



## water affairs

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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**MASIBAMBANE COORDINATING COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes of the Meeting Held On 22-23 September 2009 at Birchwood Conference Centre,  
Boksburg**

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**FIRST QUARTER REVIEW**

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**INTRODUCTION**

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The Masibambane Coordinating Committee, a national water sector committee established to oversee and monitor sector programme performance, met for a two-day meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009.

The objectives of the meeting were outlined as follows:

- To review sector progress for first quarter of the 2009/10 financial year
- To report on the financial expenditure and budget allocations for 2009/10
- To reflect and share experiences and lessons on effective responses to service delivery challenges at municipal level
- To discuss key achievements and topical issues as forwarded by sector partners and provincial sector fora

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**SECTION 1: RECORD OF DAY ONE PROCEEDINGS**

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**Chairpersons:** *Ms Thandeka Mbassa (DWA: DDG-Regions) and Ms Cindy Damons (CGTA: CD-Free Basic Services)*

**1 OPENING SESSION**

**1.1 Welcome Remarks**

The Chairperson, Ms Thandeka Mbassa, welcomed all participants to the meeting.

**1.2 Introductions & Apologies**

All delegates introduced themselves. The attendance list is attached to the minutes. The following apologies were noted:

- Ms Jenny Evans (DWA)
- Mr Michael Maraisane (DWA)

- Ms Ndala Duma (DWA)
- Mr Cyprian Mazubane (DWA)
- Mr Loyiso Magashela
- Mr Vumile Lwana (District Management)
- Ms Nobuhle Dyasi (District Management)
- Ms Khumbuzile Zuma (Mvula Trust)
- Ms Virginia Molose (Mvula Trust)
- Mr Victor Munnik (Mvula Trust)
- Mr William Moraka (SALGA)

### **1.3 Approval of Agenda**

The following changes were made on the agenda:

- Items 3.2.1. and 3.2.2 were taken out of the agenda.

## **2 STRATEGIC OVERVIEW OF SECTOR PROGRESS: FIRST QUARTER OF 2009/10 AND BEYOND**

### **2.1 Government Priorities and Strategic Direction for the Sector**

Ms Mbassa updated the meeting about developments and decisions on reconfiguration of government departments, with specific focus on the Department of Water Affairs. She specifically highlighted the following:

- The establishment of a Ministry of Water and Environmental Affairs has led to establishment of two separate Departments – **Department of Water Affairs** and Department of Environment (or Environmental Affairs), and the migration of Forestry to a new Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- The sanitation programme implementation function is being moved to Department of Human Settlements.

This development has brought in new complexities – legal, administrative and technical, including the impact of the amalgamation of functions into one Ministry on some functions that required separation of authority, for example, the approval of Environmental Impact Assessment (Will the Minister be responsible for both apply for approval of EIA for water projects as custodian of water resource functions and still approve these applications as Minister of Environment?).

Some protocols are being developed to handle such instances where a clear conflict of authority may exist. Further complexities have been observed with the migration of the sanitation programme implementation function to Human Settlements, and there is still a need to clarify the role of the department (DWAf) and other issues related to separation of functions.

Ms Mbassa further indicated that the water sector programme must be implemented within a framework of key government priorities related to access to basic services, supporting economic development, rural development and land reform, and contributing to job creation. The key challenges for government include amongst others,

- The institutional arrangements especially related to the system of local government
- Restructuring of government departments
- Policy and legislative review
- Current economic climate
- Limited donor funding and challenges of cash flow management
- Ineffective collaboration at national level

Noting these challenges, she indicated that there is a need for the sector to appreciate these developments and how they impact on the sector programmes. For this to happen effectively, there is a need to manage change, fast-track delivery and focus on priorities given the limited funding. She concluded by registering the Department's appreciation of continued involvement of stakeholders in forums, and especially in this case, the support given to ensure effective functioning of the MCC. She also committed herself to ensure that continued support is given to the MCC by DWAf senior management.

