

Key Messages from the two regional consultation in 2022, for accelerated implementation in the second half of the Water Action Decade.

- 1. Adopt the Dakar Declaration of the 9th World Water Forum:** Endorse adoption of the “Dakar Declaration”: A Blue Deal for Water Security and Sanitation for Peace and Development” and invite the international community and all stakeholders to contribute to the effective implementation of the goals outlined in the 9th World Water Forum.
- 2. Increase domestic allocations and investment in the water and sanitation sector in Africa:** It is imperative to raise the profile and value attached to water and sanitation in national systems for economic planning. Take actions related to financing and investment, including innovative and diverse sources of financing for the accelerated implementation of SDG 6. Promote increased efficiency of water use as well as reuse of treated wastewater and agricultural drainage for agriculture and industrial uses.
- 3. A call to action to realize the full potential of the sanitation economy to benefit business and society in Africa:** Realize the untapped potential of private sector participation in the delivery of water, sanitation and hygiene services for all as a profitable business. There is an urgent need to address the sanitation failures associated with the disease burden, which constrains the productivity of the labour force and degrades the environment. The African Sanitation Policy Guidelines provide the framework for promoting the sanitation economy.
- 4. Enhance water-related disaster risk reduction and management capabilities in Africa:** Promote proactive approaches to flood and drought management centered around the pillars of monitoring, forecasting and early warning vulnerability and impact assessment, as well as preparedness, mitigation, and response.
- 5. Consolidate evidence-based and timely decision-making at all levels:** Prioritize investment for monitoring, evaluation, knowledge and information management and learning. Member States need to foster research and the application of knowledge and innovation to inform sector interventions targeted at improving assessment and monitoring, water governance and management, as well as water, sanitation, and hygiene services delivery.
- 6. Strengthen the existing legal frameworks via the R/L/A Basin Organizations:** To facilitate transboundary cooperation based on scientific understanding and knowledge of water resources to advance the development of agreements on infrastructure affecting transboundary water management.
- 7. Revitalize UN-Water Africa:** for coordinated efficient and effective responses to national and regional requests for expertise and technical support with a view to organize the Pan-African Accelerated Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water (PANAFCON).

- a. <https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/sites/default/files/eventdocumets/Key%20messages%202300263%20-%20FINAL%20-%20EN.pdf>;
- b. https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/sites/default/files/eventdocumets/ARFSD2023_SDG_6_EN.pdf