A REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LAUNCHING OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON DAMS (WCD) IN UGANDA: MAKING WCD RECOMMENDATIONS A REALITY IN UGANDA.

ORGANIZED BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS (NAPE)

19, OCTOBER 2004
HOTEL AFRICANA KAMPALA, UGANDA.

Funded By Ford Foundation
# ACRONYMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
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<tr>
<td>WCD</td>
<td>World Commission on Dams</td>
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<td>WSSD</td>
<td>World Summit on Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>NAPE</td>
<td>National Association of Professional Environmentalists</td>
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<td>NEMA</td>
<td>National Environment Management Authority</td>
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<td>IUCN</td>
<td>World Conservation Union</td>
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<td>UNEP</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Program</td>
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<td>DDP</td>
<td>Dams and Development Project</td>
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<td>SBC</td>
<td>Save Bujagali Crusade</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non Governmental Organizations</td>
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<td>WCED</td>
<td>World Commission on Environment and Development</td>
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<td>PEAP</td>
<td>Poverty Eradication Action Plan</td>
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<td>MW</td>
<td>Megawatts</td>
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INTRODUCTION

The WCD was established in May 1998 by the World Bank and IUCN and was launched on 16th November 2000. As a global commission focused on dams and development, WCD comprised a wide stakeholder group in response to escalating conflicts over the role of dams in development. The aim of the commission was to review the development effectiveness of large dams and assess alternatives for water resources and energy development and also to develop internationally acceptable criteria, guidelines and standards for the planning, design, appraisal, construction, operation, monitoring and decommissioning of dams. The WCD Final Report presented a new framework for decision-making based on recognizing rights and assessing risks of all interested parties. However, since the establishment of the WCD and consequent publication of the report, there had been minimal efforts to make the commission’s recommendations popular in Uganda. Even the minimal efforts by government to address some parts of the report have been made without adequate involvement of civil society and the dams affected communities.

Nevertheless, the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) an NGO actively engaged in advocating and lobbying for sustainable natural resource management in Uganda has been involved in activities that popularize the WCD process. The international workshop to launch the WCD report entitled, *Dams and Development: A new Framework for Development* was one of these activities. The workshop was organized by NAPE and took place on 19th October, 2004 in Uganda. Besides launching the WCD report, the workshop was also aimed at creating a forum for sharing information about the WCD outcomes and their implications on developing Uganda’s water and energy resources. The event took place at Hotel Africana, Kampala under the theme: “Towards making WCD Outcomes a Reality in Uganda”.

The Workshop presented an opportunity for civil society, dam affected communities, academics, government representatives, private power producers, donors, journalists and the public to discuss the WCD report and decide on a process through which WCD outcomes can be made a reality in Uganda.

This three part report presents the workshop proceedings. It gives an introduction to the workshop, an overview of the official opening, the highlights of the workshop presentations, the discussions, reactions, observation, the main points, the way forward and, finally, the launching of the WCD report and closure of the workshop.
1.0 WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS:

1.1 THE OPENING REMARKS

Mr. Muramuzi Frank  
Executive Director, NAPE

The Executive Director NAPE, Mr. Frank Muramuzi, who was the Workshop chairperson, introduced the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE), its objectives and activities to the workshop participants. He, briefly, reminded the participants that the overall objective of the workshop was to launch the WCD report in Uganda and, thereafter, generate issues and consensus on how to implement them in the country.

Saying that this was the first truly multistakeholder international Workshop on the WCD recommendations in Uganda, Muramuzi noted that there were a number of notable important personalities at the workshop. He particularly singled out the following:

1. Mr. Daudi Migereko, Minister of State for Energy, Guest of honor.
2. Dr. Caliginous Alberto, Coordinator DDP/UNEP;
3. Ms. Terri Hathaway from International Rivers Network (IRN),
4. Mr. John Berry, the Chief Executive Officer Eskom,
5. Mr. Alex Muhwezi, IUCN Country Representative
6. Mrs. Bitekerezo from the World Bank, Uganda
7. Mr. Bwobi Watuwa, the Director of Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
8. Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula, NAPE Secretary and Deputy Coordinator, Save Bujagali Crusade (SBC).
9. Hon. Hilary Onek, MP for Lamwo and Hydropower engineer
10. His worship the Deputy Mayor Jinja Municipality
11. Hon. Minister of Youth from Buganda Government among others

The Chairperson cautioned participants that the Workshop was not meant to discuss specific dams (e.g. Bujagali and Karuma) and that neither was it a forum to discuss issues like resettlement and compensation of dam affected people or load shading which was a current national issue at the time.

The Executive Director expressed his gratitude to the Ford Foundation, which offered support for the dissemination of the WCD guidelines. He urged funding institutions to continue supporting WCD activities to promote sustainable development. He then invited the World Bank representative to give the keynote address on WCD recommendations.
Ms. Mary Bitekerezo, who represented the Country Director of the World Bank said the institution was honoured to be present at the launching of the WCD report in Uganda.

She conveyed apologies from the World Bank Country Manager in Uganda for not being present at the function due to unavoidable circumstances.

She noted that the World Bank:

- Congratulated the WCD for having successfully completed and launched its report
- Pledges to continue supporting the WCD-related processes
- Is committed to reviewing the development effectiveness of large dams and addressing alternatives to water and energy resources
- As a learning institution would continue to use available knowledge and skills to promote healthy water and energy practices in the countries where it operates
- Provides its’ client, the Ugandan Government expertise in any relevant field including on large dams development and decommissioning
- Will continue working with civil society and NGOs like NAPE in pre-decision making processes to ensure that sustainable development takes place

In her final remarks Ms. Mary Bitekerezo, stressed that the World Bank urges institutions pursuing WCD-related processes to continue utilizing any available sources of information to ensure environmentally sound development practices. She assured participants that the World Bank will continue observing those processes that promote proper environmental practices such as prior impact assessments and considering concerns of the potentially affected communities.
THE OFFICIAL OPENING

Hon. Daudi Migereko
Ministry of Energy & Mineral Development

Hon. Daudi Migereko, the Ugandan State Minister for Energy, officially opened the workshop. He said that he was glad to participate in the WCD discussions where he had had the benefit of attending such discussions organized by Dams and Development Project of United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Minister:
- Indicated that a lot of funds had been pumped into the WCD process in an effort to make the environmental effects and development effectiveness of large dams understood
- Noted that in considering the contribution of large dams to the human development, the WCD Report paints a negative picture of large dams
- Warned that the WCD recommendations and guidelines are not a universal international standard and are therefore, subject to international debate
- Urged Ugandan and foreign NGOS seeking to influence the trend of things in Uganda to internalize the legal framework under which energy projects are developed. “This will ensure that you talk from a well-informed, authoritative and realistic point of view” the minister emphasized

Hon. Daudi Migereko delivering his opening speech at the workshop

The Minister informed participants that the government was trying to develop and popularize other renewable energy resources such as geothermal and solar. He, however, decried the technological limitations involved and urged International Rivers Network
(IRN), NAPE, SBC and other NGOs to play a significant role in mobilizing resources and support to accelerate the evaluation of geothermal resources in Uganda. He then declared the workshop officially open. (See appendix II.)
2.0 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRESENTATIONS

Topical presentations were done by officials from key positions of government and civil society and later on participants discussed them in a non-plenary.

2.1 THE GENESIS OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON LARGE DAMS

*Mr. Alex Muhwezi, Country Representative, IUCN*

Mr. Alex Muhwezi informed participants that the WCD dates back to April 1997 when the World Conservation Union (IUCN) convened a workshop, jointly with the World Bank, to address dam-related conflicts, at its headquarters in Gland, Switzerland.

He outlined some of the considerations to include the following: multiple benefits, hydropower generation, large dams’ contribution to agriculture and food security, provision of employment and meeting peoples needs, impact on human settlement, need for transparent, inclusive and open decision making regarding large dams.

