

**THE 4th TRIPARTITE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AND
WATER AFFAIRS OF EGYPT, ETHIOPIA AND SUDAN
ON THE GRAND ETHIOPIAN RENAISSANCE DAM PROJECT (GERDP)**

**Khartoum – Sudan
27 - 28 December 2015**

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Summary and the Outcomes of the meeting

Preamble:

In continuation of the discussions on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam Project (GERDP), the Ministers of Foreign and Water Affairs of Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan convened a meeting in Khartoum - Sudan during the period 27 – 28 December 2015. The meeting is attended by delegations from the three countries as attached in Annex A. The meeting is a continuation to the previously held meeting in Khartoum during the period 11-12 December 2015.

The detailed agenda is attached as annex B

Discussions of the country concerns:

The discussions on the concerns of the three countries were conducted in a positive atmosphere with highly transparent deliberations that confirm, as well, the sincere and full commitment of the three countries to adhere to the Agreement on Declaration of Principles (DOP). Conclusions have been reached in a number of issues of concern as follows:

(i) Recruitment of the Consulting Firms for the Studies:

- The meeting has been briefed by Egypt, the current Chair of the TNC, about the assignment given to the TNC to approach Artelia consulting firm of France to join BRLi as a replacement to Deltares. The meeting took note that Artelia has confirmed in writing their willingness to work with BRLi to perform the two studies under the same conditions set before for Deltares in the 5th and 7th TNC minutes of meetings.

- The three countries endorsed this conclusion of involving Artelia as a sub-consultant.
- The Tripartite Ministerial meeting endorsed the Road Map for the subsequent activities related to the Two Studies as shown in Annex C.
- The meeting instructed the TNC to achieve the objectives specified in the Road Map regarding recruitment of the two consulting firms and the law firm (Corbett & Co) within the said time frame.
- The three countries confirmed their commitment to meet their financial obligations for the studies as agreed upon in the 5th TNC meeting.

(ii) Request by Egypt to add two openings for the bottom outlets of the GERD:

In response to the studies prepared by Egypt regarding the addition of two bottom outlets in the main dam and submitted in the previous meeting, Ethiopia presented a written clarification based on the studies of the Dam. After thorough discussions and elaborations on the issue in broad terms, it has been agreed to assign a technical team, from the three countries, to meet in Addis Ababa on 3rd and 4th of January 2016 to discuss the subject and submit an outcome report to the next coming ministerial meeting.

(iii) Relating to the Implementation of the Agreement on DoP:

- The three countries reiterated their full commitment to implement the provisions of the Agreement on DoP signed in Khartoum on the 23rd of March, 2015.
- Ethiopia, as the owner of the dam, in the spirit of reassurance to downstream countries, reiterated its commitment to implement Article V of the Agreement on DoP.
- In the spirit of cooperation and trust building, Ethiopia extended a cordial invitation to Egypt and Sudan to conduct visits to the GERD site.

(iv) Speedy Implementation of the Two Studies:

To ensure the timely completion of the Two Studies, further enhance the positive atmosphere and closely monitor the progress, the Tripartite Joint Ministerial Meeting (TJMM) will continue to be convened on regular basis at the same level of participation of the ministers of foreign and water affairs.

(v) Enhancements of Confidence Building:

The three countries agree to support and encourage efforts aimed at promoting confidence building measures so as to enhance people-to-people relations of the three countries. Accordingly, Ethiopia invites parliamentarians, the media and public diplomacy groups of both Egypt and Sudan to visit the GERD.

The discussions will be further continued in the forthcoming meeting with focus to build confidence, to support and to follow up on the work of the TNC.

This document is endorsed as true outcome of the meeting on the date 28 December 2015.

H.E. Mr. Sameh Shoukry

Minister of Foreign Affairs
The Arab Republic of Egypt

H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

H.E. Prof. Ibrahim Ghandour

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Sudan

H.E. Prof. Hossam Mohamed Moghazy

Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation
The Arab Republic of Egypt

H.E. Mr. Motuma Mekassa

Minister of Water, Irrigation and Electricity
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

H.E. Mr. Mutaz Musa Abdalla Salim

Minister of Water Resources, Irrigation and Electricity
Republic of Sudan

ANNEX B

**THE TRIPARTITE MEETING OF THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AND
WATER AFFAIRS OF EGYPT, ETHIOPIA AND SUDAN
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Khartoum – Sudan

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The Adopted Agenda

- 1) Opening remarks by:**
 - H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sudan**
 - H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt**
 - H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia**
- 2) Recruitment of the consulting firms for the two studies**
- 3) The recommendation of Egypt of additional bottom outlets**
- 4) Related to Construction and Initiation of the First Filling**
- 5) Discussions of the concerns raised by the countries**
- 6) AOB**
- 7) Avenue and time of next meeting**
- 8) Writing and approval of the minutes of meeting**

ANNEX C

**Road Map for conducting
The two studies recommended by the IPoE Final Report
Khartoum, 27-28 December 2015**

ACTION	DATE
TNC Chair writes a letter to BRLi and Artelia informing them that they are accepted to conduct the two studies as per the 5 th and the 7 th TNC meetings outcomes. BRLi to be requested to submit the Updated Technical Proposal (UTP).	15 January 2016
UTP to be studied at the national level.	15-21 January 2016
The TNC to convene its 10 th meeting in Cairo to consolidate the national review, open financial proposal and conduct clarification and contractual negotiation meetings (technical and financial) with BRLi, in the presence of Artelia.	22-25 January 2016
The TNC chair to inform Corbett & Co, the law firm, to prepare the contract documents (a) between TNC and Corbett, (b) between TNC and BRLi and (c) Corbett and BRLi as well as giving guidance to the TNC regarding the upcoming contractual arrangements.	1 - 30 January 2016
Signature of the contracts and launching of the studies in Khartoum.	1 st February 2016
The water affairs ministers of the three countries will follow up the studies through the TNC as per the previously agreed rules of procedure.	Continuous
The three countries are committed to meet their financial obligations timely with respect to the contracts related to the studies.	Continuous
Nomination of the International Experts as per the 4 th Tripartite Ministerial meeting held in Khartoum during 25-26 August 2014.	31 March 2016