## The 38th Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program Team (ENSAPT) Meeting is underway in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The highly anticipated Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program Team (ENSAPT) 38<sup>th</sup> meeting is taking place today on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The primary objective of this governance meeting is to review overall plan and performance of the organization, which includes both technical and financial performances, audit reports, and human resources matters within ENTRO for the period spanning from July 2024 to December 2024.

The meeting brought together ENSAPT Leaders, NBI ED, and ENTRO Technical staff. The session commenced with opening remarks from ENTRO Acting Executive Director, Eng. Teshome Atenafie. Eng. Teshome expressed his gratitude to all participants for accepting ENTRO's invitation and attending the meeting. He emphasized the importance of addressing all agenda items as planned and resolving any issues to ensure the sustainability of our organization and support ENTRO in fulfilling its roles and responsibilities. Eng. Teshome also extended his thanks to all development partners for their unwavering efforts in addressing challenges in the eastern Nile basin and contributing to the development and management of water resources in the region.

Eng. Teshome urged ENSAPT leaders the issue of Country Contribution as a critical Issues and to carefully consider this issue and provide recommendations or guidance on how ENTRO can navigate through this challenging situation. Eng. Teshome then invited NBI Executive Director, Dr. Florence Adango, to deliver opening remarks.

During the meeting the NBI Executive Director Dr. Florence Grace Adongo attends the meetings. During her opening remarks, Dr. Florence emphasized the importance of critical decisions that require the attention of ENSAPT. These decisions include approving work plans and budgets to ensure the smooth operation of the institution. Additionally, the NBI Executive Director highlighted that the Secretariat oversees various basin-wide programs, either directly or through coordination, that are implemented across all three centers. These programs require collaborative decision-making and unity among all stakeholders. Dr. Florance, the NBI Executive Director, stressed the significance of each country's contribution to the success of these initiatives. She expressed her gratitude to the acting Executive Director for effectively managing the institution during this time and wished for a fruitful and effective meeting.

The Chair of ENSAPT, Dr. Zebene, marked the uniqueness of the 38<sup>th</sup> ENASPT Meeting being held in Addis Ababa, marking the 26th anniversary commemoration of the birth of the Nile Basin Initiative. The Chair highlighted the importance of this meeting as an opportunity to reflect on ENTRO's achievements, address challenges, and strategize for the future.

Dr. Zeben acknowledged the complexities of water management in the Eastern Nile Basin, stressing the need for vigilance and adaptability with this saying he acknowledges the commendable progress of ENTRO in terms of enhancing water resource management, particularly on climate resilience across the Eastern Nile. Climate change, population growth, and competing demands for water resources present significant threats to progress. Dr. Zeben emphasized the importance of leveraging collective expertise and experience to tackle these challenges head-on. Furthermore, Dr. accentuated the necessity of seeking innovative funding mechanisms and partnerships to enhance capacity for goal implementation, with this in the spirit of genuine collaboration, Dr. Zeben officially opened the meeting, urging all participants to work together towards a sustainable future.

This meeting provides a valuable opportunity for the Governance to address these critical issues, fostering collaboration and facilitating decision-making processes for the betterment of the Eastern Nile Region. The ENSAPT will engage in in-depth discussions, exchanging insights and expertise to propel advancements and improve the overall performance of the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Program. At the meetings, various presentations are delivered on topics related to ENTRO AWPB, ENSAP Projects performance, and the EN Basin Investment Program. Other key presentations include Administration and Financial Performance Report for the period of July 2024 to June 2024.