AFRICA MUST RISE AGAINST WATER PRIVATISATION

THE AFRICA WEEK OF ACTION AGAINST WATER PRIVATISATION
The Africa Week of Action Against Water Privatisation (11-15 October 2021) was put together by the Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa (CAPPA), the Amalgamated Union of Public Corporation Civil Service Technical and Recreational Services Employees (AUPCTRE) and water justice advocates across Africa on the platform of the Our Water Our Right Africa Coalition to build resistance of civil society and labour to threats of water privatisation in several countries across the continent.

WATER PRIVATISATION IN AFRICA
Private water giants like Veolia and Suez have been systematically capturing Africa's water systems for decades with the backing of institutions like the World Bank, undermining African governments' efforts to ensure universal water access for our people. Right now, the World Bank, one of the largest drivers of water privatisation in Africa, is holding its annual meetings. The World Bank has particularly been at the fore of promotion of the failed Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the water sector.

PRIVATISATION AND PPP AS FAILED MODELS
The PPP and other water privatization models marketed by the World Bank has failed in Ghana, Jakarta, Manila, Nagpur, Tanzania and elsewhere. It does not need to happen in Lagos or anywhere else in Africa for us to know how. Africa should not be dumping ground for failed development models.

OUR DEMANDS TO AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS, MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS
• Reject all forms of corporate control of water and privatisation of water services, including through so-called “public-private partnerships”
• Fulfil their obligation to respect, protect, and fulfil the human right to water for all people by prioritising robust public investment in the water sector
• Respect and protect the livelihood of workers by ensuring safe working conditions, protection from retribution for raising complaints or whistleblowing, and investment in salaries and pensions reflective of the public service these workers undertake every day, and
• Resist pressure from international financial institutions, private water corporations, and other financial actors to commercialise the water sector and, instead, ensure universal access to safe water regardless of the ability to pay.
• African governments should explore regional bodies like the African Union, Economic Community of West African States, Economic Community of Central African States, East African Community, and Southern African Development Community to foster regional solidarity and collaboration by supporting Public-Public Partnerships in the water sector and other essential services.

Join Us: www.africawateraction.org

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