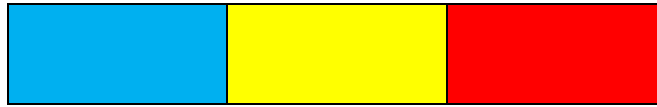


REPUBLIC OF CHAD

Unité – Travail - Progrès



MINISTRY OF FINANCE
AND BUDGET

MINISTRY OF WATER

SANITATION AND WATER FOR ALL – GF4A INITIATIVE

HIGH LEVEL MEETING

WASHINGTON – 23 APRIL 2010

CHAD STATEMENT

It is a great honour for me to attend this first High Level Meeting, one of the key components of the “**Sanitation and Water For All**” Initiative, established by the Global Coalition named **GF4A** composed of Governments, Governmental Organisations and Civil Societies. It is the right time for me to express my gratitude and sincere thanks on behalf of Chad, my country, for inviting me to this august assembly.

Water is core to the challenges that the world has to take up in terms of development. In many areas such as food security, poverty reduction, economic growth, development of energy or human health, water is central.

Regarding poverty reduction, the International Community as a whole has set up the target to invest on social basic services including Health, Education, Nutrition, Drinking Water Supply as well as Sanitation.

During the Millennium Summit in September 2000 in New York, the world leaders agreed to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without **sustainable access to Safe Drinking Water**.

At the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in September 2002, the International Community confirmed the drinking water Millennium Development Goals and added the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of individuals without access to adequate **Sanitation** services.

We have to acknowledge that, despite all those relevant statements, the issue of access to drinking water and sanitation is still of strong concern in developing countries, especially in Chad.

This is why the GF4A World Coalition established the Global Framework as an ultimate attempt to solve the predicament of access to drinking water and sanitation.

Investing high hopes in this **Initiative, Chad solemnly declares to share its goals and guiding principles and will attend the High Level Meeting each year.**

In 1998, during the Geneva Donors Roundtable, Chad adopted a “Revised Orientation Plan” to prepare for the challenge of the 21st Century - Geneva IV.

On the basis of this plan, the Government of Chad engaged in meeting the strategic objective of fighting poverty and improving living standard of Chadian populations.

Access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation services are part of the major strategic areas identified by the Government of Chad for reducing poverty.

In Chad, meeting those objectives should translate into an access rate to drinking water and sanitation of 60% and 35% of the population respectively by 2015.

Regarding policy evaluation and planning in the field of drinking water and sanitation, in 2003 Chad established a Master Plan of Water Supply and Sanitation (SDEA) which is now a reference document.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in 2009, Chad organized a nationwide population census. It found that the population is an estimated 11.2 million inhabitants, 87% of which live in rural areas.

While Chad has enormous groundwater potential, the issue of safe drinking water is acute. The majority of the population drinks water from traditional open wells or from temporary or permanent rivers, hence water that is not safe for drinking, with the risk of various waterborne diseases.

The current access rate to drinking water is **46%**, as indicated in the Master Plan of Water Supply and Sanitation. This rate was made possible by the great efforts made by the Government of Chad with unfailing support from donors such as **EU, AFD, AfBD, UNICEF etc.** I am particularly grateful to them. However, the efforts will have to continue in order to reach or exceed a **rate of 60% by 2015.**

Regarding access to adequate sanitation services, the situation is dramatic; only 0.6% of households use improved latrines, while 10.6% of households use unimproved facilities and 88% defecate in the open. There is no garbage collection system in villages, while in

towns, waste water disposal and storm drainage systems are nearly nonexistent. According to the Master Plan of Water Supply and Sanitation, the current access rate to adequate sanitation systems is an estimated **10%**.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this brief alarming presentation of the current status of access to **sanitation systems and drinking water** in Chad is calling out to all of us. Indeed, the life of a whole nation is at stake, through exposure to all kinds of diseases due to the lack of adequate water supply and sanitation systems.

In order to take up this challenge for the 21st Century and also to reach the MDGs, Chad developed a plan of action amounting to **CFA 500 billion** over 7 years - of which 10% are financed by the Government – allotted as follows:

- **Sanitation: CFA 339.675 billion;**
- **Water: CFA 160.325 billion.**

I respectfully request help from the donors represented here to finance the gap (CFA 400 billion over 7 years, i.e. 64 billion per year).

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would also like to draw attention to some barriers to the development of the Water and Sanitation sector:

At political and institutional level:

1. Institutional instability, characterized by mergers and demergers within the line Ministry;
2. Absence of a specific structure in charge of sanitation and hygiene;
3. Absence of synergy and coordination in sector policies implementation.

Regarding water management:

1. Numerous structural problems of the national water and electricity company (Société Tchadienne d'Eau et d'Electricité - STEE) for water supply in big urban centres;
2. Poor organization of the Public Water Service.

Regarding sanitation services:

The major sanitation challenges are due to:

1. Lack of clear national policy and strategy from the authorities;
2. Absence of a clear urbanization policy: Code of Hygiene Practice missing.