



Newsletter 4

**CIGB ICOLD** THE DAMS NEWSLETTER

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**AFRICA'S WATER DEVELOPMENT NEEDS**

**Nick Phisoane**  
*Vice President*

It was privilege to attend a recent workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa on strengthening River Commissions which had been organised by the African Financing for Water Development (AFWD) and the African Development Bank (ADB). The AFWD was created in the context of the important general commitment to investment in the water in the East African Development of Water Affairs and Forestry and the background to its establishment was a long-term collaboration between the African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Union (AU) and the World Bank. The AFWD's mandate was to provide technical assistance to the African Union and the World Bank in their joint efforts to strengthen the River Commissions and to support the implementation of the AU's River Basin Development Initiatives (RBDIs).

As a Vice President of the AFWD, I had the opportunity to meet and discuss with the officials who are working to implement the AFWD's mandate. It was a great opportunity to learn about the challenges and opportunities facing the River Commissions in Africa and to discuss ways in which the AFWD can support their work. The AFWD's mandate is to provide technical assistance to the African Union and the World Bank in their joint efforts to strengthen the River Commissions and to support the implementation of the AU's River Basin Development Initiatives (RBDIs).

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IN THE NEWS

**• An Open House for the Dam Industry** - An Open House for the Dam Industry was held in Johannesburg, South Africa on 11 May 2009. The event was organized by the African Financing for Water Development (AFWD) and the African Development Bank (ADB). The event was a great opportunity for the dam industry to meet and discuss with the officials who are working to implement the AFWD's mandate.

**• A New Dam in the East African Development of Water Affairs and Forestry** - A new dam is being built in the East African Development of Water Affairs and Forestry. The dam is being built by the African Financing for Water Development (AFWD) and the African Development Bank (ADB). The dam is a great example of the AFWD's mandate to provide technical assistance to the African Union and the World Bank in their joint efforts to strengthen the River Commissions and to support the implementation of the AU's River Basin Development Initiatives (RBDIs).