However, the presenter observed that the workshop failed to reach conclusions on these issues and hence recommended a multi-stakeholder dialogue that resulted in the agreement to establish the WCD with mandate to address the above issues and the creation of an interim Working Group mandated to turn it into a reality. He further submitted that:

- The Interim Working Group subsequently held its meeting in Stockholm in August 1999 and the Third Meeting of the WCD Forum was held at the Spier Village outside Cape Town, South Africa on February 20th 2001 to discuss responses to the Report
• The work of WCD involved: case studies, thematic reviews, 2 papers, and regional consultations

• Mr. Muhwezi also commented on the source of financial support to the work of the WCD, which had no restrictions and no conditions attached to them

• The work of WCD was completed in 2000 and the report was released in November the same year. He noted that the report was a milestone in the questioning of large dams as a development option

• The report presents an integrated assessment of when, how, and why dams succeed or fail in meeting development objectives

• The WCD recommends five core values for decision making which include equity, sustainability, efficiency, participatory decision-making and accountability

• After long discussions covering two days, it was agreed that the Forum would work through the diverse governmental, private sector and civil society organizations and affiliations:
  i. To ensure widespread dissemination and understanding of the WCD Report;
  ii. To promote testing, requirements and adoption of the commissions proposed guidelines in practical context; and
  iii. To promote dialogue, information exchange and networking with the WCD Report.

• Later Forum Liaison Group (FLG) was formed to take the lead in establishing new arrangements for dissemination and implementation of the WCD Report

• The FLG advanced discussion standards reaching agreements by March 2001 to provide for:
  i. A Dam and Development Forum (DDF);
  ii. A Dams and Development Governance Group; and
  iii. A Dams and Development Unit (DDU), now referred to as the Dams and Development Project (DDP) and housed by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
2.2 THE WCD AND THE DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (DDP)

Dr. Alberto Calicagno, Coordinator
DDP/ UNEP.

Dr. Alberto Calicagno highlighted the objectives of DDP, whose goals are pursued under two phases: Phase I and Phase II. These are based on the dialogue and the core values and strategic priorities identified by the World Commission on Dams (WCD).

PHASE ONE

Objectives

- To support country level, regional and global dialogue on WCD report and the issues
- It addresses, to engage all stakeholders with emphasis on those not currently involved
- To strengthen interaction and networking among participants in the dams debate
- To support dissemination of the WCD report, the report of the third WCD forum and stakeholders responses
- To facilitate the flow of information and advice relevant to dams and development

PHASE TWO

Objectives

- To promote multistakeholder dialogues at country, regional and global levels in improving decision making on dams and their alternatives with the aim of engaging all stakeholders with emphasis on governments
- To produce non prescriptive tools drawing on all appropriate existing bodies of criteria and guidelines for planning and management of dams and their alternatives which can help decision makers

The Presenter further elaborated on the following:

- DDP stakeholder categories
- Strategy for UNEP/DDP implementation
- National, Regional, and Global dialogue on dams and development so far engaged in by DDP

He listed other important issues about DDP with regard to:
- Extension of financial, material and human resource to stakeholders
- Support for Multi-stakeholder dialogue approaches
- National, regional and global initiatives in which DDP is involved
- National follow-up activities
2.3 THE IMPLICATION OF WCD RECOMMENDATIONS ON DEVELOPING UGANDANS’ WATER AND ENERGY RESOURCES:

Mr. Bwobi Watuwa – Director of Energy
Min. Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) -Uganda

Mr. Bwobi Watuwa began his submission by suggesting a definition for the term “large dam”. He then:

- Claimed that environmentalists had risen against construction of large dams without defining “large dams”, specifically pinpointing the World Commission on Dams”

- Cited WCD recommendations 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 as some that had the potential of making it impossible for developing countries such as Uganda to build large dams

- Reminded participants that the proposed Bujagali hydropower project had gone through a rigorous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process before it was halted

- Claimed that the (Uganda) National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) authorized the Bujagali project after thorough international scrutiny of the outcomes of the EIA

- Claimed that the environmental impacts of Bujagali project were identified and mitigation measures developed, discussed and agreed upon

- Stressed that the collapse of the project had nothing to do with environmental issues but was as a result of a global cold that caught most of the energy projects

- Emphasized that Uganda’s future development and social transformation lies in government’s determination to achieve this through industrialization

- Claimed that those who did not want to see large dams built wanted sections of society to be left in the pre-historic times for the sake of preserving the way of life for the rich or for people from the developed world to come and watch”

- Hinted on the benefits of dams, saying that the benefits of dams in Uganda are meant to accrue to all Ugandans, not only to the people living near the dam site.

- Said that the local communities benefit from additional funding for the dam projects in form of royalties on generated electricity

- Concluded by informing participants that there are environmental laws in Uganda that everyone should be acquainted with, which, if found lacking in some aspects, can be changed using available legal mechanisms
• Said there is need to recognize that people are part of the environment that sustains their continued existence and socialization and urged that we should not intentionally destroy the environment because in so doing we would be destroying ourselves
2.4 MAKING WCD RECOMMENDATIONS A REALITY IN UGANDA

Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula, Deputy Coordinator
Save Bujagali Crusade (SBC) and Secretary NAPE

Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula, who also lectures environmental planning and management at Makerere University, presented the official position of the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) in the ‘Dams and Development’ debate.

In the paper “Towards Making WCD Recommendations A reality in Uganda”, he presented the essential historical knowledge on large dam building in the world, the role of World Bank in damming rivers, declining trend in dam finance, the Great Global Dams’ debate, the ‘Great Uganda Dams’ debate and NAPE/SBC’s role and participation in some of these processes.

Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula further discussed the way forward for NAPE towards implementing aspects of the WCD Recommendations as follows (See appendix IV):

- Educating all stakeholders, Government and other partners on the value of involving beneficiaries in the water and energy sector in decision-making processes
- Constant dialoguing with World Bank to raise dam issues, including the dam-affected people, resettlement, compensation and need for new EIAs and cost benefit analyses
- Innovating guidelines for developing alternative energy sources (i.e., geothermal, solar, wind, biogas and fuel wood)
- Environmental litigation to ensure that government becomes more effective and more sensitive to violations of human rights and social and environmental justice in dams and development
- Exposing loopholes and shortcomings on the side of Government and development partners in dam development processes, through lobbying and information dissemination

Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula concluded by appealing to Government to rethink its decision-making on societal issues so as not to make expensive mistakes, to guard against corruption as a source of under-development and start thinking local and acting local and only think global and act global if it is absolutely necessary.
From left to right: Dr. T.C. Bamusonighe, Uganda Wildlife Society; Mr. Mugizi Rwandume, Kampala City Council; Ms Mary Bitekerezo, World Bank; and Anja Therklsen from ARCOS
2.5 SHARING THE SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE ON WCD

Ms. Terri Hathaway, International Rivers Network (IRN)

Terri Hathaway introduced her presentation by informing participants that IRN is not out to stop development but rather to work with local groups to ensure that real development happens and projects benefit those most in need. “IRN works to amplify the voices of those who bear the true cost of dams and to show that dams are often presented as a solution without having asked the right questions”, she clarified.

She informed participants that after the release of the WCD Report in 2000, South Africa formed a working group composed of Government, Utilities, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and Agriculture, Private Sector, Finance, Research Institutes and affected communities. She went on to outline the continued processes undergone by the South African Initiative that include;

- The working groups’ four months planning for the first multi-stakeholder symposium on WCD
- The production of the Symposium Report in 2001, detailing the principals and findings of the WCD, trends in South Africa, key issues, debating points and a possible way forward
- Development of analytical framework to guide the production of the South African Final Report around strategic priorities (see the terms of reference for the framework, Appendix V.)

She further indicated the reasons why the South African WCD Coordinating Committee was successful, which included:

- The belief that WCD improves practices, has much to offer and can be implemented
- Early adoption of core values and approaches
- Supportive role played by dams and development project (DDP) and the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC) and funds for critical elements like attendance costs for disadvantaged groups and multistakeholder forums among others (appendix V.).
Ms. Terri Hathaway, 2nd from left listens attentively.

Hathaway, who had just been to South Africa to attend the final meeting of the South African multi-stakeholder initiative on WCD, contributed to the workshop proceedings as follows:

- Said that the stakeholders in South Africa did not adopt the WCD report outright but, rather, understood that some WCD recommendations may not apply to them. As a result they measured it against South African history and current policy practice and needs to enable them determine the priority recommendations for South Africa.

