

Speaking Slot at the UN 2023 Water Conference in Interactive Dialogue 4 - Water for Cooperation

- **Salutation**

I stand here to speak on behalf of 18 members of ANBO but also I am the Executive Director of Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)

In order for the African continent to address the challenges of Water, energy, food and environmental(WEFE nexus) security in line with the African Water Vision 2025, the SDGs, and the 2063 Agenda, ANBO, which I represent at this august assembly, would like to submit the following key messages to reinforce the Water Decade Agenda that all the African Network of Basin/lake Organizations have agreed upon during various regional workshops; and based on the common challenges we share:

- 1. Extend Support to ANBO member organizations, AMCOW and RECs in their efforts to assist African countries to meet their commitments under SDGs, in particular SDG 6, target 6.5 (Implement IWRM at all levels, including transboundary basins);**
- 2. ANBO in collaboration with RECS, AMCOW and AUC to develop a comprehensive investment strategy to achieve the SDGs by 2030 and develop a post-2030 roadmap to contribute efficiently to Africa's Infrastructure Plan**
- 3. Acknowledge ANBO as a knowledge hub that contribute to raising awareness of new areas of interest and facilitate experience sharing while building the capacity of members and partners through training support and improved access to decision support tools**
- 4. Enable Transboundary Basin/lake Organizations to join the Water Convention to improve governance and cooperation at**

national, regional and continental levels and provide African basin/lake organizations with relevant institutional capacities

- 5. Engage African basin/lake organizations in the Blue Deal and the Dakar Action Plan.**

- 6. Include water as a substantive independent agenda in all UN meetings and conferences related to economic forums because water is a driver and enabler of human development;**