

This commitment was signed by the Heads of State and Government in the presence of participants and the international media. It is a strong political commitment. It aims at establishing a fair and shared management of water resources, which is increasingly threatened: climate change, siltation, various pollutions, etc. The nine countries will now have to systematically inform one another regarding any work that may significantly affect the water regime of the basin and enhance their regional institution, the Niger Basin Authority so that it can fully play its coordinating role.

At the press conference following the signing ceremony, Presidents CHIRAC and TANDJA particularly emphasized, in the spirit of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the need to now substitute the notion of partnership with that of assistance.

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