

BMC OPERATIONS

NWRM Planning workshop

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BMC operations

- Basin management committee are:
 - water management institutions, whose primary purpose is water management at basin level
 - operating in a demarcated basin management area
 - co-operative associations of water user groups who wish to undertake water management activities for their mutual benefit
 - exercising management powers and duties as in their constitution to the extent of their capacity or as delegated to it
 - established and disestablished by Minister according to procedures set out in the Act and regulations.
 - established following an application to the Minister by an interested person or on the Minister's initiative.

BMC operations

- Objectives:
 - ▣ To oversee and co-ordinate natural resource management activities at the water/river basin level
 - ▣ To plan for achieving sustainable natural resource management for the water basin in partnership with Government at all levels
 - ▣ To encourage the most beneficial water use with a view to maximising social and economic benefits
 - ▣ To embody full consultation and participation by local communities and stakeholders
 - ▣ To incorporate wide sectoral involvement in relation to the impact of development on the natural resource base in a river basin

BMC operations

□ **Functions:**

- Listed in the Water Act
- Each Basin Management Committee must in coordination with the DWAF and agree on which functions they plan to carry out.
- These functions must be based on the capacity of the BMC to carry them out.
- DWAF must provide and or facilitate technical support to BMC were possible

BMC operations

□ Operating Criteria

- The operations of BMC will be steered and guided by MAWF – Regulation in Water Act
- Constitution – set out day to day operations – approved by Minister
- Funds – own, Gov. or donor – (request thru MAWF)
- Annual Plans – submit to MAWF
- Technical support – MAWF, consultant, other Gov institutions

BMC operations

- Membership:
 - direct stakeholders, i.e. the land and water users and other people who are dependent on, or affecting the availability and quality of water within the water basin area
 - officials of government departments or authorities being competent in and responsible for natural resource management within the water basin area
 - representatives of regional and local authorities within the water basin area.
 - other institutions with an interest in environmental matters, in the broader sense, within the water basin area.
 - limited to maximum 20 full members
 - must have a chairperson elected at the Basin Forum meeting
 - term of office be at least 2 years and not more than 4 years - possibility of re-election shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
 - (DWAF) should be the leading department and be responsible that all responsibilities are executed

BMC operations

Basin Support Officer:

- Give organizational, secretarial and technical support for basin management committees (BMCs)
- Create stakeholders' awareness with regards to IWRM and BMCs.
- Run decentralized basin management support office
- Assist BMCs with compilation of basin water resources plans.
- Solicit financial and technical assistance for implementation of basin water resources plans.
- Ensure raising of awareness on water related matters.
- Assist BMCs with execution of water resources development projects.
- Assist BMC and other stakeholders in basin with technical information on water resources.
- Administer BMC involvement in assessment of applications for licenses (abstraction and others).
- Assist with collection and management of water resources data.
- Ensure availability of technical information on water resources at basin level, including computerized information systems with access to data at central level.