

International High-Level Panel on Water Investments in Africa

Convenors Resolution

11 August 2021

We, representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Global Water Partnership (GWP) and Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA):

- **Recognizing** that in April 2016, the United Nations Secretary-General and President of the World Bank Group convened a High Level Panel on Water (HLPW), consisting of 11 sitting Heads of State and Government and one Special Adviser; from Australia, Bangladesh, Hungary, Jordan, South Africa, Mauritius, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Senegal and Tajikistan; to provide the leadership required to champion a comprehensive, inclusive and collaborative way of developing and managing water resources, and improving water and sanitation related services.
- **Recognizing** that the outcome document of the UN-World Bank High Level Panel on Water lunched by UN Secretary General on March 2018 called for the launch of an Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) to accelerate mobilization of water investments and ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, as well contribute to the achievement of the other SDGs that rely on the development and management of water resources and the 2025 Africa Water Vision;
- **Acknowledging** that in February 2021, the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government adopted the Continental Africa Water Investment Programme (AIP) as part of Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa – Priority Action Plan 2 (PIDA-PAP 2) during the 34th ordinary session of African Union summit on 7 February 2021
- **Noting** that in February 2019, recognising the critical water security challenge Africa faces and mounting investment needs, the Governing Council of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) adopted a Decision for transformation of Africa's water investment outlook through increased partnerships and implementation of an African Water Investment Programme (AIP) with the vision of transforming the water investment outlook in Africa with a goal of mobilizing US\$30billion annually in climate-resilient water investments by 2030;
- **Noting** that the Governing Council of the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) commended efforts of AMCOW Secretariat, AUDA-NEPAD, African Development Bank (AfDB), Global Water Partnership (GWP) and partners, to establish, through the AIP, a

partnership to release Africa's development potential to achieve both the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

- **Noting** that the Governing Council of the African Ministers Council on Water affirmed support for the partnership, particularly as it relates to accelerating implementation of water infrastructure initiatives contributing to Africa's development agenda and urged continued cooperation and contribution of Member States to implement the AMCOW Strategy 2018 - 2030 and the AIP in pursuit of the vision of a water secure Africa.
- **Recognizing** that on 26 May 2021, the Africa Regional Forum-Water Dialogue for Results convened by the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), and the Governments of Germany, South Africa, and Senegal, and supported by Global Water Partnership (GWP), called for the establishment of the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa at the Heads of State level to champion mobilization of water investments and accelerating efforts to meet SDG 6 and other related targets.
- **Noting** that on 1 July 2021, the Africa 'Call to Action' at the High-Level Ministerial Conference in Bonn, called for international support in establishment of the High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa, and that both the Africa Regional Forum-Water Dialogue in May 2021 and the July 2021 High-Level Ministerial Conference in Bonn were convened as part of the official UN preparatory process for the Mid-term Review of the UN Water Action Decade in 2023.
- **Acknowledging** that the water investment gap is largest in Africa, with Sub-Saharan Africa requiring most urgent action as delivery of water investments is lagging economic and social needs to meet the 2025 Africa Water Vision of Water Security, the 2030 SDG 6 on water and sanitation and related targets.
- **Agree** to cooperate and establish a partnership to convene the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa to drive global political mobilization and international engagement to narrow the water investment gap in Africa and enhance efforts to meet the social-economic needs of the continent, SDG 6 water related targets, and address the twin challenge of climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **Call** upon the international community, UN agencies, development finance institutions, Heads of government, international organisations, private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders in Africa and globally to support the partnership for the International High-Level Panel on Water Investments for Africa.

Adopted on 12 August 2021.