## **2.2 Overview of Financial Expenditure and Budget Allocations 2009/10**

Mr T Toka gave highlights of financial expenditure for the first quarter of 2009/10. The report revealed the following:

- The water sector has a total budget allocation of R20.7 billion for the 2009/10 financial year, which includes donor contributions totalling R503 million
- Current expenditure estimates (up to end of June 2009) make up less than R2 billion (less than 10%).

- The information on Equitable Share and MSIG expenditure is not available, and therefore no analysis on amounts spent on water services related functions can be done
- Regarding donor funding, a reduced amount is available for the 2009/10 financial year, and the delay in transferring funds affected sector programmes. In the meantime, the CFO has authorised the limited use of voted funds to cover up for the delay
- The report also indicated that Gauteng, Limpopo and Northern Cape were the best performing regions, in terms of expenditure, for the first quarter. Their expenditure averaged 40% against the national average of 10%

### **Comments/Questions**

- **Lack of information on Equitable Share:** Ms Hameeda Deedat proposed that certain aspects of the Equitable Share Grant should be made conditional. In response, Ms Damons informed the meeting that National Treasury is responsible for consolidating expenditure reports on Equitable Share Grant. The Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs is able to engage NT on these reports. She also committed to provide information on MSIG, which is readily available and has never been requested before.

*Further deliberations raised concerns about implications of the lack of information on ESG expenditure and the impact of this grant being spent without conditions. In addition, it was noted that this contributes to low expenditure on operation and maintenance of water services infrastructure. Key questions are: How should local government account more on these grants? Is sufficient investment being made on water programmes? Is national government doing enough to monitor local government?*

*It was resolved that DWAF senior management should take up this matter with CGTA and National Treasury and make concrete submissions on reporting, allocation and conditions for the ES Grant. (Action 1)*

### **2.3 Progress and Strategic Highlights for the First Quarter**

Ms Nomsa Teffo (DWAF M&E) gave an overview of sector programme performance – highlights, achievements and challenges. These are summarised as follows:

- ✓ In terms of basic service delivery backlogs:
  - Eradication of Buckets: 904 eradicated in the first quarter and approximately 8140 still outstanding
  - Sanitation: 37, 232 households served since the last quarter, leaving approximately 3 million households still unserved
  - School water and sanitation figures: DWAf served six schools with water supply and 83 with sanitation facilities, whilst the DoE served
  - About 86.1% of the population receive Free Basic Water, and a total of 86.6% of the poor are served
  - Two regional bulk scheme projects have been completed and over 35 are at various stages of implementation
- ✓ The Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement programme is proceeding well with about 12 cases handled for the reporting period – 3 Was and 9 in the agriculture sector
- ✓ The Department is also implementing a Rainwater Harvesting Programme which is currently benefiting 528 households
- ✓ R3,5 million has been spent on the Resource Poor Farmer support programme which is currently benefiting 466 farmers in the Northern Cape

#### **Questions/Comments**

- *School water and sanitation targets & figures: Concerns were raised about the fact that the reported number of schools served with water and sanitation facilities was way off target. Another concern was the differing targets and figures from DWAf and DoE. Ms Teffo responded by indicating that two separate funds were used for the school water and sanitation programme and the reports were also separated.*
- *Appropriate Technology: It was proposed that civil society must be actively involved in finding appropriate solutions for some of the most pressing problems in the delivery of water and sanitation, especially by proposing solutions that will be relevant at community level.*
- *Water quality: A concern was raised about the cooperation of municipalities in Limpopo in the Blue Water Certification Programme.*

- *CMAs: A question was posed on whether there is a specific timeframe for establishment of the CMAs. In response, it was indicated that the conclusion of the institutional reform process will provide guidance on this process and that there are currently no specific timeframes.*

