

## Press Statement On the Extraordinary Nile Council of Ministers Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 Entebbe, Uganda

The Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM), the supreme policy organ of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) has today 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 held an extraordinary meeting in Entebbe, Uganda.

The purpose of the meeting was to facilitate the resumption of Egypt's full participation in NBI activities that had been frozen since 2010.

The meeting was chaired by Hon. Sam Cheptoris, Uganda's Minister of Water and Environment and Chairman of the Nile Council of Ministers and was attended by Ministers in charge of Water Affairs from Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia,Rwanda, South Sudan and Sudan. The Republic of Kenya was represented by the Principal Secretary for Water and Irrigation, while the United Republic of Tanzania was represented by the Deputy High Commissioner to Uganda. DR Congo did not participate.

The ministers received a report on the concerns of Egypt and accordingly responded to those concerns.

Egypt took note of the report on the responses and asked for more time to study, consult and report back to Nile-COM on their formal position. This was agreed upon by all ministers.

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