



**International
Water Association**



**Kick-off of The African Water Academy (AWA)
and Leadership and Change Management Summit
(LCM–Summit)**

**Held at the NWSC International Resource Centre
Kampala - Uganda
13th – 15th December, 2011**

**CLOSING REMARKS BY
THE HON. MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**

Representatives from AFWA and IWA.
The Board chairperson of NWSC
The Ag Managing Director of NWSC
Utility Managers and representatives
Distinguished Participants
All Protocol Observed, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to officiate at closing of this Leadership summit, which has brought together different water sector practitioners from around the World.

Reflecting back to the purpose of this summit, one of the goals was to identify and provide solutions to the various challenges faced in the provision of water and sanitation services, with a key emphasis on the leadership and management challenge.

Every passing day, the leadership and management challenge becomes more apparent as we have to grapple with the changing times and new challenges at hand.

I am therefore happy to note that in the past 3 days, various papers and presentations have been made by different experts, and these have covered the subjects of; Good leadership and management norms, capacity building and leadership training, Leadership and Financing, and provision of services to the poor. Furthermore, I have been informed that the summit was preceded by a communication and Young Water Professionals meeting.

To the various experts and presenters, thank you very much for sharing your experiences and innovations.

I have been reliably informed that you have had fruitful deliberations in regard to the above issues and benchmarked with different good initiatives and practices around the globe.

I am also happy to note that some concrete actions have been mapped out from this summit which will go a long way to solving the problems that service providers face. Remember, the MDG goals challenge us to halve not only those without water, but also without hygienic sanitation services by the year 2015.

I therefore urge you not to let these actions and recommendations gather dust on our tables and in trays, but test and implement them in our own environments.

I am particular happy to note that the leadership challenge was decomposed to address the teething problems faced by service providers including; the lack of finance, poor sanitation, the need to address services to the urban poor, and a commonly forgotten asset, the need to maintain a thriving work force. These are very crucial since the welfare of our people will only ultimately be achieved if these issues are addressed.

Let me reiterate that the Government of Uganda attaches great importance to the water and sanitation sector, and therefore all efforts geared towards improving these services will always be welcome. Today, our policy in Uganda is to increase coverage based on the theme, “*some for more and not more for some*”

I therefore wish, on behalf of Government, to pledge that we will always be willing to host such meetings and dialogues as long as they attempt to provide

answers to the problems we face today in providing adequate water and sanitation services on the continent.

I wish to thank all those who have contributed to the success of this summit meeting, notably the organising committees from IWA, AFWA and the local organising committee spearheaded by the National Water and Sewerage Corporation.

In a special way, I wish to thank the National Water and Sewerage Corporation for hosting this summit in this Resource Centre which is an innovation to the quest for training and capacity building in the water sector. Thank you very much.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank all those who provided financial support to ensure the success of this summit.

To our foreign delegates I hope you have had some time to move around and enjoy the hospitality of Ugandans. I wish you all safe journeys back to your countries and please come again to Uganda when time allows.

I now have the honour to declare this summit officially closed.

Thank you

For God and My Country.