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| pressr1 | **NILE BASIN INITIATIVE** *To achieve sustainable socio-economic development**through the equitable utilization of and benefit from Nile Basin water resources***Contacts:** P.O Box 192**,** Entebbe- Uganda**; Tel**+256 (414) 321 424**/**+256 (414)321 329**Email**: nbisec@nilebasin.org**Website**: [www.nilebasin.org](http://www.nilebasin.org) |

## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## 18th June, 2014

## Nile Council of Ministers to meet in Khartoum on 19th June, 2014

**ENTEBBE, Uganda –** Ministers in charge of Water Affairs in the Nile Basin countries are due to meet in Khartoum, The Sudan in their annual 22nd Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM) meeting on Thursday 19th June, 2014 at Corinthia Hotel.

During the meeting, there will be a change in the NBI governance. Hon. Jemma Nunu Kumba, South Sudan’s Minister of Electricity, Water and Irrigation will hand over the chairmanship of the Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM) to Hon. Mutaz Musa Abdalla Salim, Minister of Water Resources and Electricity of The Sudan.

In addition, the 7th Executive Director of theNBI Secretariat will be announced and she/he will assume the position effective 1st September, 2014.

The Ministers will deliberate on the status of the Nile cooperation and how to move it forward. They will also take time to review progress made by the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) in the previous fiscal year, consider the plans and budgets for the coming year and provide strategic guidance.

The Nile-TAC, NBI management, Representatives of Development Partners and the civil society will participate in meeting as observers.

The Nile-COM will be preceded by the 41st Nile-Technical Advisory Committee (Nile-TAC) meeting. The Nile-TAC **comprises technical representatives from NBI Member States. It oversees the work of NBI and offers technical support and advice to the Nile-COM on matters related to the cooperative management and development of the common Nile Basin water resources.**

**Notes to the Editor:**

The changes in the NBI leadership and top management are in keeping with the NBI tradition of rotating the two positions among Member States in alphabetical order(Burundi, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda). Whereas the position of Nile-COM chair rotates each year, that of Executive Director rotates every two years.

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The NBI is a regional intergovernmental partnership launched by the Nile riparian countries on 22nd February, 1999 to develop the River Nile in a cooperative manner, share substantial socio-economic benefits and promote regional peace and security. NBI Member States are 10 namely Burundi, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. Eritrea participates as an observer.

The partnership is guided by a **Shared Vision: ‘***To achieve sustainable socio-economic development through equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin Water resources’*.

The set up of NBI is informed by the principle of subsidiarity, hence the three NBI Centers: **A regional Secretariat** (Nile-SEC) based in Entebbe, Uganda is the executive arm responsible for the overall corporate direction. Two subsidiary Action Programs namely the **Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office** (ENTRO) based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and the **Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit** (NELSAP-CU) based in Kigali, Rwanda are responsible for preparing trans- boundary investment projects in three areas namely Energy, Agriculture and River Basin Management.