

22nd AfWASA International Congress and Exhibition outcomes and Declaration

Honorable Minister of water and environment and our distinguished Guests,

Ladies and gentlemen of protocol observed.

This is a result not only for us, as the program committee, but for all of you. I believe you deserve a big round of applause. I will briefly highlight the conference statistics, then address what we have accomplished as a group."

With the exhibition, we had a total area coverage of 3800 kilometers, making it one the largest of AfWASA Congresses

116 exhibiting companies from 40 countries, with 236 exhibitors.

The number of participants is 2200 from 67 countries.

28 sponsors

8 strategic Partners,

We had a water walk to demonstrate what the African woman and child go through on a daily basis and about a 150 of you participated in that.

In terms of the session statistics

we had 10 keynote speakers who gave us very inspiring talks

We had 1 debate, the intergeneration debates, which chief guest I must say, was won by the young water professionals

We had 2 plenaries on Tuesday and Wednesday, and we had a ministerial dialogue as well.

4 high level dialogues, 58 sessions, 300 presentations.

We had an operational challenge that took place with 5 teams performing

With regard to the tracks

We had 6 tracks, and these are the main outcomes

✓ CLIMATE CHANGE AND INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

We have Resolved to effectively incorporate climate change resilient options into the design development and operation of water and sanitation infrastructure

Promote equitable and sustainable use of water resources

Scale environment and catchment protection and restoration interventions

✓ **WATER MANAGEMENT**

We have resolved to strengthen utility management across all segments, including urban, rural poor and other vulnerable communities

Adopt innovative and appropriate management frameworks to maintain high functionality and improve the sustainability of water supply schemes and systems

And under Amcow, we are committed to the post Africa water vision for 2025 and to the achievement of agenda 2063

But as I say that many of us would have exited their room by 2063 and will leave that to the younger generation

✓ **UNDER SANITATION MANAGEMENT**

We resolve to accelerate sanitation access and coverage through innovative financing mechanisms, appropriate technology adoption and complementary partnerships and collaborations

Strengthen sanitation information management to support planning resource mobilization management and accountability for sanitation service delivery

And lastly, scale fecal sludge treatment facilities in view of the significant non-sewage sanitation segment

✓ **CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNICATION AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The newly established African water and sanitation Academy here in Uganda, should ensure relevant equitable and cost-effective capacity building programs for the member and partnering utilities

Strengthen the existing partnerships and collaborations and promote well-designed new partnerships and collaborations so as to maximize impact in relation to utility performance, service delivery, an increased service coverage

✓ **GOVERNANCE AND FINANCING**

Improve utility performance and operational efficiency as one of the measures to reduce the financing gaps

Take advantage and make use of the financing products offered by financiers and development Partners

Explore financing through borrowing from the domestic financial markets in view of the advantages related to this option. And in that, we're trying to move our way from dependency on donor funding

Effectively engaged stakeholders, so to have more enabling regulatory environments to support implementation of better cost-effective if cost-efficient reflective tariffs

Walk towards and maybe we had run towards reduction independence on aid

Work towards establishing and maintaining adaptive, accountable and transformational leadership in all utilities and the water and sanitation sector at large

✓ **RESEARCH TECHNOLOGY AN INNOVATION**

Commit investments into research and innovation

Embrace digital transformations in the utility processes based on the actual utility needs and sector needs. And adopt, “**A do it yourself policy**”

Water and Sanitation for all and Secure our Future for Africa.