*The following actions were agreed upon:*

- ***Action 2: Ms Thandeka Mbassa will lead a high-level analysis of progress (as reported in the quarterly reports) giving an indication of what it means to the sector goals and developing a response on possible responses to the issues.***
- ***Action 3: The report must be aligned to the agreed outcomes as contained in the funding agreement***
- ***Action 4: The DWAF and DoE reports on school water sanitation clinic must be integrated into one report***

## **2.4 Strategic Issues from the Provincial Sector Forums**

### **2.4.1 Limpopo**

Mr Reckson Mtileni gave a short presentation on key issues from Collacom in Limpopo. He briefed the meeting about three issues:

- The Collaboration Committee (Collacom) is being strengthened and reconfigured to ensure political oversight by the provincial government. The proposals that are being considered include the establishment of a Provincial Water Intergovernmental Forum under the stewardship of the MEC of Local Government and reconfiguration of Collacom into a technical committee supporting the PWIF.
- The Provincial Integrated Water Sector Plan is being revised to respond to new priorities in the province and align with current government programmes at national level. This revision will further incorporate issues stemming from the planned Provincial Water Indaba in October 2009.
- The Letaba Dam is running dry and this has caused severe water shortages in the Giyani municipal area. The Department has made a submission for the area to be declared a disaster area. Current interventions include transfer of water from the Nandoni Dam, rehabilitation of boreholes in Giyani, application of water restrictions and implementation of a water conservation and demand

management programme in the catchment. These interventions involve the DWAF regional office, Mopani DM as a WSA, and the Greater Giyani LM. The Department (DWAF) is also investigating illegal abstractions that may be affecting inflows into the Letaba Dam.

#### **2.4.2 Free State**

Mr Motsamai Motsoari shared the Free State's approach and lessons on integrated services delivery with the meeting. The approach is titled "Operation Hlasela Campaign". In summary, the focus is on improving the state of services in growth points, especially townships, by addressing a basket of services – housing, water services, waste disposal, and others through targeted collaborative efforts by all sectors of society.

A total of 70 projects have been identified focusing on identified localities. These projects are now forming the bulk of the provincial government's programme of action for the next five years. The projects are implemented through district level steering committees that link with provincial clusters and report to the Premier's Coordinating Forum.

#### **2.4.3 Eastern Cape**

Mr Galelo Mbambisa gave feedback on the outcomes of the Eastern Cape's Water Indaba. The Indaba was held on 28-29 July 2009. Some of the key outcomes of the Indaba included the following:

- ✓ Development of a provincial master plan, incorporating issues of water availability, infrastructure development and institutional capacity
- ✓ Formal establishment and launch a provincial municipal infrastructure task team
- ✓ Development of a consolidated action plan and presentation thereof to key provincial structures – Eastern Cape Water Committee [ECWaC]; Munimec and Provincial Coordinating Committee [PCF] for endorsement
- ✓ Enforcement Blue Drop certification as a compulsory process for all WSAs
- ✓ Review of Equitable Share Grant for basic services
- ✓ Resolving powers and functions for water services with a possibility of revisiting the MSA Section 78 process

#### **Questions/Comments**

- ✚ The issues emerging, especially those related to the integration of plans and services into one provincial programme, call for increased awareness and response by the DWAF regional offices. In the case of Free State, it was

confirmed that the Regional Office is part of the planning meetings at provincial level.

- ✚ There is a need to empower Regional Offices to proactively engage with provincial planning on matters of water resources management.
- ✚ Civil society must be mobilised and supported to form part of this collaborative efforts.

### **3 SHARING PERSPECTIVES AND LESSONS ON LOCAL SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES**

#### **3.1 Addressing Municipal Capacity Constraints: Siyenza Manje**

Mr Charles Mvugi (DBSA) highlighted the performance of Siyenza Manje programme over the past year – 2008/9. He mentioned that over 500 deployees were involved in the programme and 174 municipalities were benefiting. These included technical, financial and planning professionals deployed in municipalities and young professionals and artisans that were being skilled. He also mentioned that the programme has now been extended to 2012, after National Treasury approval.

