

INTERVENTION BY TANZANIA DELEGATION  
March 2005

The Delegation of Tanzania would like to thank you Mr. Chairman in the way you are leading the meeting.

Tanzania delegation would like to associate itself with the statement of the G 77 and China.

The delegation of Tanzania generally agrees with the report of the Secretary General on Freshwater management, particularly on the Integrated Water Resource Management and the observations raised by the Taskforce. And we have also taken note of the interventions made by previous speakers.

However, Tanzania delegation would like to underline the following issues:

Mr Chairman, Multiplicity of Transboundary Water Basins is one of the challenges facing Africa and Tanzania is not an exception.

Tanzania is riparian to water bodies with neighboring countries. These Transboundary water bodies exhibits unique characteristics and a complex range of water management issues and challenges.

Since water resource management is best done at the basin level, it follows that the situation in Tanzania and Africa calls for cooperation between countries with shared water basins. One of the major constraints to solution of this challenge is the lack of clarity about the benefits for cooperation within natural basins that cut across national boundaries.

Options for addressing this challenge should therefore include awareness creation about the benefits of cooperation and the cost of alternative to water resources management. Roundtable discussions or dialogues on confidence building need to be conducted on the issues for civil society, political leaders, economic planners as well as engineers. The international community should continue the advocacy and support of establishment of water agreements and conventions to, inter alia, recognize the principle of equitable and reasonable utilization of shared water sources.

It is also imperative that the international community supports and promotes the establishment of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) in the African region as it will strengthen sub-regional cooperation on transboundary water resources management.

I Thank You

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