- Suggested the need for contextualizing the WCD report

- Observed that the South African Report can be adopted wholesale and used effectively by any other country, but it does set forth a process that may benefit others to study in order to consider relevant and best practices for going forward”.

- Concluded by stressing the importance of engaging all stakeholders in determining the process and added that, while NAPE organized today’s meeting, I hope that the representatives of all sectors will take this opportunity to move forward together to coordinate and plan a process deemed relevant to the Ugandan context.
3.0 DISCUSSIONS OF THE PRESENTATIONS, REACTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

The participants observed that:

- Dams and rivers are major influences on the natural ecosystems and climate and that, therefore, any development that involves them must be done with consideration of the rest of other environmental components.

- While trying to protect the environment, a balance should be made between the economic importance and aspects of the environment in question and the general social and economic development of the country.

- There is need to focus on all ecosystem components of the environment other than dams alone.

- Sustainable development requires a broader issues of the environment.

- There seems to be no clear strategy for building dams in Uganda and, therefore, there is need to develop such strategy indicating the available prospects and a systematic plan for dam’s development in relation to the energy needs of the country.

- An investors’ guide on large and small dams should be designed in a multi-stakeholder fashion, with the full participation of organised civil society in order to bring order, confidence and trust in the arena of dams and development.

- The government needs to create space for the organised citizen groups to take the responsibility of protecting the environment instead of dismissing their genuine concerns and demands and proposals in the area of energy development as non-constructive and antidevelopment.

- The government has not educated people on the need for and value of cheaper means of developing and using alternative power sources.

- Uganda generates the least power in Africa and even if the sites targeted for large dams were developed for hydropower, the demand for power would not be met.

- The pricing system for electricity in Uganda is very obscure and comprehensive costing has not been done to justify the current pricing of hydropower.

- The WCD recommendations are still new to energy developers and the public at large, and do not properly address the (Uganda) country-specific energy demands and, therefore, should not be taken wholesale.

- There is need for civil society organisations, the private sector and government to sit at a round table and determine clearly what each one should do to ensure that certain aspects of the WCD recommendations are given due consideration and adapted to the
country’s needs if they do not elicit large divergences of thought among stakeholders as to their value in the country’s energy development.

- There is need to learn from other countries e.g. South Africa on how the process of realization of WCD recommendations has been tackled
4.0 THE WAY FORWARD

The following issues emerged from the Workshop as possible elements in the way forward for action on the WCD recommendations:

- Different sectors in various Ministries including Ministry of Energy, Agriculture and Industry should come together in an inter-sectoral/inter-institutional fashion and inter-disciplinarily jointly define the way forward on dams and WCD recommendations in Uganda. This may for, example include setting up a legal framework for appropriate administration and implementation purposes. In addition:

- The civil society organizations should continue discussions and dialogue on the WCD recommendations with government, industry, the World Bank and other institutions, including academic ones, among others, to develop consensus

- The WCD recommendations need to be looked at in detail, analyzed, gaps and implications to national development identified, and a strategic decision-making process allowed to emerge towards developing holistic policy for integration of all available energy alternatives in the energy development plan for Uganda. This may mean rethinking the plan

- There is need to repackage and down-tone the WCD report for easy dissemination to different stakeholders

- A WCD Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee (WMSC) was constituted to follow up the emerging actionable issues and recommend specific measures for adapting the WCD recommendations to Uganda’s situation and NAPE was asked to act as the lead institution and, therefore, provide administrative and technical support to the Committee. The full list of WMSC members is given below:

1. National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE)
2. World Conservation Union (IUCN)
3. Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
4. Green Watch
5. Local Government
6. Urban Authority Association represented by Jinja Municipality.
7. Buganda Kingdom
8. Busoga Territory Government
9. Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment (MWLA)
10. Private Sector (ESKOM)
11. Representatives of the dam affected people.

- A WCD Working Group (WWG) of FOUR (4) could be woven out of the WMSC to work on a more regular basis with NAPE to sustain implement the outcomes of the WMSC process
• The International Workshop participating institutions form a Uganda WCD Forum
5.0 LAUNCHING AND CLOSURE: By: Hon: BAGUMA ISOKE,  
Hon. Baguma Isoke, State Minister  
Water, Lands & Environment

In his speech read by Mr. Bwango Apuuli,  
Acting Director, Lands and Environment

The minister:

□ Revealed his historical link with NAPE, and reminded participants of his  
recommendation for its registration as an environmental NGO

□ Commended NAPE for its influence on environmental thinking and even policy on  
dams and development in general

□ Assured the participants that the government takes the recommendations of WCD on  
dams seriously and added, “Indeed government recognizes the contribution of the  
WCD Report and government has already been implementing some of the  
recommendations of the report

□ Reiterated government’s position on large dams as they are still the best way forward  
for the countries present and future energy requirements

□ Indicated that Uganda was currently facing acute power shortages of more than 100  
MW with both day time and evening load shading. That even if Bujagali came on line  
with 250MW in 2009, there would be a short fall of about 127MW

□ Informed the participants of governments’ awareness on the availability of other  
options and that government was exploring them

□ Insisted that the energy sector relies almost entirely on hydropower generation at the  
two dams in Jinja along the Nile, but more dams needed to be constructed

□ Revealed that Government was aware of the declining L. Victoria water level and  
said that technical consideration were underway to establish whether the current drop  
in the lake levels is due to construction of the Kiira dam.

□ Reiterated Government’s commitment to support and work closely with NAPE in  
particular, other development partners and all NGO’s in ensuring a healthy and  
sustainable environment.

□ Finally launched the WCD report and officially closed the workshop.
## PROGRAMME FOR THE LAUNCHING OF WCD WORK IN UGANDA: 19TH OCTOBER 2004 AT HOTEL AFRICANA

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<td>19th Oct. 2004.</td>
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<td>Registration of workshop participants</td>
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<td>9:15 – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>NAPE</td>
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<td>9:30 – 9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Brief from the World Bank</td>
<td>World Bank Representative</td>
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<td>9:45 – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Official opening</td>
<td>Hon. Daudi Migereko minister of state for energy</td>
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<td>10:00 – 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Brief History of WCD</td>
<td>Mr. Alex Muhwezi Country Representative</td>
<td>Frank Muramuzi</td>
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<td>10:15 – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote address on WCD</td>
<td>Mr. Calcagino Alberto Coordinator DDP: UNEP.</td>
<td>Kenneth Kakuru</td>
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<td>10:30 – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Implications of WCD Recommendation on Developing Uganda’s Water and Energy Resources</td>
<td>Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy &amp; Mineral Development, Uganda</td>
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<td>10:45 – 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
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<td>11:15 – 11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Making WCD a reality in Uganda</td>
<td>Oweyegha-Afunaduula</td>
<td>Alex Muhwezi</td>
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<td>12:00 – 12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Sharing South African Experience on WCD</td>
<td>Liane Grieff / ARCOS/INS</td>
<td>Happy James</td>
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<td>12:15 – 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>LUNCH BREAK</td>
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<td>2:00 – 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Briefing about International Hydropower Association</td>
<td>ESKOM / IHA</td>
<td>Kenneth Kakuru Green Watch</td>
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<td>2:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Discussions and Way forward</td>
<td>Frank Muramuzi</td>
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<td>4:00 - 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Launching of the WCD Report and official closing</td>
<td>Hon. Baguma Isoke, Minister of state for Lands.</td>
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APPENDIX II

Ministers’ Speech
Hon. Daudi Migereko, Minister of State for Energy

Distinguished Organizers and Workshop Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me pleasure to be here with you and to participate in the discussions on the World Commission on dams’ (WCD) recommendations and guidelines. As you may be aware, the WCD was established in May 1998 to address the growing concerns of environmentalists against what they termed large dams.

Among the founding bodies of the WCD are the World Bank and the World Conservation Union (IUCN). I have had the benefit of attending discussions on this subject organized by Dams and Development Project of UNEP indeed I am delighted that Dr. Alberto Calcagno the DDP Coordinator has been able to come and participate in this workshop. His participation should greatly enrich all of us in regard to how we can use these guidelines and how we can improve on them in order to hamper sustainable development.