Key highlights in terms of achievements and impact of the programme for the period include the following:

- ✚ MIG expenditure in benefiting municipalities has risen considerably over the past three years
- ✚ The deployees worked in nearly 1000 water (540) and sanitation (459) projects
- ✚ Major impact was in the Eastern Cape, Free State and Limpopo

This financial year (2009/10) the programme will focus on growth point municipalities. About 484 deployees and 2000 trainees will be involved. The deployees will also focus on improving project management functions, management of WTW and WWTW, implementation of WCDM programmes and hands-on support for small contractors.

#### **Questions/Comments**

- How is the programme dealing with filling technical vacancies in municipalities and what will happen after 2012? In response, Mr Mvugi indicated that any deployments must be integrated into structure of the municipality in the long-term and that municipalities are specifically given an opportunity to absorb young

professionals. There is a need to manage the transition and ensure that systems and services do not collapse or deteriorate when the deployees are withdrawn.

**Action 5: The Siyenza Manje report must be incorporated into the Quarterly Sector Reports**

**3.2 A Synopsis of Service Delivery Challenges: CGTA**

Ms Fortunate Makhubo highlighted challenges related to the functioning and management of Waste Water Treatment plants. She mentioned that CGTA had received a study report that depicts the state of most Waste Water Treatment Works as dysfunctional, and even contributing to recent outbreaks of Cholera in Limpopo and Mpumalanga. The report suggests that there is no capacity in most municipalities to manage these plants. In cases where DWAf transferred staff to municipalities (Was) only low-level technical personnel were transferred. She proposed that there is a need to urgently meet with DWAf senior management to discuss the findings of this report and consider options towards responding to the challenges identified. Where possible, a national response strategy on WWTW must be developed to guide actions by various actors. She informed the meeting that DCGTA is finalising a *State of Municipalities Report* which will be published soon.

**Questions/Comments**

- Ms Mbassa mentioned that DWAf is aware of the problem, and that a process has been established to particularly deal with the state of WWTW in municipalities. This process seems to be working; however it is clear that there is no communication between the DWAf and the DCGTA.
- There is a need to clarify the role of the regulator in these instances. In response, it was indicated that DWAf as a regulator gathers and reports on compliance of WWTW. This is part of the Green Drop Certification process, and the results will be published soon.
- The sector must support the development of an early warning system on all WWTW plants
- Whereas DWAf transferred some of these assets to Was, most of them are still in a poor state and had not been refurbished. A special fund for WWTW refurbishment must be considered. In response, the DWAf also clarified that most

of the transferred plants were refurbished before transfer and that municipalities are given funds for operation and maintenance for the first three years after transfer.

- The cost figures for rehabilitation, refurbishment and upgrading of WWTW have been determined

The Chairperson wrapped the discussion by indicating that there is a need for improved communication between DWAF and DCGTA. The department (DWAF is working on a number of initiatives linked to WWTW and the state of water services infrastructure as a whole – these include development of an asset management strategy that details funding mechanisms. The response to this problem is two-pronged: Addressing the symptoms through refurbishment, skilling, management and budget planning, and confronting the bigger issue of the current system of local government and the overall institutional setting of water services delivery.

**Action 6: DWAF and DCGTA senior management to convene urgently (after clarity on the new role of DCGTA) and work towards submitting a proposal to National Treasury followed by a joint Cabinet Memorandum.**

#### **4 FACILITATED DISCUSSION ON SERVICE DELIVERY CHALLENGES**

Ms Louise Colvin facilitated a discussion on key issues emerging from the Video Presentation and contributions by various presenters on the state of service delivery at local level. She posed the following questions to guide comments:

- What are the lessons and experiences from the ground on how to effectively respond to the challenges?
- How do we begin to influence the direction of service delivery?
- What will benefit us as a sector in the immediate?
- How do we unlock funding for dealing with all the service delivery impediments?
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#### **Plenary Inputs**

- ✓ Mr Mvugi (DBSA) mentioned that the bank will be embarking on a new programme to deal with operation and maintenance challenges. This will form part of the new Siyenza Manje Programme. Furthermore, National Treasury has approved the

recapitalisation of the DBSA and this will provide for funding to be made available to leverage MIG funds.

