

## **UTILITY LEADERS' DIALOGUE**

### **PROCEEDINGS FROM ANGLOPHONE AFRICAN UTILITIES GROUP**

#### **A) CHALLENGES & GAPS**

1. The membership of AFWA has somehow stagnated; partly because of the Anglophone members not coming on board. There are a lot of untapped potential of membership among the Anglophone countries. The structure of subscription fees is prohibitive for utilities that are not country wide. Inadequate benchmarking and knowledge sharing at AfWA conferences to motivate others to come on board. The value proposition for AfWA needs enriching; we benefit little from AfWA given the annual subscription.
2. Governance structure does not allow effective liaison with constituents e.g. GWOPA
3. Communication challenges between Francophone and Anglophone; this partly contributes to the prohibitive event costs for AfWA Congresses. Current AFWA programs and communication frameworks are skewed to francophone
4. We are not adequately exploiting funding opportunities
5. The current structure does encourage effective local/regional support; does not enable adequate AfWA visibility at the Regional level e.g. East Africa Community
6. The existence of municipal run utilities is an impediment to membership growth
7. National associations are not well mobilized; even within a given country utilities seem to be working in silos
8. Resolutions in Benin 2010; called for more inclusivity based on some agreed reforms. These reforms have not been implemented.

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**B) PROPOSED WAY FORWARD STRENGTHEN NETWORKS & PLATFORMS**

1. Strengthen the Anglophone participation in AfWA by creating a network for Anglophone CEOs this will go a long way in increasing membership and create some level of unity of purpose e.g. building capacity of members
2. Review the AfWA Statute & Constitution, where appropriate to allow such networks to operate.
3. Consider a two-tier set-up; first at country level and then at AfWA (continental level): national associations!!
4. Effective involvement of the youth (YWPs)
5. Gender mainstreaming e.g. women
6. Establish a category of affiliate membership framework e.g. JUNACO
7. Establish an instrument the enables better organization