



Newsletter 4

THE DAMS NEWSLETTER

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AFRICA'S WATER DEVELOPMENT NEEDS

**Vice President
Paul Bwalya**

It was a privilege to attend a recent workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa on Sustainable Water Resources which had been organized by the African Financing for Water Development (AFWD) and the African Development Bank (ADB). It was able to attend in view of the important general international development in the water in the East African Department of Water Affairs and Forestry and of my background in international cooperation in the field of water resources and development. The workshop was organized by the African Financing for Water Development (AFWD) and the African Development Bank (ADB). The workshop was organized in Johannesburg, South Africa, on the 10th and 11th of May 2009. The workshop was organized in Johannesburg, South Africa, on the 10th and 11th of May 2009.

The workshop was a very good platform for information exchange and for sharing of experiences which provided a rich information about Africa's water situation and the future needs for growth in water resources development and management.

Some of the interesting facts on African water resources are as follows:

- Africa has the 6th largest population in the world, 600 million people, but has been ranked 161st in terms of water resources and 162nd in terms of water productivity.
- Continental discharge of 100 km³ water flows from the continent, and 100 km³ water is consumed in the continent by 600 million people in terms of per capita water consumption per year.
- In spite of the abundant availability of water, the continent is still facing the development of the water sector. There is a need to improve the water sector in terms of infrastructure and management.
- Africa's water resources are unevenly distributed in terms of quantity and quality. There is a need to improve the water sector in terms of infrastructure and management.
- The water sector in Africa is still facing many challenges. There is a need to improve the water sector in terms of infrastructure and management.

Some of the challenges in water resources development in Africa are as follows:

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