- ✓ There is a need to look at the current funding for infrastructure to ensure that the whole water services supply chain is addressed – from abstraction to retail supply.
- ✓ The issue of skills development remains core to resolving most of the problems currently experienced
- ✓ There seems to be a lack of integration of planning and implementation of programmes
- ✓ Bulk infrastructure must be addressed
- ✓ Powers and functions of local government must be reviewed
- ✓ Local government is highly grant-dependent – how is it made self-sufficient considering environmental challenges such as high poverty levels?
- ✓ There is a need to open space for private sector involvement
- ✓ Water resources management is nationally driven – how do we strengthen links with local developments?
- ✓ The Section 78 process is negative; municipalities (and therefore service delivery) has had very little benefits arising from this process
- ✓ There is a need to introduce benchmarking of projects
- ✓ Water utilisation must not be limited to social use but also consider productive uses
- ✓ There is a need to align powers and functions to capacity and potential

## **5 CLOSING REMARKS**

The Chairperson expressed appreciation for the fruitful discussions held. She proposed that there must be a clear process on how some of these proposals are taken forward for consideration by the WSLG. This will also help in ensuring coherence of discussions.

The meeting was adjourned after an announcement that there is an evening gala dinner where the District Water Services Managers Forum will be launched.

## SECTION 2: RECORD OF DAY TWO PROCEEDINGS

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**Chair: Ms Cindy Damons**

### **1 OPENING SESSION**

#### **1.1 Agreement on the Day's Agenda**

The Chairperson reflected on a few changes made on the agenda. These were mostly related to sequencing of items.

#### **1.2 Recap of the Previous Day's Outcomes and Actions**

Ms Portia Makhanya recapped the first day's outcomes and actions as follows:

##### **a) Government Priorities**

- *The process of concluding the reconfiguration of the department will take some time and the sector must note the complexities involved*
- *Despite the new changes in government configuration, the sector must continue to strengthen efforts to accelerate service delivery and focus on key priorities given the context of economic meltdown*

##### **b) Financial performance**

- *Information on Equitable Share remains elusive and DWA must take this matter up with National Treasury. Local government remains accountable to report on any government grant*
- *The sector must reassess and quantify whether enough resources (especially funding) are invested into water sector programmes to lead to the desired state of water services*
- *It is important DWA take the lead to oversee and monitor (and guide) local government including balanced infrastructure investment.*

##### **c) Sector Programme Performance**

- *With reduced budget the 2014 backlog targets may be in jeopardy, but this gives space to focus on sustainability.*

- Civil society must get more involved in assisting delivery institutions to find suitable technology solutions that fit community conditions (affordability, user-friendly, low maintenance, etc)*
- The sector must give a consolidated report on progress against similar targets, eg school water and sanitation (DoE and DWA)*
- There is a need for a high level analysis of progress reflecting on challenges and opportunities towards achieving targets and what the implications are*
- The sector report must always align with the outcomes contained in the funding agreement*

d) Issues from Provincial Sector Forums

- The sector must develop measures to support LG to manage water demand and implement early warning systems*
- The DWA must endeavour to engage with provincial governments to ensure alignment of its programmes to the provincial plans.*
- National office must empower Regional Offices to decide on certain water resources aspects to support provincial initiatives*

e) LG Support Initiatives

- The sector must be kept informed about possible opportunities for leveraging funding through DBSA*
- The findings of the CGTA “State of Municipalities Report” must be assimilated into efforts to find lasting solutions to the current service delivery impediments*
- A high-level strategic session must be organised between DWA, CGTA and NT to find ways of responding to specific problems related to the state and operation of WTW and WWTW facilities. This session must also deal with mechanisms for ensuring constant information exchange between the departments on proposed initiatives related to infrastructure asset management as a whole.*
- Responses to the current state of assets must not only address the symptoms through skilling, budgeting, refurbishing and external funding but also address the broader and more systematic challenges posed by the current system of local government*

