**Regional Training on Hydrodiplomacy & Negotiation Skills for**

**IGAD Water Resources Protocol Negotiation Members**

**27-28 February 2017 -- Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**Negotiation Simulation Exercise**

**Elbia Additional Facts**

As extreme lower riparian arid country, and with no rain fall Elbia makes no contribution to the River Wide. It is entirely dependent upon the waters from the River Wide for its extensive irrigated agriculture and growing industry. The country has plans to develop yet another 200,000 ha to meet the demand for its rapidly increasing population. Elbia is sufficiently developed (for the region) and in demand of energy to service its industry and agriculture. Its per capita GDP is around $3000.

However the irrigation system is largely obsolete, the agricultural water use is wasteful and with sufficient investment of financial resources (which the country lacks) its efficiency can be drastically improved.

The Wide delta requires adequate supply of water (no less than 10 km3) to sustain its ecosystem and valuable coastal fisheries.

Currently, Elbia imports electricity from its neighbour Dabbe, but pays a high price for this. Its industry requires additional estimated annual electricity in excess of 3000 GWh for another 10 years until his gas resources are fully developed.

In view of the upstream development plans in Blanconia the Elbias’ Minister of Defence proposed to resume backing of some radical Zutu fractions opposed to the central government of Blanconia, especially those that operate in the area of the Zutuland Dam project. Some experts in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs support the idea of using the Zutu factor as a leverage in their dealings with Blanconia.

In the meantime, Elbia has great concerns about the new planned development in Blanconia, and has – in accordance with the World Bank’s Operational Policy 7.50 - requested that Blanconia furnish all the details of the planned projects.