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

**IGAD Water Resources Protocol Negotiation Members**

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

**Negotiation Simulation Exercise**

**Kufra Additional Facts**

Kufra contributes 14 km3 to the River Wide, and it uses 19 km3 and needs another 6 km3 to support its wetlands, which are famous for their rich biodiversity (flora and fauna). The country has a per capita GDP of $1000. Kufra has a limited amount of hydrocarbon reserves and needs cheap electricity for its economic development.

Kufra primarily uses the water of the Wide for domestic and some profitable agricultural uses, but has significant Wetlands with important environmental requirements. The Wetlands benefit and sustain their ecosystem largely from seasonal floods from Blanconia. Occasionally, some heavy seasonal flows from Blanconia cause harm downstream in terms of loss of life and property. During the dry seasons, however, the decreases in seasonal flow coupled with a huge amount of water evaporation in its harsher climate causes shortages for human use and the wetlands, the latter entirely dependent on the natural flows. The Wetlands were designated as a specially protected area (as the World Natural Heritage site and the Ramsar Convention protected area).

Kufra’s 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.

Kufra is worried about the upstream 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.