PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ministerial governance visits the regional Rusumo hydropower project

Rusumo Border, Kirehe Rwanda - Ngara, Tanzania (June 8, 2018). The Tanzania Minister for Energy, Hon Dr Medard Kaleman and the Minister of Infrastructure, Hon Amb Claver Gatete will visit the 80 MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project on June 9, 2018, to take stock of its working. The Rwanda Minister of Infrastructure will be accompanied by the Rwanda State Minister for Energy, Hon Kamayirese Francoise.

The Ministerial delegations will meet at the Rusumo One Stop Border Post will witness the milestones of the civil works executed by the civil contractor at different levels. The main constructions are located at the Rusumo border between Tanzania and Rwanda. The switchyard is located on Rwanda side and the workers’ camp is located in Tanzania at 5km from the Rusumo Border.

The civil contractor has recorded progress in general works and preliminaries of civil works such as site mobilisation of personnel and equipment. The campsite, offices, canteen, warehouses, medical facilities are functional. The working area of the first and second contractors is ready; the civil contractor’s working area is now operational. The batching plant, the explosive magazine and field laboratory are operational too.

The site facilities and housing such as permanent buildings, diversion works including coffer dam and slop stabilisation of both left and right banks. The power intake just started. The adit portal to the headrace tunnel and inlet chamber is in progress. Excavation of slop stabilisation at the inlet chamber and power house and open excavation at the power house have also started.

The Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric power plant and associated transmission lines will cost USD471. Construction of the power plant will cost USD 340 million funded by World Bank while the transmission lines will cost USD121 million funded by African Development Bank (AfDB).

The Project is funding the Livelihood Restoration Program for Rusumo Persons Affected by the Project and a Local Area Development Plan for affected districts namely, Busoni and Giteranyi Provinces in Burundi, Ngoma and Kirehe districts in Rwanda and Ngara district in Tanzania.

This project will lead to an increase in economic activity, improved access to renewable clean energy will have positive effects on the environment, while the relatively inexpensive electricity will contribute to foreign exchange savings and improved balance of payments since the power generated will replace imported petroleum products.

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**About the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP)**

The Governments of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania have agreed to build up a joint development project and established the Rusumo Power Company Limited (RPCL) with the primary objective of generating 80MW hydroelectric project that will be shared equitably among the three countries.

The RPCL delegated and authorized the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU) of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) to implement the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) with 340 millions USD funded by the World Bank.

NELSAP Project Implementation Unit is now following up implementation of two main Contract Packages 1 and 2 (CP1 and CP2). CP1 was signed between Rusumo Power Company Limited (RPCL) and CGCOC Group Ltd – Jiangxi Water & Hydropower Construction Company Ltd Joint Venture (CGCOC – JWHC JV) of P.R. China as an agreement to execute the Civil Works which includes the dam, waterways, power station and other associated civil engineering works. The contract for Civil Works is 75 million USD and includes the Design, Supply & Installation of Hydro-Mechanical Equipment.

The CP2 Contract was signed between RPCL and the Consortium Rusumo Falls Andritz Hydro GmbH (Germany) and Andritz Hydro PVT Ltd (India) as an agreement to carry out Mechanical and Electrical Works for power generation. The CP2 Contract is at 47 million USD and includes the Design, Supply, Installation and Commissioning of the Electro-Mechanical Equipment.