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**USEA – USAID/WARP  
West Africa Power Pool Partnership**

**“West Africa Power Pool” Adopts New Governance Structure  
Based on USEA – USAID/WARP Partner**

On July 6, 2006, the West Africa Power Pool (WAPP) was officially launched as an independent body with the signing of the Articles of Agreement by the executive directors of the member utilities. The Articles of Agreement were drafted through the WAPP Partnership Program with the help of the Southwest Power Pool in Little Rock, Arkansas. The program is managed by the U.S. Energy Association and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development / West Africa Regional Program.



**WAPP Executives Sign New Articles of Agreement**  
Pictured is the director of the Societe Beninoise d'Electricite et d'Eau (SBEE) signing the document.



The WAPP Partnership Program is funded by the USAID West Africa Regional Program (WARP). Pictured seated in the inaugural meeting is Jeremy Strauss, trade and investment advisor with USAID/WARP.

The Articles of Agreement --previously signed by the heads of state of all fourteen member countries -- laid out the formula for members' financial contributions to WAPP, the management structure and conditions for membership. WAPP based their new Articles on the structure of the Southwest Power Pool.

At the inaugural meeting, the WAPP leadership also adopted a business plan for the next three years, agreed upon the financial support for the WAPP Coordination Center and its personnel – to be based in Cotonou, Benin – and adopted a WAPP logo.

USEA has worked with WAPP since 2001, exposing the working group members and member utility directors to successful independent transmission operations, state and federal regulatory bodies, and U.S. utility transmission control centers. The results have been both a clearer understanding of the benefits and purpose of the power pool and regulation in West Africa, and a basis from which to form the independent WAPP.

USEA – USAID/WARP will continue to bring relevant exposure to the new staff of the WAPP Coordination Center. The next executive exchange will be for the coordination center staff to observe detailed operations of U.S. power pools and member utilities. This activity will take place in September.

*For additional information, please contact Phillip Assis, Senior Program Coordinator, at 202-312-1230 or [PAassis@usea.org](mailto:PAassis@usea.org)*



Phillip Assis of USEA presents a plaque to commemorate the inauguration of the independent West Africa Power Pool (WAPP) to Amadou Diallo, Secretary General of WAPP