I equally hope that after this workshop NAPE will pursue a more constructive and positive approach towards Uganda’s efforts in developing our water and energy resources for the benefit of our people presently have minimal access to these vital utilities.

To date, a lot of funds have been pumped into this Commission in an effort to understand the environmental effects of large dams. After a series of consultations around the world, a number of observations were made. These findings were presented in the Commission’s Report “Dams and development: A New framework for Decision Making”, that was released in November 2000.

I wish to note here that while recognizing the “important and significant contributions to human development” and the considerable “benefits derived” from the dams, the report paints a negative picture of large dams.

The Commission then made a number of recommendations to be followed by whoever wanted to put up a dam. The main thrust of the recommendations is that no dam should be built without “demonstrable acceptance of the affected people especially the “affected indigenous and tribal people”. I believe that in the course of this workshop, a full list of the recommendations will be presented as a basis for discussion.

I wish to observe that these WCD recommendations and guidelines are not international standards, which must be followed by all in the development of the water and energy resource development. They are still subject to international debate. In Uganda we have a legal framework under which energy projects (including dams) are developed. This framework is the National Environmental Management Statute, the Electricity Act and the Water Statute.
It is important that Ugandan NGOs and the foreign ones seeking to influence the trend of things in Uganda and attempt to internalize them and engage in regular contact/exchange of ideas with those managing these sectors. This will ensure that you talk from a well informed, authoritative and realistic point of view.

I wish to urge the participants to critically examine the WCD recommendations and discuss their implications for the development of Uganda. It should be noted that dams are useful as a source of water, fisheries products and of electricity. It should further be observed that although a number of organizations have been formed to address the issue of large dams, there does not seem to be an agreement on what constitutes a “large dam”. I hope that this workshop will come up with a definition of a “large dam” again as a basis of decision.

As the participants here are aware, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa, one of the outcomes was a gradual replacement of fossil fuels by clean sources of energy. It was agreed that renewable energy sources be promoted and developed. Consensus emerged that hydro was one of the renewables to be promoted. Uganda’s delegation played a key role in building this consensus. Subsequent meetings i.e. Kyoto and Bonn have reinforced this position. Indeed the outcome of the WSSD has helped determine the positive outlook of the financial institutions, such as World Bank, in regard to the funding of hydro power projects.

In Uganda, dams are constructed mainly for hydroelectricity generation and for water management in form of valley dams. As we modernize our agriculture, there is no doubt that dams will be needed to provide water for irrigation. The positive outlook of funding agencies towards financing the development of dam projects is a welcome development which we should take advantage of. This will help us transform our economy and the lives of our people.

The River Nile from the Lake Victoria to Nimule provides Uganda with enormous opportunities for hydroelectricity generation capacity. The strategy we intend to pursue is to adopt those set of recommendations in the WCD Report, which conform to our environmental legal provisions. Borrowing the words of Professor Kader Asmal, who chaired the WCD; “The Report does not call for a moratorium. Dams should be judged on a case by case basis, and pass or fail according to the criteria and guidelines set for them.” Indeed I would like to remind our brothers from the anti-dam lobby that when the report talked about dialogue with stakeholders it did not say bring to a halt dam projects. To come up with such an interpretation is to miss the point. It is my prayer that this workshop helps us to correct this impression.

You are fully aware that reliable and affordable energy sources are a prerequisite for industrialization and transformation of society. The developed countries have developed most of their hydro potential (more than 70%) yet Africa has only about 5% of the vast hydro resources developed. The question here is; “Would the Developed countries have attained their present level of energy developed i.e. universal access and stand by capacity if they followed in a wholesale manner some of the stringent recommendations contained in the WCD report?” The answer is a categorical NO.
I wish to inform all Ugandans, other stakeholders and the international NGOs like the International Rivers Network, that we are making efforts to develop and popularize other renewable energy resources like geothermal and solar. However, there are limitations in the application of some of these technologies in meeting the energy needs of the country. For example, although solar PV is useful in providing household energy for lighting, refrigeration in health centers, it cannot be used to run industries. Furthermore, to make solar more accessible there is a need for revolving funds to enable consumers pay a small upfront fee and the rest to be paid under soft credit mechanisms like those managed by village banks. For geothermal resources, investments are being made to investigate their viability for generating electricity. Therefore, IRN, NAPE and similar NGOs would play a significant role in our society if they helped government to mobilize financial resources to accelerate the evaluation of geothermal resources.

For the ‘Save Bujagali Crusade’ (SBC), I wish to contend that Bujagali project is still the least cost solution to our power needs. This is not withstanding the other available options which Government has seriously considered. In that regard Government will go ahead to develop Bujagali and other hydropower sites on the White Nile River to meet the energy needs of the country.

After all, when there is a power shortage in the country it is Government that is held accountable. Our request therefore, is that lets agree that we have a back-log in this sector, and we work collectively to overcome it by making it easy to attract investment in this vital sector.

Finally, I hope that this workshop will exhaustively debate the WCD report and come up with a way forward for Uganda and the world regarding the development of large dams taking into account Uganda’s resource base and the stack realities on the ground.

Ladies and Gentlemen, with those few remarks, I wish to declare the workshop open and wish you a fruitful debate.
Appendix III

THE GENESIS OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON LARGE DAMS

By Alex Muhweezi,
IUCN Country Representative

The Origin of the World Commission on Large Dams (WCD) dates back to early 1997. In April 1997, IUCN –The World Conservation Union convened a workshop at its headquarters in Gland, Switzerland to discuss conservation and development issues relating to Large dams. In total, 39 participants from government, private sector, international financial institutions, CSO and affected people participated. IUCN convened the workshop in recognition of the fact large dams have become an important factor for sustainable development. Some of the considerations included:

a) **Multiple benefits:** Dams have been built for thousands of years to provide multiple benefits. By 1997, there were about 45,000 dams worldwide for power generation, flood control, irrigation, and supply water for drinking and industrial use.

b) **Hydropower generation:** About 1/3 of the world countries rely on hydropower for more than half of their electricity supply. Large dams generate 19% of electricity over-all.

c) **Large dams contribution to Agriculture and food security:** Half of the world’s large dams were built exclusively or primarily for irrigation and some 30-40% of the 271 million ha irrigated depend on large dams.

d) **Provision of employment and meeting peoples needs:** Both direct and indirect employment

e) **Impact on human settlement:** Approximately 40-80 million people worldwide have been displaced by reservoirs created out large dam development.

f) **Need for transparent, inclusive and open decision making regarding Large dams:** Decisions to build large dams have increasingly become contested to a point where the future of dam building in many countries were being questioned and conflicts flared up. Social and economic proponents urge that dams are intended to meet development needs such as irrigation, electricity, flood control, water supply, etc. Opponents point at the adverse effects of dams such as debt burden, cost overruns, displacement and impoverishment of people. Destruction of important ecosystems, inequitable sharing of costs and benefits.
Therefore, the IUCN Workshop was organized with the view to:

⇒ Assess development effectiveness of large dams
⇒ Assess alternatives for water resources and energy development
⇒ Develop internationally agreed criteria, guidelines and standards where possible, for the planning, design, appraisal and construction, operation, monitoring and decommissioning of dams.

This workshop failed to reach conclusions on these issues and hence recommended an establishment of the WCD with mandate to address the above issues.

