

NIAMEY December 14, 2013

## **Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of RAID**

On Saturday, December 14, of the year two thousand and thirteen was held in the conference room of Sahel hotel in NIAMEY, the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly (OGA) of the Regional Association for Irrigation and Drainage in West and Central Africa (RAID).

This general meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Amadou MOUSSA, outgoing President of the association, and the presence of a large number of National Committees of Irrigation and Drainage (NCID): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Chad and Togo. Besides, CILSS as a privileged partner of the RAID was part of this meeting as guest.

The agenda of the meeting included the following:

- 1. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED-OUT**
- 2. PROOFREADINGS OF RAID TEXTS**
- 3. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**
- 4. MISCELLANEOUS**
  
- 0. OPENING OF THE CEREMONY**

Opening of the meeting was marked by the welcoming message of the President of the organizing committee, Mr. Ahmed SALIFOU of ANID (NCID of Niger). Then, it was followed by the speech of Mr. Adama SANGARE, President of AMID (NCID of Mali); Vice President of the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and former President of the RAID. Finally, the opening speech was done by the outgoing Secretary General of RAID, Mr. Adama OUEDRAOGO by presenting the program of the Meeting.

This chapter of opening ceremony was closed by the introduction of each participant by himself.

- 1. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED-OUT**

The activities carried by the outgoing Executive Board during his mandate were presented by the president, Amadou MOUSSA. He first of all, noticed that, this General Assembly of Niamey is the first to be held by RAID outside the country hosting the headquarters. Mr. MOUSSA deplored the various postponements of this meeting due to some reasons. He therefore, welcomed the large participation of NCIDs and thanked all the participants of attending this general assembly of Niamey.

After that, Mr. MOUSSA reviewed the major projects that have been initiated and executed between 2009 and 2013 (see Activity Report 2009-2013 attached).

He highlighted the shortcomings and deficiencies on flow of News and Communicating with NCIDs worsen by staff shortage at the permanent Office in Ouagadougou.

President Amadou MOUSSA has pointed out also, the perspectives in terms of projects to be implemented for the next mandate:

1. Improving the flow of News with NCIDs particularly, based on the work of the Task Force made at the top forum on irrigation of Dakar Declaration.
2. Setting up bankable projects to develop activities for CNIDs and generate funds for their operation.
3. Raising up and strengthening membership of National Committees to ICID and encouraging them to attend the next Executive Council meeting that will be held in 2014 in South Korea.

Following the speech of the President, the financial situation of the association was presented by the Secretary General, Mr. OUEDRAOGO, using the audit report on the financial statements of the period from 01/01/2009 to 31/12/2012. This audit report was made by the consultancy firm of Helios-Africa Group Exco.

A cash flow of 9 576 143 FCFA is available in the account and 25 378 FCFA in cash-in-hand, but:

- A difference of 373 094 FCFA with bank balance reconstituted by the accounting work of the auditor;
- The outstanding bills up to 31/12/2012 have not been taken into account.

The discussions that took place after these two presentations focused on :

- Improving NCIDs activities and their involvement in ICID activities;
- Greater involvement of the English-speaking countries and countries called “humid” ;
- Increasing the number of staff of the permanent Office to improve the administrative management of the association, communication and the flow of News;
- The temporary situation of hosting the permanent office in 2IE and taking into consideration the rent of an office in the balance sheet;
- The critical financial situation of the association apart from the bills outstanding;
- Improving the finance of the association by the administrative cost involved in contracts with partners and / or consultants. It is suggested that an ad hoc committee will discuss and make proposals on this issue.
- The statement on the dues (membership fees) is outdated.

After the discussions, the General Assembly approved the reports upon incorporating the observations and recommendations of the General Assembly (GA).

## **2. PROOFREADINGS OF RAID TEXTS**

Some suggestions to reform some articles of RAID statute were made during this General assembly. These proposals particularly focused on maintaining or not of the Steering and Monitoring Committee (SMC) and its composition.

These reform proposals are to be submitted to the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) which is the only authority that can make changes in the texts of the association.

### **3. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board of RAID is composed of:

- A President;
- Two Deputy Presidents (one from English-speaking countries and one from French-speaking countries);
- One Secretary General
- One Information / communication Manager.

For the election of the new Executive Board, a committee was set up. This committee was composed by :

- Mr. Rémy COULIBALY (Burkina Faso), President
- Mr. Perfect Guy MAGA (Cameroon) and Mr. BABAGANA Umara (Nigeria), reporters.

The unique candidate received for the position of President is Mr. Amadou MOUSSA (Niger) which was presented by the NCID of Niger.

For the other positions, nominations were made forthwith in accordance with the texts of the Association. These are:

- For two deputy Presidents Mr. Samson AGODZO (Ghana) and Mr. Mohamed Ould MOHAMED FALL (Mali);
- For the Secretary General, Mr. Adama OUEDRAOGO (Burkina Faso)
- For the information and communication Manager, Mr. Ndongo SENE (Senegal).

The vote was made by the NCIDs present in accordance with the rules and regulations RAID and gave the following:

1. President of RAID: Mr. Amadou MOUSSA (Niger) by 50 votes or 100%
2. French-speaking deputy President: Mr Mohamed Fall Ould MOHAMED (Mali) by 48 votes or 96%
3. English-speaking deputy President : Mr. AGODZO Samson (Ghana) by 48 votes or 96%
4. Secretary General: Mr. Adama OUEDRAOGO (Burkina Faso) by 47 votes or 94%.
5. Information and Communication Manager: Mr. Ndongo SENE (Senegal) by 50 votes or 100%.

The financial auditors proposed are :

1. Ms. KOUYATE Goundo Sissoko (Mali) by 50 votes or 100%
2. Mr. Robert DEGUENON (Benin) by 50 votes or 100%.

After the election, the President, on behalf of the Executive Board has thanked all the participants and accepted the challenge to lead the organization until the next GA.

He pointed out again the major challenges of RAID for this coming period; which is:

- The adherence of NCIDs and the improvement of their operation;
- The organization of the Africa Conference of ICID and participation in the election of Africa deputy President of ICID;
- The improvements in the texts of the association;
- The funding of the RAID and NCIDs.

Finally, He urged the support of national committees to meet these challenges.

#### **4. MISCELLANEOUS**

Mr. Adama SANGARE, President of the AMID (NCID of Mali) and deputy President of ICID has largely evoked the difficulties to organize 3<sup>rd</sup> African Regional Conference while Asians are at their 8<sup>th</sup> conference. Mr. SANGARE also indicated the mandate of the two Africans deputy Presidents is ending in 2014.

Then Mr. SANGARE urged national committees to pay their dues to ICID to become active members in order to attend the GA of ICID which will be organized by South Korea in 2014.

#### **5. CLOSURE OF THE CEREMONY**

The meeting ended with the congratulations of M. Clement OUEDRAOGO from CILSS to RAID by having held the GA and his encouragement to develop RIAD activities. Then, Ahmed SALIFOU of ANID (NCID of Niger) apologized for all missed or miss understanding during the organization of this meeting.

Finally, the new Executive Board has thanked the organizing committee of Niger for the successful organization of this meeting.

**NDONGO SENE**

Information and Communication manager  
RIAD