f) Key issues and actions from debate on service delivery

- *User and civil society engagement in planning and decision making is crucial for workable solutions and sustainability as demonstrated by the Water Dialogue Initiative*
- *There is a need for more clarity on the roles and responsibilities (in regard to support interventions) of DWA and DCGTA*
- *The WSP and WSA distinction is questioned as whether workable*
- *The sector needs to be ready to engage meaningfully with the LG turn-around strategy*
- *Cost recovery is a pre-requisite and should be starting point in terms of any turn-around strategy*
- *Need to consider not only basic services but appropriate levels of service to cater for service ladder and economic/food security needs*
- *Given lesson learning and knowledge sharing has been highlighted as effective, we should use WIN-SA for full advantage*

The following issues were also added to the list:

- ✓ *It is vital for all WSP agreements to be concluded*
- ✓ *Cost recovery must be prioritised for people who can pay*
- ✓ *The distinction of WSA and WSP roles is not workable in areas that serve rural areas*
- ✓ *There is a need to learn from incentive-based regulation*
- ✓ *The water dialogues must be extended to municipalities to create municipal dialogues*
- ✓ *The constitutionality of access versus progressive realisation of water must be considered*
- ✓ *DCGTA to provide a report on MSIG*
- ✓ *Councillor development must form part of local government support programmes*

Noting the flurry of comments raised, it was agreed that additional inputs (and corrections) will be forwarded to the Secretariat through Ms Lesego Mekgwe.

## 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (21-22 MAY 2009)

### 2.1 Approval of Minutes

#### a) Corrections

- ✓ Page 6: Item on Institutional Realignment – Although the functions reflected are as per the presentation made on the day, it must be made clear that these do not necessarily reflect actual functions of the DWAF as per the Departmental Strategic Plan.
- ✓ Page 13: Item 2.4 on Water Dialogues – the funding for Water Dialogues is from international donors such as DfID (not the countries listed)
- ✓ Page 14: Item 2.4 on Water Dialogues – the listed countries also engage in similar initiatives as the Water Dialogues.
- ✓ Page 14: Item 2.5 on comment on the HIV/AIDS strategy – Mr Malcolm White's comment must be corrected to indicate that the HIV/AIDS strategy has been developed and must be adopted.

#### b) Adoption

The minutes were finally adopted without further amendments.

### 2.2 Matters Arising

#### 2.2.1 Improving Sector Reporting

Ms Nomsa Teffo gave a brief presentation on challenges and proposals towards improving sector reporting. The following were accentuated:

- ✓ There are still challenges related to delays, incomplete information and reports that are not aligned to work plans. This contributes negatively to reports that are submitted to donors as part of the funding agreement. Other gaps relate to information on MIG and MSIG.
- ✓ To improve reporting DWA Programme Champions are requested to strengthen report coordination with the sector partners and to also ensure that the reports are aligned to the work plans. Reports must be submitted at least five days before reporting deadline and must reflect targets, achieved, challenges, solutions and narrative summary of the key highlights.

## 2.2.2 Update on the State of WWTW

Dr Marlene van der Merwe-Botha gave an overview of the findings of a recent study (*First Order Assessment of Waste Water Treatment Works in South Africa*) conducted on the state of Waste Water Treatment Works. She mentioned that all the WWT plants have been assessed, and these amount to over 800 plants, most of which are small-size plants. These small-size plants are mostly the ones with operational problems and reported failures. In all the instances, the findings provide all the details about what is wrong at the plant and what needs to be done to rectify the problems.