The WCD began its work in May 1998 under Chairmanship of Prof. Kader Asmal who at that time was South Africa’s Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry. Membership to the WCD was chosen to reflect regional diversity, expertise and stakeholder perspectives. It included:

1. **Chair**: Prof. Kader Asmal, Minister of Water affairs and Forestry, (RSA)
2. **Vice Chair**: Mr. Lakshmi Chand Jain, Chairperson, Industrial Development Services (India)
3. Mr. Don Blackmore, Chief Executive, Murray-darling Basin Commission (Australia)
4. Prof. Jose Goldemberg, Institute of Electronics and Energy, Univ. of Sao Paulo (Brazil)
5. Mr. Goran Lindahl, President and Chief Executive, ABB Ltd. (Sweden)
6. Ms. Medha Patkar, Founder, Narmada Bachao Andolan (*Struggle to save the Narmada River*) (India)
7. Ms. Joji Carino, Tebtebba Foundation (Philippines)
8. Dr. Judy Henderson, Former Chair, Oxfam International (Australia)
9. Ms. Deborah Moore, Senior Advisor, Environment Defense, (USA)
10. Prof. Thayer Scudder, California Institute of Technology (USA)
11. Dr. Jan Veltrop, Honorary President, International commission on large dams (ICOLD) (USA)
12. Mr. Achim Steiner, WCD Secretary General – *Ex-Official* (Germany)

The Commissioners consulted over 68 institutions in 36 countries, comprising of representatives from:

⇒ Affected peoples groups 7)
⇒ Bilateral agencies/Export Credit Guarantee Agencies (6)
⇒ Government Agencies (6)
⇒ International associations (4)
⇒ Multilateral agencies (7)
⇒ NGOs (15)
⇒ Private sector firms (6)
⇒ Research institutes (10)
⇒ River basin authorities (4)
⇒ Utilities (5)
The work of WCD involved:

a) Case studies - 11 case studies
b) Thematic reviews – 17 reviews
c) Working papers – 2 papers
d) Regional Consultations (south Asia, Latin America, Africa and Middle east, East and South east Asia)

The work of the WCD was implemented in close partnership and cooperation with a number of institutions including:

a) FAO
b) UNEP
c) World Bank,
d) IUCN
e) World Health Organization
f) International Rivers Network
g) World Resources Institute
h) Transparent International
i) International Energy Agency
j) International Association for Impact Assessment
k) International Institute for Sustainable Development
l) The World Archaeological Congress
m) Environment Monitoring Group
n) International Commission on Large Dams.

Financial support to the work of the WCD came from 53 contributors including governments, NGOs, International agencies, private sector and various Foundations. All funds received were unrestricted and had no conditions attached to them.

The WCD completed its assignment in 2000. The Final report of the WCD: Dams, Dams and Development: A New Framework for Decision Making was released in November 2000. The report sets milestone in the evolution of dams as a development option. The report highlights debates about the very meaning, purpose and pathways for achieving development. The report presents an integrated assessment of when, how and why dams succeed or fail in meeting development objectives. It provides a rationale for a fundamental shift in options, assessment and in planning the project cycles for water and energy resources development. The WCD recommends five core values for decision-making: equity, sustainability, efficiency, participatory decision-making and accountability.
Appendix IV

Implications of World Commission on Dams on Developing Uganda’s Water and Energy Resources

By: Mr. Bwobi Watuwa
Director for Energy and Mineral Development

Introduction
According to the Oxford Advance Learner’s Dictionary, a dam is a “barrier that is built across a river in order to stop the water from flowing, used especially to make a reservoir (lake for storing water) or to produce electricity”.

In Uganda, dams are also made across valleys (valley dams) to create reservoirs for watering animals and for irrigation. Dams are also made to create reservoirs for fish rearing.

Environmental Concerns

A number of environmentalists have risen against construction of what they call “large dams” but they have failed to define “large dams”. One such group is the World commission on Dams (WCD). This group has studied a number of large dams”, made a number of observations and made recommendations. These recommendations should not be taken lightly since they guide the World Bank’s Dam Construction financing. The implications of these WCD recommendations to the developing countries are far reaching.

The recommendations of WCD include the following:

1. No dam should be built without the “demonstrable acceptance” of the affected people and without the free, prior and informed consent of affected indigenous and tribal peoples”.
2. Comprehensive and participatory assessment of people’s water and energy needs and different options for meeting these needs should be developed before proceeding with any project.
3. Priority should be given to maximizing the efficiency of existing water and energy systems before building any new project.
4. Periodic participatory reviews should be done for existing dams to assess such issues as dam safety and possible decommissioning.
5. Mechanisms should be developed to provide reparation or retroactive compensation, for those who are suffering from existing dams and to restore damaged ecosystems.
National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)

The above recommendations are meant to ensure that in exploiting the water resource the environment should not be left worse off than it was before. The resultant impact is that it will be impossible for developing nations like Uganda to build dams because it will be damn expensive.

In Uganda, the NEMA Statute to which all energy projects are subjected governs the environment. Energy Sector guidelines have been developed by NEMA in consultation with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development to address peculiar issues of hydroelectric power generation. This goes to show the concerns the government of Uganda has for the environment.

Mitigating Measures

The environmental impacts of the Bujagali Project were identified and mitigation measures were developed, and discussed and agreed upon. There was a plan of implementing these mitigations measures, which was linked to the construction, commissioning, and operations of Bujagali hydropower plant. Indeed a number of actions had been undertaken before the project was halted. It must be emphasized here that the stopping of the Bujagali project had nothing to do with the Environment issues. It was a global cold that caught most of the energy projects.

It would be appreciated if the National Association of Professional Environmentalists, the Save Bujagali Crusade and other NGOs recognized the legal framework the Government of Uganda has put in place to address environmental issues. As they strive to block the development of Bujagali, they should be professional enough to assess the impacts and inform Ugandans, the missing 250 MW of electricity on their social transformation efforts. The government of Uganda is determined to industrialize and transform the social life of all Ugandans (where indigenous or tribal).

Sections of society should not be left in the prehistoric times for the sake of preserving “a way of life” for the rich / or developed world to come and watch. We want to resume the implementation of the environmental mitigation measures arising out of the Bujagali hydropower project as soon the project restarts.

Benefits of Dams

The benefit of dams’ development in Uganda are meant to accrue to all Ugandans, and not limited to a few who happened to be found etching for a living near the dam site. Of course the local communities would benefit from additional funding for the project in form of royalties on generated electricity. With the decentralized system of government in Uganda, every citizen has a forum of addressing his / her concerns.

We should not dwell too much upon mechanisms to “provide reparations” or “retroactive compensation” but on efforts to remove the causes of suffering because of the existing dams. Ecosystems evolve even in their untouched state and it would be chasing futility to
struggle to “restore damaged ecosystems”. Should we struggle to restore damaged ecosystems that permitted the flourishing of snails, the vectors of pathogens which cause bilharzias? It may be better to create ecosystems that enhance the human development rather than lamenting on a bygone system, which enslaved humankind.

**Conclusion**

There are environmental laws in Uganda which all of us should be acquainted with. If they are found lacking in some aspects there are mechanisms for changing them. It must be recognized that humans are part of the environment that enhance their continued existence and socialization. Man should not internally destroy the environment because in doing so he would be destroying himself. Let us strive to create an environment that will benefit the whole humanity (and not only “indigenous and tribal peoples”)

Appendix V

Making World Commission on Dams Recommendations a Reality in Uganda.
By: Mr. Oweyegha-Afunaduula F.C.
Deputy Coordinator Save Bujagali Crusade (SBC)
& Secretary NAPE

BACKGROUND
Essential Historical knowledge of Large Dam Building
- Earliest: 3000 B.C
- Unilateral decisions
- World Bank Involvement since 1950
- Dam Lobbies: ICOLD, ICID, IHA (Powerful & well-resourced)
- Symbols of Patriotic Pride and the conquest of Nature

Uganda’s Energy Master Plan
- 6 Huge Dams Planned: Bujagali, Ayago South, Ayago North, Kalagala, K amdini: /Karuma, Murchison Falls
- Role of Acres International
- Role of World Bank
- Role of Uganda Government

Declining Trend in Dam Finance
- Drop in funds available for damming
- Greater awareness of negative impacts
- Increasing direct financial constraints faced by Government (s)
- Best sites for dams taken already
- Cash recovery increasingly problematic

Great Global Dams Debate
- Construction of large dams benefits the politically powerful and economic interests
- Planning, promoting and building dams secretive (Government-Corporate circle of secrecy)
- Civil Society deliberately excluded from decision of dam-building
- Independent power developers

Independent power developers
- Water, Cultural/Social and or economic goal?
- Dams as white elephant projects
- Lifespan of dams declining with dishonesty/corruption
- World Bank, Governments, Dam/hydro-lobbies/IPDS/Environmental lobbies etc

Great Uganda Dam Debate
Uganda Government Vs NAPE & SBC
World Bank / Government / Dam Lobbies / Credit Agencies / Dam Builders
Occasionally in Parliament
Occasionally International NGOs are involved
Privatization of Energy Sector.
NGOs sabotaging Economy & Foreign Policy / Natural Interest
Energy Alternatives, including fuel wood energy for the poor

The Ten Million Dollar Question
How do we solve the complex issues that are emerging out of the dams and development debate?

