a need for transboundary basin organisations and RECs to support governments by promoting Disaster Risk Reduction efforts within the Sendai Framework to achieve greater impact at various levels. Reducing existing risk, preventing the creation of new risk and building resilience require the engagement of various players at different levels. Building on the political momentum and commitment to action there is a need for transformation at various levels to reduce risks, and accelerate risk-informed development pathways to prevent disasters and ensure sustainable development across region.

Furthermore, there is a need to address challenges associated with water quality and wastewater management at basin scale. More attention needs to be given to strengthening legal, policy and institutional frameworks for the collection and treatment of waste, both solid waste and wastewater, to a minimum quality standard before reuse and or safe disposal. In addition, there is a need to promote standardised regulations for wastewater treatment, environmental flows and water quality management are established and strengthened.

The specific session objectives are to:

- Showcase strategies, policy frameworks and programmes at country, regional and basin-scale that place water resources management at the heart of economic growth.
- Promote collaboration at basin, transboundary and region economic community level for strengthened systems.
- Share perspectives and lessons on accelerating sustainable management of transboundary water resources for growth, peace, and poverty reduction.
- Discuss ways to reduce existing risks and building resilience at basin and RECs levels.
- Consider solutions to address challenges associated with water quality and wastewater management at regional levels.

**Expected outcomes:**

The session is anticipated to yield the following significant outcomes:

- Innovative solutions towards strong management of transboundary water resources
- Partnership and collaboration among Basin Organisation and aimed at facilitating knowledge exchange, and capacity building.
- Identifying the strategies to prioritise and promote water resources management and water services provision as essential ingredients for economic growth, poverty alleviation and inclusive socio-economic development.

**Session Duration:**

90 Minutes

**Detailed Regional Session Plan:**

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
5 Mins	Welcome and Introduction	<b>Nelson GOMONDA</b> , Moderator, Director of Programmes, AMCOW	OK
10 mins	Opening remarks:	<p><b>His Excellency Hon Bouaké FOFANA</b>, Ministère de l'Hydraulique, de l'Assainissement et de la Salubrité, Côte d'Ivoire</p> <p><b>Excellency Mohamed ABDEL-VETAH</b> High Commissioner, OMVS Secrétaire Technique Permanent ANBO/RAOB <a href="mailto:m.abdelvetah@omvs.org">m.abdelvetah@omvs.org</a> <a href="tel:+221338598103">+221338598103</a></p> <p><b>Monsieur Seydou SANE, Président du Conseil d'Administration du SOGEM OMVS</b></p>	<p>TBC</p> <p>OK</p>
15 mins	Framing Presentations on the role of basin organisations in accelerating sustainable management of transboundary water resources in Africa	<p><b>Phera RAMOELI</b>, Executive Secretary, Okavango River Commission (OKAKOM), <a href="mailto:phera@okacom.org">phera@okacom.org</a></p> <p><b>Dr Ababakar MBAYE</b>, Directeur Environnement et Développement durable, Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal (OMVS) <a href="mailto:ababakar.mbaye@omvs.org">ababakar.mbaye@omvs.org</a></p>	TBC

10 Mins	Q&A	Moderated by <b>Nelson GOMONDA</b> , Moderator, Director of Programmes, AMCOW	OK
30 mins	Panel discussions on transboundary water resources in Africa, for growth, peace, and poverty reduction.	<p><b>Dr. Patrice KABEYA</b> SADC Water Division SADC Secretariat <a href="mailto:pkabeya@sadc.int">pkabeya@sadc.int</a></p> <p><b>Prof. Khaled M. ABUZEID, Ph.D., P.E., PMP,</b> Officer in Charge, Technical Secretariat North - African Ministers Council on Water (N-AMCOW) <a href="mailto:kabuzeit@cedare.int">kabuzeit@cedare.int</a></p> <p><b>Daher ELMI</b>, Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) Water Unit <a href="mailto:Daher.Elmi@igad.int">Daher.Elmi@igad.int</a></p> <p><b>Joanna FATCH</b>, Senior Policy Officer – Water Resources Management, AMCOW <a href="mailto:jfatch@amcow-online.org">jfatch@amcow-online.org</a></p>	<p>OK</p> <p>TBC</p> <p>TBC</p>
10 mins	Interventions, Q&A from the Audience	Moderated by <b>Nelson GOMONDA</b> , Moderator, Director of Programmes, AMCOW	OK
10 mins	Summary, Key Messages and Closing	Rapule PULE, Acting Executive Secretary, ORASECOM Secretariat. Emails: <a href="mailto:rapule.pule@orasecom.org">rapule.pule@orasecom.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:rapule.pule@gmail.com">rapule.pule@gmail.com</a> Tel: +27126636826; Mobile: +27722304669	TBC