As a way forward, she proposed an intervention that would target the reduction of incidences of operational failures to manageable levels within the next five years. This approach should first prioritise high-risk plants, and then move to the medium risks. If this is done, all plants will be within acceptable levels of risk in five years.

### Questions/Comments

- ✓ Have regional offices (DWAf) received this information? In response, it was confirmed that the information has been shared with some regional offices but also that the information will be readily available for all partners, including Was, to access. The report is available at the Water Services Regulation Directorate (DWAf)
- ✓ It was proposed that the report should be shared with DCGTA, municipalities and regional offices to also ratify some of the information before finalisation of the report.
- ✓ It was further mentioned that the registration of waste water dischargers will assist in getting any outstanding information.
- ✓ It is important to also ensure that any response to the challenges identified in the report takes into consideration availability of technical expertise that should guide the municipalities on appropriate solutions and benchmarking their operations
- ✓ It was agreed that the strategic conversation between DWAf and DCGTA must be fast-tracked.

## 3 PROGRESS REPORTS FROM SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS

### 3.1 Donors

#### 3.1.1 Irish Aid

Mr Malcolm White updated the meeting on funding from the Irish Aid. He mentioned that funding for the Limpopo Programme and WRC has been reduced considerably.

However, the Irish Aid is still committed to the programme, and although the next tranches cannot be confirmed at this stage, he hoped that a positive response will emerge from the next budget meeting of the Irish Parliament in Mid-November 2009. It was therefore not possible to confirm availability and committed amounts per annum at this stage.

### **3.1.2 European Union**

Ms Linda Chamberlain (EU) reported on the state of funding for the Masibambane programme as per the donor agreement. She started by outlining all the areas supported by the EU in South Africa. She reconfirmed the figures outlined in the financial performance report presented on the first day. She also confirmed that the EU is still committed to the amounts as per agreement however these may not be provided within the period initially agreed, meaning that the programme will be extended.

#### **Questions/Comments**

- ✓ It is important for the sector to “fight” for its “slice of the cake” by ensuring that it meets all conditions of the agreement especially with regards to accurate reporting of performance on all the agreed outcome areas.
- ✓ The DCGTA was encouraged to participate in the Budget Committee meetings

### **3.2 WRC and WIN-SA**

Mr Jay Bhagwan presented the WRC and WIN-SA reports. He began with highlights of research project funded through the Irish Aid. These projects include the concept of “water services franchising” and investigating sanitation technologies. The water services franchising concept is being piloted through school sanitation facilities maintenance project in Butterworth (Eastern Cape). Amanzi’ abantu is the contracted service provider. The sanitation technology project includes researching desludging of pit latrines and is being piloted in KZN in the vicinity of Umlazi.

On WIN-SA Mr Bhagwan presented proposals on strengthening the governance of WIN-SA programme and related funding for its work.

#### **Questions/Comments**

- ✓ The proposal on funding and governance of WIN-SA must be tabled to the WSLG (as per resolutions of last WSLG) through the WSLG EXCO (**Action**)
- ✓ The WIN-SA steering committee (SAC) must sit first before presentation to WSLG EXCO

### 3.3 CSO's

## 4 HIGHLIGHTS OF SECTOR PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES

### 4.1 Waste Water Discharge Charge Registration

Ms Rachalet Cronje mentioned that the process to introduce charges for Waste Water Discharges was started in May 2009 after publication of a government gazette. A comprehensive programme has been developed to implement charges and it includes registration of dischargers, expansion of the WARMS, development of guidelines and targeted implementation in high-risk water management areas. She listed the categories of water users who are compelled to register as per legislation. She concluded by announcing that the registration period is being extended – after initial call for registration within 90 days of the government gazette (May-July 2009).