WCD as the Answer
- Findings and Recommendations
- World commission on dams (WCD) as a new World Order? (not dominated by anyone)

Process of WCD many-pronged:
- Review of Development Effectiveness of Dams
- Assess Alternatives
- Propose Practical Guideline for Future Decision-Making
- Regional WCD Consultations
- South Asia Regional Consultation in Colombo, Sri Lanka, 10 -12 December 1998
- Latin American Regional Consultation in Sao Paulo, Brazil on 11 – 12 August 1999
- Africa and Middle East Regional Consultation held in Cairo, Egypt on 8 -12 December 1999
- East and South East Asia Consultation 2000
- The Report, November 2000

Objectives of WCD Consultations
- Wide participation
- Public Exchange of ideas
- Shared Understanding of Public Opinion on Dams & their Alternatives
- Publication of findings

Participation of NAPE and WCD Process
- As a result of their concerns on proposed Bujagali Dam
- Presentation at the Cairo Consultation “Corporate Crime and Craze for huge hydropower development, projection in Uganda: the alternatives”
- Evaluated Kiambere Dam in Kenya for WCD
- Continued use of WCD guidelines to wage what they call a right legitimate struggle for social and environmental justice in Bujagali dam affected area
- Formulation of the Environmental Non-governmental Organizations Lobby Group (ENGLOG) for scrutiny of Bujagali Dam Process
- Joint crusade with SBC
Some Findings of the WCD

- The benefits of dams have already gone to the already well-off while poorer sectors of society have borne the costs
- Large dams have forced 40-80 million people from their homes and land, with impacts including extreme economic hardship, community disintegration and increased mental and physical health problems

Some Recommendations of the WCD

- No dam should be built without the “demonstrable acceptance” of the affected people, and without the free, prior and informed consent of affected indigenous and tribal people
- Comprehensive and participatory assessments of the peoples’ water and energy needs

Perceptions of the WCD

- Organized Civil society welcomed it
- Some NGOs, such as NAPE 7 SBC wanted it to be adopted by natural law and binding upon dam builders through adoption of a treaty enforced by the UN
- IHA, ICID & ICULD rejected it or block information about it from the public
- UNEP, WHO, etc welcomed the culture

IHA Sustainability Guidelines as Anti thesis of WCD Guidelines

- IHA innovated own guidelines in dams and development area: Sustainability Guidelines
- IHA demanded compliance with IHA Sustainability Guidelines (it says nothing about compliance) with WCD guidelines
- Cultural Heritage losses, spread of water borne diseases, submersion of human settlements and financial viability ignored by IHA.

Further Involvement of NAPE with WCD Guidelines

- Executive Director of NAPE is one of those from Uganda (The other is State Minister of Energy, Daudi Migereko) who are members of the Dams and Development Forum at UNEP
- Sensitization of dam affected people to WCD Guidelines (Brochures & frequent interactions with dam-affected people)
- Developing Investor’s Guide on Geothermal Development in Uganda
- Advocacy for alternative energy resources / small dams
- Sustenance of debates on energy and Water Sectors and development effectiveness of large dams
- Publishing of NAPE Lobby
- World Commission on Dams (WCD) Launching Workshop
- Plans to develop guidelines for Solar, Wind, Biogas and Fuel wood Development in Uganda
- Plans to engage others in the development of Investors Guide to Large and Small Dams Development
Appendix VI

Sharing South African Experience on World Commission on Dams (WCD) Recommendations
By: Ms. Terri Hathaway
International Rivers Network

I would like to thank NAPE for inviting me to attend today’s meeting. I work with International Rivers Network (IRN), and was invited today to observe this gathering here in Uganda. IRN has been working for 20 years with NGOs and dam affected communities in the South to help raise their concerns about the impacts of large dams. IRN is not out to stop development. Rather, we work with local groups to ensure that real development happens, and projects benefit those most in need. IRN works to amplify the voices of those who bear the true cost of dams, and to show that dams are often presented as a solution without having asked the right question. IRN followed the WCD process closely, and we believe that the WCD recommendations provide a clear path to ensuring that the best development decisions for water and energy needs are made.

Last week, I was in Johannesburg for the 4th and final meeting of the South African Multi-Stakeholder Initiative on the World Commission on Dams. Liane Greef is a member of the Coordinating Committee in South Africa, but was unable to attend today to share with you the South African experience. I was asked to present the following on her behalf.

Over 60 stakeholders came together last week to hammer out the final recommendations of the WCD process in the South African context. The report is now being finalized by the Coordinating Committee and will be published in December. The objectives of the South African Initiative on the WCD were to broadly contextualize the WCD report and to make recommendations on its implementation in South Africa. It is the first country to have conducted a multi-stakeholder process analyzing the WCD in a country context, and what I observed last week was a resounding affirmation by all stakeholders that the WCD is indeed very relevant to South Africa.

The South Africa Initiative was launched in 2001 and met annually for the next three years. Stakeholders were identified by eight sectors determined to be relevant in South Africa: government, utilities, NGOs, agriculture, private sector, finance, research, and affected communities. Representatives of each of South Africa’s eight identified stakeholders sat on the Coordinating Committee to ensure an equal voice in the proceedings of the Initiative. The South Africa stakeholders framed their process around the seven strategic priorities outlined in the WCD. The Initiative began its work by publishing a scoping report to review the WCD strategic priorities against existing South African policy and legislation. Over the three years, the stakeholders reviewed the existing laws and identified research needs and made recommendations to improve policy and implementation. It was believed that a collaborative effort between organizations that would bring together key decision-makers would be the most powerful way forward for South Africa.
After the WCD report was released in November 2000, a Working Group in South Africa came together and spent 4 months planning the first Multi-Stakeholder Symposium on the WCD. This working group planned the workshop with equal emphasis from all perspectives, coordinated logistics and raised funds. It was during this period of work that an atmosphere of mutual respect emerged despite differences in perspective. The respect built here was apparent throughout the process.

As a result of the first symposium in 2001, a scoping report was commissioned to include documentation of the meeting, the WCD final report and key documents from the WCD knowledge base. The Report detailed the principles and findings of the WCD, trends in South Africa, key issues in South Africa, key debating points, and a possible way forward.

An analytical framework was also developed to guide the production of the South African Final Report around the seven strategic priorities:

- Come to a conclusion on the WCD’s relevance and desirability in South Africa
- Determine the extent to which it is covered by existing policy, regulation, and legislation
- Make recommendations
- Identify any outstanding research needs
- And use examples from Southern Africa to support the analysis.

The Coordinating Committee in South Africa identified several reasons for their success with the initiative. The South Africa process included:

- Reasonable and committed participants
- The belief that WCD improves practices, has much to offer and can be implemented
- Early adoption of core values and approaches
- Determination to examine each proposal, and not adopt proposals blindly
- Determination to build consensus
- Realization that South Africa could not afford to repeat past mistakes
- Open and constructive debates
- Clear process
• Time for reflection

• Funds for critical elements, including author, attendance costs of disadvantaged groups, and a multi-stakeholder forum.

The report is currently being finalized by the Coordinating Committee. I spoke with many people last week who attended the meetings. What I observed last week was an impressive example of democracy in action. It was a process that empowered all those with a vested interest to come together, exchange views in a constructive way, and find consensus about development issues in the context of South Africa. It is a process that I believe would benefit Uganda as well.

The stakeholders in South Africa did not adopt the WCD report outright. They understood that some WCD recommendations may not apply to them. Instead, they measured it against South African history, current policy and practice, and needs, and are now determining the priority recommendations for South Africa. Similarly, I don’t think the South African report could be adopted exactly and used effectively by any other country. But it does set forth a process that may benefit others to study in order to consider relevance and best practices for going forward. I believe South African stakeholders learned many valuable lessons that could help other WCD processes move forward.

