



# WATER NEWS UPDATE

## NCWSC HOLDS PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON WATER TARIFF REVIEW



*Managing Director, Eng. Nahason Muguna, addresses the participants during the water tariff review public consultation meeting held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC).*

The Company last week convened a public consultation on water tariff review in collaboration with Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB), the water sector regulator, at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC).

Director of Licensing, Standards and Advocacy at WASREB, Eng. Peter Njaggah presided over the forum. He stated that the exercise was in line with the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

"We are here today to engage the public on this matter and taken into account their views before a final decision is made. I urge everyone to interrogate the tariff and ask questions since this is a constitutional requirement. As a regulator, we are the custodian of this important and critical process."

The objective of the tariff adjustment is to expand water and sewerage infrastructure, cover operations and maintenance costs, repay debts, to ensure service provision in the city is enhanced and sustainable.

The Managing Director, Eng. Nahason Muguna, said the economic viability and sustainability of Water Service Providers (WSPS) is key towards the realization and achievement of the Government of Kenya's Vision 2030 on water and sanitation.

"To ensure sustainable provision of Water and Sanitation services, Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB), the water regulator, provides for tariff reviews under the set guidelines to enable WSPs to balance commercial, social and ecological interests". He said.

He added that the tariff review will also ensure capital intensive projects are rolled out to enhance service delivery to our customers.

"The key projects earmarked to be financed by the new tariff are: maintenance and improvement of water intakes at water sources and treatment plants; construction, upgrading and rehabilitation of sewer networks amongst others." He reiterated.



*One of the stakeholders makes her submissions during the public consultation meeting held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC)*

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*Mr. Michael Kimotho of Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) makes a presentation on ongoing and proposed water projects in Nairobi County during the public consultation meeting held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC)*

Other projects lined up for implementation by Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) with the tariff period are: Water & Sanitation Services & Improvement Project, Extension of Nairobi Water Supply (Northern Collector) and Implementation Of Karimenu II Dam Water Supply Project.

Expansion Works for Dandora Estate Sewage Treatment Plant ,Water and Sewerage Works for Affordable Housing ,Rehabilitation and expansion Dandora Estate ( Inlet Works ) and Lot II Kahawa West, Githurai, Kahawa Sukari Reticulation set for roll out as well.

As regulatory pre-condition for Tariff Review, NCWSC contracted Consultants in 2020/21 to undertake Social-Economic Study to determine, among other things, customers Willingness to Pay (WTP) and Ability to Pay (ATP).

The outcome of the study was that majority of the domestic/ residential ( 82%) were willing to pay Ksh.34-55 per cubic metre while 74 % of the industrial/ commercial customers were willing to Ksh. 34-55 per cubic metre.

The last review of the tariff was in the year 2015 and expired in 2018. If the proposed tariff is approved by the regulator, it will be published in the Kenya Gazette and implemented after 30 days from the date of the notice.



*NCWSC Corporate Choirs entertains participants during the public consultation meeting held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC)*

## ADSA BASELINE SURVEY FINDINGS RELEASED



*File photo: NCWSC management pose at a training and sensitization on Mental Health where alcohol, drugs and substance abuse was mentioned as a contributing factor in mental health wellness*

The Company in collaboration with the National Authority for the Campaign against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) has released the findings of the Baseline Survey on the Status of Alcohol, Drugs and Substance Abuse (ADSA) among the staff that was carried out in the year 2020.

The survey sought to determine the prevalence, effects and factors contributing to alcohol, drugs and substance abuse in NCWSC employees.

A cross-sectional study was conducted where both quantitative and qualitative data were collected. A total of 788 employees were interviewed translating to a response rate of 96.5% with the seventeen (17) stations and job cadres being represented in the sample.

The study found out that alcohol (53.9%) tops as one of the lifetime drugs used by NCWSC employees while Cocaine is the least abused (0.9 %). On the current use of drugs, alcohol leads at 33.9%

In terms of gender and age, there is a high prevalence amongst male (42.1%) while female is at 20.8%. There is also a notable prevalence in the age bracket of 35 and below (35.1%).

On the effects of drugs, the survey found out that relationship between absenteeism and current alcohol use stood at 36.5% for the current users and 30.9 % for the non-users.

According to the survey findings, 354 suffer from mild alcohol disorders ,181 have moderate alcohol use disorders while 274 have severe alcohol disorders..

On the level and commitment of the Company to handle alcohol, drugs and substance abuse issues in the workplace, 50.5 % of the respondents said they were aware of the ADSA activities undertaken by the organization while 49.5 % were not.

85 % of the employees reported that they had not been trained / sensitized at all on ADSA while 12.1 % stated that they had been trained once. 1.8 % responded that they had been sensitized 2-3 times with 0.5% saying they had been trained 4 times.

Some of the workplace stressors mentioned by employees are: uncooperative customers, heavy workload, absenteeism of employees; declining revenue collection and lack of working equipment.

Others include lack of teamwork and poor interpersonal relationships, unreasonable management styles and intimidation by supervisors. Working far from the family, favouritism, tribalism, discrimination and gossiping were also cited.

Some factors influencing alcohol, drugs and substance abuse in the workplace are: poor financial management; peer pressure from fellow colleagues; domestic problems and lack of information and awareness on the effects of ADSA amongst other.

The study recommends need to continue undertaking training and sensitization programs on alcohol, drugs and substance abuse with emphasis on the physical and psychological effects. Exposure to the comprehensive ADSA knowledge and awareness as well as the provisions of the workplace policy is also fronted for the new employees;

### **Awareness on existence of counselling and treatment in NCWSC**