#### Questions/Comments

- How has the media been used to create awareness and how will the registration be enforced? *The DWAF communication directorate is assisting with developing material for creating awareness. This will include informing the public and affected users about extension of the registration deadline. The department is also working on mechanisms for enforcement.*
- Is the department only concerned about rural water users? *The department will look at all water users who discharge waste into a catchment and therefore affect water quality.*
- What is waste water? Do waste water dischargers include car wash businesses? *The term “waste water” is defined in the awareness campaign, and all any user, except for Schedule 1 users, is compelled to register.*

### 4.2 Drinking Water Quality: Supporting improvements

Mr Leonardo Manus reported on initiatives towards improving drinking water quality. He briefly highlighted the context for water quality regulation and the implementation of the Blue-Drop Certification as an incentive-based regulation methodology. The department has adopted an approach that promotes implementation of regulation and using the results of any non-compliance or under-performance to inform support requirements.

From the initial findings, it is clear that not all impediments require funds to be sorted. Some of the most sustainable interventions include on-site training, coaching and

mentoring to improve skills, optimising procurement processes for day to day parts and service requirements, and utilising internal performance monitoring for operations and staff.

### **4.3 Rain-Water Harvesting**

Mr N Mehlomakulu shared the experiences on implementation of Rain-water Harvesting projects with the meeting. He mentioned that the project started in the Eastern Cape, and the Department (DWAf) is providing tanks to qualifying households for rainwater harvesting. He used a picture slide show to give participants a glance of what was being in the project.

#### **Questions/Comments**

- WIN-SA reported on another different project and requested that WIN-SA be involved in capturing lessons and comparing technologies and methodologies.
- It was proposed that a dedicated session on Rain-Water Harvesting may be necessary
- The delegates also felt that this programme illustrated practical solutions to water security and poverty eradication
- It was also mentioned that the Department of Agriculture is involved and that provincial Departments of Agriculture also form part of the training of beneficiaries
- Local municipalities are also involved in the initial stages of the project and also assist in deciding on beneficiaries

## **5 ANNOUNCEMENTS & IMPORTANT DATES**

- i. Noting that the proposed date of the next MCC is very close (October) it was proposed that the next meeting be held in January 2010, and that it should combine reporting for Quarter 2 (July-September) and Quarter 3 (October-December). The actual dates will be communicated in due course.
- ii. The 2<sup>nd</sup> African Water Week will be held on 9-13 November 2009
- iii. WSLG will be on 20-21 November 2009
- iv. 15 October 2009 IS Global Hand-washing Day

**6 CLOSURE**

The Honourable Mayor of \_\_\_ gave closing remarks. He sincerely appreciated the discussions and support that the Department of Water Affairs and its partners are giving to municipalities on water. He felt that through these engagements, councillors feel better informed about how tackle water services issues within their municipalities. He asked for continued support to ensure that communities realise dreams of getting drinking water.

**SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Chairperson)**

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNED** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Director: Sector Collaboration)**

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action list: MCC meeting held on 22-23 September 2009**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Status/ Comments</b>
<b>DAY ONE: 22 SEPTEMBER 2009</b>				
i.	DWA Senior Management, CGTA & NT: make concrete submission on reporting, allocation and conditions on Equitable Share grant	DWA – T Toka CGTA – C Damons NT – U Natha	February 2010	
ii.	DDG:R to lead a high level analysis progress on quarterly reports	DWA – P Makhanya	February 2010	
iii.	Quarterly report to be aligned to agreed outcomes as contained in funding agreement	DWA - N Teffo	February 2010	
iv.	DWA & DoE reports on school water & sanitation clinic must be integrated into one report	DWA- N Teffo & DoE	February 2010	
v.	Siyenza Manje report must be incorporated into the quarterly report	DWA – N Teffo	February 2010	
vi.	DWA & CGTA to convene meeting regarding the WWTW	DWA - Senior management & CGTA – C Damons	Immediate	A consultation has taken place between DWA & CGTA to create a platform to discuss such matters
<b>DAY TWO: 23 SEPTEMBER 2009</b>				
vii.	The proposal on funding and governance of WIN-SA must be tabled to the WSLG	WIN-SA SAC	November 2009	Done