Another important aspect is the importance of having all stakeholders engaged in determining the process. Many processes are now labelling themselves as multi-stakeholder, but often, one sector is holding a workshop and inviting other sectors. This often leads to the organizing sector having undue influence over the agenda and the final results. The South African process provided opportunities for equalizing traditionally unequal power relations and thereby enabling more voices to be heard. While NAPE organized today’s meeting, I hope that representatives of all sectors will take this opportunity to move forward together, to coordinate and plan a process deemed relevant to the Ugandan context.
THE WORLD COMMISSION ON DAMS AND THE DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Kampala, Uganda - October 19 2004

United Nations Environment Programme
Dams and Development Project
www.unep-dams.org

WSSD – 5 priority areas
Johannesburg, Aug - Sept 2002

Water, Energy, Health, Agriculture, Biodiversity

There is a strong linkage between these five areas, the MDGS, Water Resources Management and Dams

Need to improve dams’ decision making
Need to improve dams’ decision making

The World Commission on Dams (1997-2001)

The Commission was established by a wide stakeholder group in response to escalating conflicts over the role of dams in development.

Listening and learning from the past

The WCD Final Report presented a new framework for decision-making based on recognising rights and assessing risks of all interested parties.

- 5 core values
- 7 strategic priorities
- Key messages and policy principles
- Criteria & 26 guidelines
WCDs 5 Core Values - the Shared Values

Based on Internationally accepted norms

Equity

Efficiency

Participatory
Decision-making

Sustainability

Accountability

WCDs 7 Strategic Priorities

1. Gaining Public Acceptance of key decisions involving all stakeholders identified on the basis of a rights and risks approach, providing for informed and participatory decision making processes and safeguarding the entitlements of all groups of people, particularly adversely affected vulnerable groups.

2. Comprehensive Options Assessment of the full range of policy, institutional, and technical options giving social and environmental aspects the same significance as economic and financial aspects.

3. Addressing Existing Dams to adapt management and operation practices, optimise benefits, address outstanding social issues and strengthen environmental mitigations and restoration measures.

4. Sustaining Rivers and Livelihoods that depend on the water courses and associated freshwater ecosystems by avoiding impacts, followed by mitigating harm to the health and integrity of the river system.
WCDs 7 Strategic Priorities

5. Recognising Entitlements and Sharing Benefits
   by means of agreed enforceable provisions that improve livelihoods and quality of life by making affected people first beneficiaries of any project.

6. Ensuring Compliance with applicable regulations, criteria and guidelines and project specific agreements by means of appropriate regulatory and non-regulatory measures, incorporating incentives an sanctions..

7. Sharing Rivers of Peace, Development and Security promoting mutual self-interest for regional cooperation and peaceful collaboration among countries to shift in focus from the perspective of allocating a finite resource to the sharing of rivers and their associated benefits.

Summary of Reactions to WCD Report

- Some groups welcomed the report and demanded immediate enforcement
- Others raised strong concerns and opposed its implementation.

However...

Widespread concurrence with WCD
5 core values and 7 strategic priorities...
Summary of Reactions to WCD Report

- Some groups welcomed the report and demanded immediate enforcement
- Others raised strong concerns and opposed its implementation.

However...

**Widespread concurrence with WCD**
- 5 core values and 7 strategic priorities...

Examples of WCD follow-up and related initiatives

Consultation meetings
- ADB in-country workshops (Philippines, Vietnam...)
- Mekong River Commission Workshop
- Meso-America workshop: Panama Consultation
- Spanish Launch – multi-stakeholders meeting
- Civil Society meetings

World Bank, IUCN, WWF responses

Hydro-Equipment Association formed

IRN Citizens’ Guide

IHA Sustainability Guidelines

Financier sector response

UNEP-DDP
UNEP - Dams and Development Project was launched in November 2001.

It is an institutional follow up of the WCD resulting from the Third WCD Forum meeting in February 2001, Spier, SA.

DDP Goal Phase 1

Goal of the Dams and Development Project

To promote a dialogue on improving decision-making, planning and management of dams and their alternatives based on the World Commission on Dams (WCD) core values and strategic priorities.
DDP Stakeholder Categories

1. Government Agencies (Policy)
2. Government Agencies (Project/Basins)
3. Government Agencies (Bilateral Development, Export Credit, Regulators)
4. Affected People groups
5. Indigenous People Groups
6. Utilities/Owners/Operators
7. Private Sector/Industry
8. International Non-Governmental Organisations
9. Non-Governmental Organisations (Advocacy)
10. Inter-Governmental Organisations
11. Professional Associations
12. Organisations Working on Options
13. Research Organisations

Objectives of the DDP Phase 1

Building on the dialogue of the WCD and its core values and strategic priorities, the DDPs objectives are to:

- Support country-level, regional and global dialogue on WCD report and the issues it addresses to engage all stakeholders with emphasis on those not currently involved
- Strengthen interaction and networking among participants in the dams debate
- Support dissemination of the WCD report, the report of the Third WCD Forum, and stakeholders’ responses: and
- Facilitate the flow of information and advice relevant to dams and development.

The mandate of the DDP excludes it from taking positions or making judgments on individual projects or associated practices.
Strategy for UNEP/DDP implementation

There is a need to overcome entrenched positions
To realise that “business as usual” is likely to escalate risks, delays, costs and defer delivery of benefits and that,

WCD Report is neither a regulatory framework nor blueprint,

so DDP strategy is:

Promote multi-stakeholder in-country dialogue processes
Use the WCDs 5 core values and 7 strategic priorities as a starting point for dialogue
Encourage inclusive, multi-stakeholder review to determine locally appropriate recommendations for policy and procedural reforms

Global Dialogue (Phase 1)

Dams and Development Forum

The role of the DD Forum is:

To act as a platform for global multi-stakeholder dialogue on dams-related issues including follow-up to WCD report;
To exchange experience and lessons learnt on operationalising and implementing WCD core value and strategic priorities;
To act as a consultative body on key outputs of the DDP


Issue-based Workshops

Options assessment (Geneva 2003); Financing dams and sustainable development (London 2004); Addressing existing dams and Ensuring compliance (Nairobi 2004); Gaining public acceptance (planned);
Some Dialogue Initiatives (Phase 1)

Argentina, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Sri Lanka, Zambia.
SADC regional initiative
Latin America, West Africa, Central Asia potential emerging processes.

WCD Consultative Process in Pakistan – IUCN/PWP. National Workshop on Dams and Development.
UK, Germany, Switzerland, The Netherlands and Sweden consultation initiatives.

Information about this initiatives might be accessed in www.unep-dams.org

South Africa’s Multi-stakeholder Initiative on WCD

July 2001 Symposium took forthright actions leading to:

Establishment of broad Coordinating Committee with representatives of: Government, NGOs, Water Management and Service Institutions, Affected Communities, Private Sector, Research, Finance, Agriculture and Labour.
Scoping Report prepared that defines priority areas and the way forward.
First multi-stakeholder Forum meeting, July 2002, considered the scoping report and decided a detailed analysis of each strategic priority to develop recommendations for reform of policy and procedure where needed.
Strategic priorities 1, 2 and 3 discussed in 3rd Multi-stakeholder Forum convened near Durban, SA, October 2003.
Draft Final report addressing all seven SPs finalised in September 04.
National Initiative in Vietnam

October 2002 – initial workshop supported by ADB

Dissemination of Vietnamese version of WCD Report within key government agencies, provincial departments, universities and NGOs

Scoping Report reviewing WCD strategic priorities in the national context. Completed February 2004

Next steps

Second multi-stakeholder workshop to review Scoping Report and define key areas on analysis supported by DDP and ADB

Recommendations for improving policy and implementation procedures in context of Vietnam

Nepal’s National Dialogue on Dams & Development

Multi-stakeholder task force established in January 2003

To carry out national consultations on dams and development
To consider the relevance of the recommendations of the WCD and other bodies in the Nepalese context with the ultimate aim of recommending the development and adoption of national guidelines for improved decision making, planning and management of dams and alternatives for Nepal

Scoping report published in 2004

Activities 2004 -2005

• improving the understanding on WCD recommendations within Nepal
• improving the understandings on dams, costs and benefits for Nepal
• recommending guidelines relevant to Nepal according to WCD’s seven strategic priorities
Regional Initiative in Southern African Development Community (SADC)

SADC’s 12th Water Resources Technical Committee Meeting in May 2002. Proactive stance towards follow-up to WCD report

WRTC encouraged member countries to hold consultations and to formulate national positions on the WCD recommendations.

