

# STRATEGIC FORESIGHT GROUP

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### WATER COOPERATION: THE VOLTA BASIN



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# Riparian Countries



<b>Country</b>	<b>% of Basin Area</b>	<b>% of Country</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<b>3.41</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>62.4</b>
<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>2.48</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>41.6</b>	<b>70.1</b>
<b>Mali</b>	<b>3.12</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Togo</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>45.0</b>

# The Volta Basin Authority (VBA)

***Informal links between Ghana and Burkina in the 1970s***

**Formally established in January 2007 by the Convention on the Status of the Volta River and Establishment of the Volta Basin Authority to:**

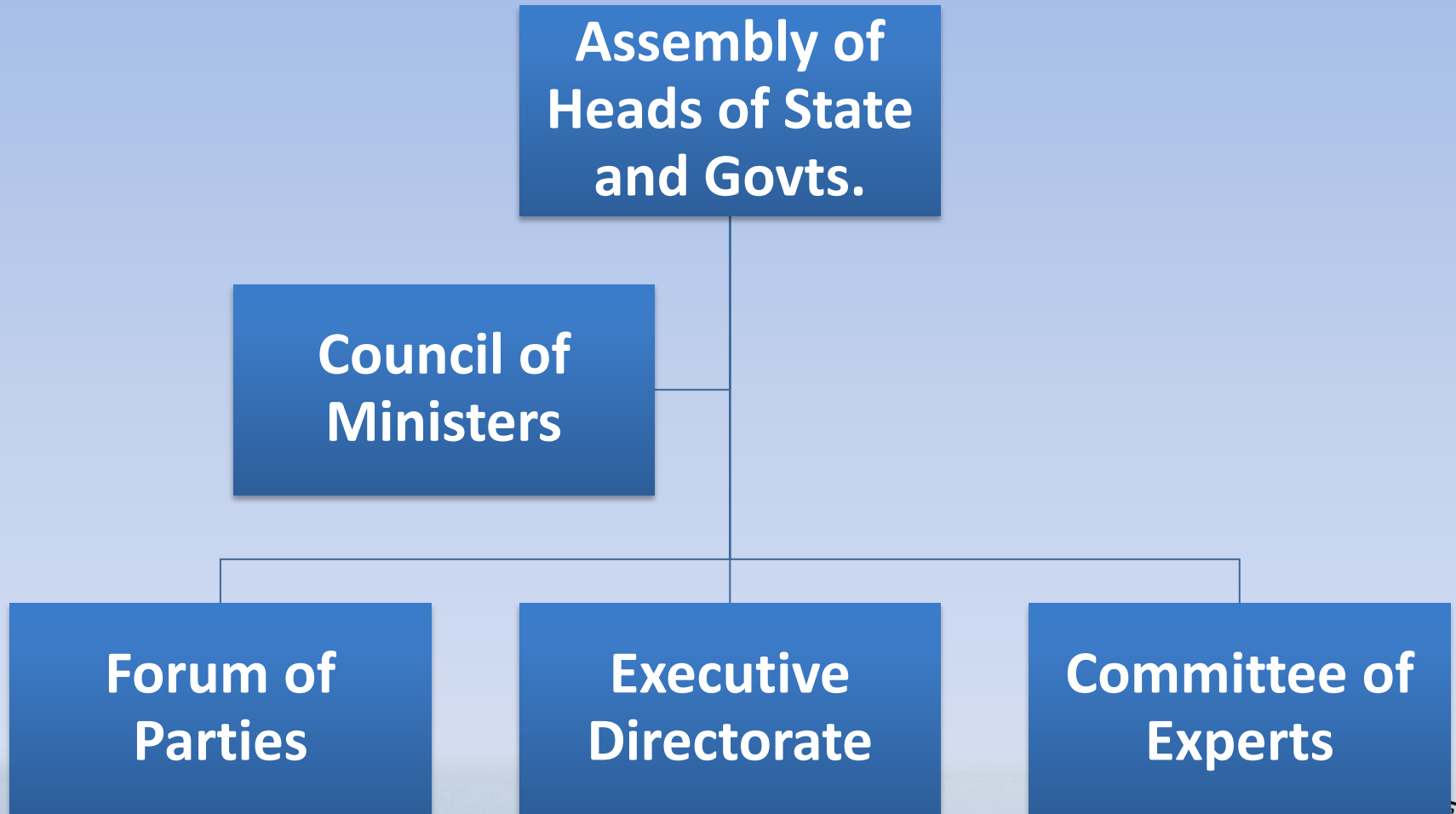
- i. Promote permanent consultation tools among the parties;**
- ii. Promote implementation of IWRM and the equitable distribution of the benefits;**
- iii. Authorize the development of infrastructure and projects that could have substantial impact on the basin;**
- iv. Develop joint projects and works;**
- v. Contribute to poverty alleviation, ...and better socioeconomic integration in the sub-region.**



