**WESNET NORTHERN REGION CHAPTER COORDINATION MEETING HELD AT EKWENDENI**

**DATE:24th February, 2020**

**ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**(INSERT ATTENDANCE LIST)**

**AGENDA**

1. Opening prayer and opening remarks
2. Presentation on government policies and guidelines in WASH
3. Presentations on SDG 6 indicators measurement
4. Presentation on of the CSO performance report
5. Members presenting their annual plans and activities
6. Election of region chairs
7. Way forward
8. **OPENING PRAYER AND OPENING REMARKS**

The interim chair thanked members for attending the meeting. He outlined the agenda and proposed some changes to the agenda. The group adopted the proposals.

1. **PRESENTATIONS FROM GOVERNMENT, WVI AND WESNET SECRETARIAT**
2. The first to present was a representative from MOAIWD gave a presentation on policies and guidelines in the water sector. He outlined how different departments operate. He also outlined the policies and strategies in water and their goals. He outlined different challenges the ministry is having. He also outlined the headline indicators. On the updating of m-WATER database he said that there is a team that is responsible for updating the data. There are challenges with gadgets for collecting data. The gadgets are few. Challenges in guidelines for Water drilling. CSOs like working on their own. But some CSOs try to work with government. Gave an example-a contractor was drilling a borehole but not complying to standards. The council came in and advised on how this is supposed to be done.
3. NSHTC CHAIR-Gave a presentation on sanitation and hygiene legal instruments and policies i.e. water works act, EMA, NSHS, NDA. He also outlined different policy frameworks that Malawi government uses in sanitation and hygiene (38682 villages). The review of Sanitation policy will be done later this year. Challenges in implementing WASH projects include financing.
4. The NSHTC chair also gave a presentation on pit emptying procedures and protocols-Mzuzu University is also working on mechanized ways of pit emptying.
5. On whether there is no conflict between the Ministries-He said that policies sit under OPC not a ministry.
6. World vision presented SDG 6 indicators and measurement. Wesnetwork secretariat shared the CSO report and emphasized the need for members to report.(The presentations have been shared)
7. **MEMBERS PRESENTING ON THEIR ACTIVITIES**

NRWB-Pursuing activities on hydrogeological modelling.

WVI-Into other programs but also WASH-In 12 districts in the North just Nkhatabay-

WSSCC-working in 4 CEP Mechanisms-Strengthening country systems, issues of leaving no one behind, capacity building of CSOs, ODF follow ups in GSF. Ulrac constructing Ecosan toilets in karonga and Chitipa. Malawi water projects-constructing filters-concrete filters-started in Nkhatabay-Mpamba. Party with Luke international buying filters from Malawi Water project. Rural development partners implementing a rural integrated programme. Looking at Water access and construction of toilets. CCAP Smart Center-Low cost technologies in Water and sanitation. Implementing a WASH project in Mzimba drilling boreholes. Also doing CLTS. Also implanting MHM initiatives. WATSAN-focusing on research, consultancy and capacity building training. Water quality at the university which is open at the center. Extend the invitation to CSOs to work together on evidence based research. Also assist in proposal development. Saint John of God-mental health Institution-Doing a project on WASH in mental health care facilities, vulnerable children.

1. **ELECTION OF THE REGION CHAIRS**

The secretariat stated that Mzuni was the interim chair for the chapter for a longer period hence the need to elect a chair for the chapter. The chairman will be an institution not necessarily a person. The chairmanship is for a period of 1 year and can be renewed once if members are satisfied. The secretariat has terms of reference which will be shared with the elected regional chairmen. The election was conducted under secret ballot and each NGO present had a single vote. In the end Rural development partners were elected as the chair for the chapter and WVI as the vice chair. The elected chairmen said that they were proud to take on the chairmanship mantle. Members said that there are many organizations that are pursuing WASH related activities in the north but only a few are attending these coordination meetings. As such there is a need to make sure that each organization in the north participate the chapter meetings. It was suggested that the chairmen should facilitate the mapping of organizations working in the north so that all participate in the coordination meetings. It was also suggested that the chairmen should come up with a taskforce to draw an annual plan for the chapter. In the last quarter the chapter discussed some activities including hosting global handwashing day. These activities can be looped in in the chapter annual plan.

1. **CONCLUSION**

As there was nothing more to discuss the meeting was closed with a word of prayer. Members went for networking lunch. The secretariat was tasked to share the presentations.