SADC Ministerial Meeting in July 2002 in Angola, emphasized need to develop a regional position

Activities comprise:

**Phase 1**
A background paper on key dam issues in the SADC region. Six country reports on national WCD processes.

**Phase 2**
Draft SDAC regional policy on dams and development and draft regional position paper on WCD.

**Phase 3**

**Common Elements and Challenges of National Follow-up Activities**

**Common Elements**

Focus on national context
Inclusive of all perspectives – Multi-stakeholder processes and organising committee
Integrate with ongoing initiatives where possible
WCD core values and strategic priorities provide a framework for discussion
Focus on developing locally appropriate policy response and guidelines
Co-financed by range of organisations
Expected results from national Dialogue activities

Expected results

• Raised awareness on WCD CVs and SPs
• Discussion on dams issues in the national context
• Promotion of a multi-stakeholder approach
• Analysis of the WCD CVs and SPs in the existing legal framework (scoping reports)
• Recommendation on policy and procedure to improve decision making appropriate for local conditions

Support from the Dams & Development Project

Advice to national process

Provide resource people to present material at national multi-stakeholder workshops

Partial funding for workshop and studies

Assist with dissemination of information on WCD, its Knowledge Base and Follow-up activities around the world

Support translations
The DDP multi-stakeholder dialogue approach

• Water and energy needs are large and urgent.
• “Good” dams might contribute to satisfy them in the context of an integrated water resources management approach.
• The decision making framework needs to be improved to come out with sustainable outcomes involving dam and their alternatives.
• The WCD Core Values and Strategic Priorities constitute a comprehensive starting point to discuss improvements in policies and procedures at the national and regional levels.
• A multi-stakeholder approach and dialogue process are the appropriate basis to elaborate said policy recommendations.

Proposed for DDP Phase 2

Based on the World Commission on Dams core values and strategic priorities, the goal and main objectives of the Dams and Development Project Phase 2 are:

**Goal**
To promote improved decision-making, planning and management on dams and their alternatives.

**Objectives**
- promote multi-stakeholder dialogues at country-level, regional and global levels on improving decision making on dams and their alternatives with the aim of engaging all stakeholders with emphasis on governments.
- produce non prescriptive tools drawing on all appropriate existing bodies of criteria and guidelines for planning and management of dams and their alternatives, which can help decision makers.
Concluding Remarks

“"It is one thing to find fault with an existing system. It is another thing altogether, a more difficult task, to replace it with an approach that is better"

Nelson Mandela

When it comes to Dams and Development issues…

Let us replace:
- Polarisation with inclusiveness
- Contested perspectives with 5 shared core values

And promote:
- Dialogue on 7 strategic priorities towards locally appropriate solutions

United Nations Environment Programme
Dams and Development Project

www.unep-dams.org
Appendix VII

Closing Speech: Minister of State for Lands, Hon. Baguma Isole

Let me at the outset say how delighted I am to be here with you today for the launching ceremony of World Commission on Dams Report by the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE).

I have a historical link with this association, NAPE. Eight years ago I recommended that NAPE be registered as an Environmental NGO. So I have watched NAPE grow into the Influential Organization it is today. It has greatly influenced environmental thinking and even policy on dams and development in general. NAPE is doing a superb job in increasing awareness of challenges, problems and issues in the area of dams and sustainable development. I am therefore grateful to NAPE for organizing this multi-stakeholder workshop on the WCD Report and deciding to launch it in Uganda.

Let me also assure you that Government takes the recommendations of WCD on dams seriously. I am also aware that the WCD report has the goodwill and endorsement of many Governments, the World Bank, the dam-building industry, Non-governmental organizations, and others. Indeed Government recognizes the contribution of the WCD report and Government has already been implementing some of the recommendations of the report. For example, Government sought the consent of the people who were to be displaced by the proposed Bujagali dam. They were consulted and paid compensation. Right now we are in the process of giving the resettled people their land titles. All this is in line with the spirit of the WCD report. I call upon civil society to help in the implementation of the Land Act, which government believes would help to address some of these issues.

As many of you are aware, poverty eradication is the overall objective of the Uganda Government policy through the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP). As part of this policy, my Ministry has increasingly been constructing small dams to provide water for livestock watering in the cattle corridor and will continue with this initiative to alleviate the water supply situation in the affected districts. With the unreliable rainfall, government is planning to construct and develop conservation storages and damming of streams will be the only alternative to provide water for irrigation in our bid to develop the agricultural sector, and thus avoid over-reliance on rain-fed agricultural production.

I wish now to take this opportunity to reiterate Government’s position on large dams. My colleague in cabinet, Hon, Daudi Migereko, might have elaborated it this morning but we believe that large dams and hydropower from these facilities are still the best way forward for our present and future energy requirements. No country can develop without adequate energy to run the economy. It is common knowledge that Uganda is currently facing acute power shortages of more than 100 MW with both day time and evening load shedding being common nuisances in Ugandan homes. I am also informed that even if Bujagali comes on line with 250 MW in 2009 there will still be a shortfall of about 127 MW. Uganda’s electrification rate is very low with grid access at 5% for the whole country and less than 2% in rural areas with annual growth in 2002 between 5.5 and
7.5%. We also must be mindful of the fact that nearly 40% of Ugandans live on less than one US $ or roughly shillings 1,700 per day. Is this sustainable development as we march into the 21st century?

In his election manifesto of January 2001, H.E. President Museveni pointed out that one of the most dynamic ways to expand an economy was for the government to invest, among other things, in infrastructure development including waterworks and power dams using labour-intensive technology to absorb some of the unemployed youth. Financing infrastructure development is a tested method of increasing employment; accelerating growth; increasing incomes; and increasing savings and investment.

The World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) defined sustainable development as “development that meets the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” and this entails, among other things, orientation in the following areas:

1. reviving growth
2. changing the quality of growth
3. meeting essential needs for jobs, food, energy, water and sanitation; and
4. Conserving and enhancing the resource base.

We are aware that other options are available and we are exploring them. The energy sector relies almost entirely on hydropower generation at the two dams in Jinja along the Nile River (Nalubale and Kiira), which are small dams in comparison to other dams constructed in other parts of the world and as such their social, economic and environmental impacts are minimal. In a bid to develop more dams to meet the national power and water supply requirements, government takes full cognizance of the need for consultations with stakeholders and maximizing the efficiency of the existing water systems and environmental assessments are mandatory to any new development projects as stipulated in the Environment Act Cap 153, Government is also aware of the safety measures required for dams and is therefore designing regulatory mechanisms for the safety of these dams under the Water Act Cap 152. The dams serve several other purposes ranging from hydropower generation, fishing, tourism, recreational facilities, navigation service and also serving as conservation reservoirs providing water during periods of drought.

Government is aware of the problem of declining lake levels in Lake Victoria and technical considerations are underway to establish whether the current drop in the lake’s level is due to drought and/or over release of water due to construction of the Kiira dam for increased power production.

In closing, let me once again reiterate Government’s commitment to work closely with NAPE, and development partners and all other NGOs in ensuring a healthy and sustainable environment for present and future generations. I have no doubt you had a fruitful dialogue and I believe this is only the beginning. This dialogue should go on beyond the workshop. It is healthy and we shall all learn and adjust as we become more and more aware as we strive to ensure adequate energy supplies for this country.
Government will be happy to receive the report of this workshop and I can assure you of Governments continued and collaboration with NAPE.

It is now my pleasure to declare this workshop closed.
## Appendix VIII.

### List of Participants

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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| Bagoole Kirimwitta   | Tumwebaze Happy James                                      |
| Jinja Town Council   | ARCOS /INS                                                 |
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