

**CHURCHES FOR WATER  
IN AFRICA” (CWA)  
CONFERENCE,  
ENTEebbe, UGANDA  
21-25 MAY, 2007**

**“MEDIATING CONFLICTS  
AROUND WATER AND  
OTHER NATURAL  
RESOURCES: THE  
SITUATION WITH REGARD  
TO THE NILE RIVER BASIN”**

# 1. Background information:

- Main presenter Rev. Rirei, a Kenyan pastor.
- Mine, a kind of Complement/Supplement.
- Personal experience – Bukoba, Tanzania (West of Lake Victoria).

## 2. “The Nile River Basin”

- The Nile River
- Lake Victoria.
- River Kagera (Tanzania, Rwanda & Uganda) – Akagera River (Rwanda) & Ruvubu River (Burundi).
- River Kagera : 23 rivers into it
  - : Kagera 34% inflow
  - : Average 261 m<sup>3</sup>/sec.
- States: Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Sudan, Ethiopia & Egypt.

### 3. Ownership of water and other natural resources: A theological understanding:

- “The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof,
- The world and those who dwell therein;
- For he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers” (*Ps. 24: 1-2*)

### 3. Ownership of water and other natural resources: A theological understanding cont.

- Natural resources – God’s creation.
- Sustenance of creation.
- Sense of ownership and proper management.

## 4. Equitable sharing of water and other natural resources in the Nile River Basin:

- Natural resources – equitable sharing.
- “International water” jointly owned.
- Water Policies – Tanzania experience.
- A human right – equity, justice & fair distribution of water.

## 4. Equitable sharing of water and other natural resources in the Nile River Basin:

- A water project to people in Shinyanga Region:
- Thorough research
- consultations - states
- technical considerations
- International agreements
- Avoidance of water conflicts between countries

## 5. Conclusive Note:

- People's awareness on ownership of natural resources.
- Natural resources – a human right.
- I thank you all.