



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Minister Mokonyane: Africa must export water and sanitation solutions to the world

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Stockholm – The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms Nomvula Mokonyane on Wednesday, 30 August 2017, appealed to the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) to work on water and sanitation solutions and get the world to buy into such African solutions.

Minister Mokonyane urged AMCOW member states, who included Uganda, Egypt and Nigeria to be a united front before going out to the world and to articulate what they have collectively agreed upon.

Speaking at the World Water Week's "Africa Focus-Waste and benefits: From policy to Action," in Stockholm, Sweden, Mokonyane said it was an opportune time to ditch policies that were not responsive to the lived conditions and challenges of the African communities.

She, Mokonyane, said there was a need for drastic policy review on issues of water and sanitation. This, she said, was necessary in order to bring solutions that are not necessarily based on practice and responses of governments.

"We can't have policies which are stagnant. Policies should evolve and speak to the conditions at a given moment. This will ensure that we bring in policies which are not necessarily based on what is the responsibility of government and what has been a practice," Minister Mokonyane said.

She added that efforts should be made on how best could AMCOW members states, united in their responsibilities, make sure the plight of the people changed for the better.

Minister Mokonyane said: "It must be policy that is able to cut across. It must not be policy that is narrow and fixated to what we in the water sector are supposed to be doing. It should identify tasks and responsibilities and allocate them to different stakeholders. The water sector must deal with the issue of being inward looking and take advantage of other critical role players that can help us to realise our goals."

Minister Mokonyane proposed that AMCOW should pick a country in Africa to test some of the innovative solutions that were used, making that county a case study because water issue know no boundaries.

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