

COMMUNIQUE FROM THE 2ND GHANA DAMS FORUM

We, members and participants of the Ghana Dams Forum, met at M Plaza Hotel, Accra on 26th-27th of February, 2008 for the 2nd Ghana Dams Forum and Workshop On The Impact Of Climate Change on the Bui Hydropower Project under the Theme: “Bringing Research Findings on Dams Closer to the People” and have resolved as follows:

- that there is the need to adhere to and implement national social and environmental standards and set specific targets for monitoring purposes.
- that comprehensive options assessment is undertaken for future water and energy resources development.
- that modalities of community participation in project design, management, monitoring and evaluation be clearly defined, and that the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders enunciated.
- pertaining to the Bui dam development project,
 - that monitoring of project activities and implementation of recommendations (ESIA and EMP) be undertaken by a designated agency
 - undertake drought-flow analysis
 - assess the potential impact of climate change on the dam
 - assess the contribution of the dam on Green House Gases
- that detailed proposal for developing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of hydropower and other water resource development projects be disseminated and made available (particularly at the local level) and strictly adhered to by relevant parties.
- that human capacities of all stakeholders should be strengthened with special emphasis on empowering communities to lead to their active participation.
- that outstanding issues (e.g. compensation and royalties) relating to the existing dams should be urgently re-examined and addressed.
- that the living conditions of the people to be resettled should be enhanced through the provision of improved livelihoods and building of capacities.
- that adequate funding for research and monitoring related to dams and development be provided from both government and private sources and researchers be motivated.
- that government should facilitate data management by tasking appropriate agencies for this purpose
- that appropriate avenues for dissemination of research findings be established.
- that relevant research findings and other pertinent information on dams development and planning should be made available to all stakeholders.

SIGNED

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