



Nile Day 2015 celebrations: Nile Basin Discourse joined Nile Basin Initiative Khartoum, Sudan



From left: Mr Jean Baptiste HABIYAREMYE (NBD Chairperson), and NBD regional Secretariat staff

To celebrate the 9th Nile Day of February 22nd 2015, the Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) joined the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) and the rest of Nile riparian states in Khartoum, Sudan. The two organizations spearheaded the preparation of the annual event in collaboration with the government of the host country-Sudan. The Sudan National Discourse Forum (SNDF), an arm of NBD played part in the National Organizing Committee (NOC) while NBD Secretariat closely working with the Nile-Sec in Entebbe, Uganda.

The event saw Ministers and Members of Parliament in sectors such as Water; agriculture and energy of the Nile Basin countries, diplomats from member states' embassies, development partners, civil society, researchers, academia, youth, media and school children as well as the general public from the member states and outside.



Primary School children in Khartoum attended the event

During the event, the NBD represented by the Board Chair, Mr. Habiyaemye Jean Baptiste has firmly assured the NBD commitment to support cooperation on the Nile for the improvement of livelihoods in the basin. He said...

...“Our collaboration is to foster Nile cooperation. Now we are here today, to strengthen our partnership with all stakeholders of the Nile basin countries, and to show the existing added value of CSO participation in programs and projects in the Nile basin,” ... stressed Jean Baptiste.

A part from speeches by different representatives from the riparian states, NBD joined the rest in a public procession, enjoyable display of boat-racing, trees planting and a touristic boat-luncheon on the Nile. It was also the invaluable opportunity for NBD to exhibit its achievement as a civil society, indicating its strength as in offering a public platform for dialogue, partnership and cooperation among CSOs and stakeholders in the Nile Basin.

This year's theme was dedicated to “Water and Improved Livelihoods - Opportunities in Nile Cooperation.” The theme reflected directly to the first objective of NBD which is to “Support initiatives for sustainable integrated river basin management at all levels for livelihood improvement & development in the basin.” NBD put its emphasis on the link of water, livelihoods and economic development as key factors to achieving the sustainable development of communities in riparian states, looking at cooperation as the only option for the management and development of the limited Nile Resources.