***Convention came into force August 2009***



# Permanent Organs



# **VBA 5-Year Strategic Plans**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Strategic Plan: 2010-2014**

**Strengthening of institutional framework and operationalization of all permanent organs;**

**Technical and Financial Partners Consultative Group;**

**Expansion of knowledge on the state of water resources;**

**Recruitment of key staff;**

**VBA Observatory**



# VBA 5-Year Strategic Plans

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Strategic Plan: 2015-2019 (KPI of IOW)

**Strengthening VBA's position in regional integration and economic development policies in the Volta basin**

- **Water Charter**
- **Communication Plan**
- **Master Plan for Development and WRM**
- **National Focal Structures**
- **Protection of Ecosystems**

**WB/GEF Volta Basin Strategic Action Programme  
Implementation Project (VSIP)**



# Water Cooperation

<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b><i>1. Agreement</i></b>	<b>Convention; with clearly defined jurisdiction;</b>
<b><i>2. Commission</i></b>	<b>VBA; started as a Technical Committee;</b>
<b><i>3. Ministerial Meetings</i></b>	<b>Part of statutes but frequency of meetings changed due to financial/staff constraints;</b>
<b><i>4. Tech. Projects</i></b>	<b>VHP Capacity building; VSIP Ecosystems protection;</b>
<b><i>5. Env. Protection and QC</i></b>	<b>Partially, more after dev of Water Charter;</b>
<b><i>6. Joint WFlows Monitoring</i></b>	<b>VHP and VBA Observatory;</b>
<b><i>7. Floods, Dams &amp; Reservoirs</i></b>	<b>Flood management between BF and GH - notification and consultation;</b>
<b><i>8. High Political Commitment</i></b>	<b>Not very effective; only one meeting held since 2007</b>
<b><i>9. Integration into Econ. Coop.</i></b>	<b>BOs in West Africa are too distant from REC</b>
<b><i>10. Actual Functioning</i></b>	<b>Possible but complicated ...late establishment of VBA; WC and MP required; financial challenges</b>

# Financial Contributions

## Cost Sharing Formula

- i. Surface area of the basin;**
- ii. Resident population;**
- iii. Annual per capita income of Member States;**
- iv. Solidarity among States - equal sharing of 30% of operational costs.**

<b>Country</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Cote d'Ivoire</b>	<b>09</b>
<b>Ghana</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Mali</b>	<b>09</b>
<b>Togo</b>	<b>15</b>



# VBA in Perspective

## Catalyzed by SDGs

**Establishment /  
Convention in force -  
2009**

**Legal/Institutional Framework:**

**Water Charter -2018**

**Technical Framework:**

**Master Plan - 2020?**

**Capacity Building and  
Management: Human,  
Financial, Procedures**

**Strengthening Data  
collection/Knowledge  
base/DM Tools  
/Partnerships**

**Contracting  
Authority - 2025?**

**Mature and reliable VBA - Increased  
Water Coop.; >2030 ?**



***THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION***

