



RABI'UL-AWWAL 14, 1429 A.H
SUNDAY 23 MARCH 2008

GWA Presents Certificates to First Ladies

From MUSTAPHA SAYE , Kaduna, Nigeria

Wife of the Kaduna state governor, Hajiya Amina Namadi Sambo, was among the First Ladies from seven states presented with ambassadorial certificate for advocating Gender and Water issues in Nigeria.

Gender and Water Alliance – GWA - an international organization based in the Netherlands with membership in 110 countries, aims at mainstreaming gender in Integrated Water Resources Management.

As ambassadors in the selected states, which are Kaduna, Kano, Katsina, Plateau, Akwa-Ibom, Jigawa, Lagos, the first ladies are expected to promote women's and men's equitable access to and management of safe and adequate water for domestic supply, sanitation, food security and environmental sustainability.

The presentation was made by the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Hajiya Turai Yar'adua, at the State House, Abuja.

The GWA ambassadors also presented to the First Lady, Hajiya Turai Yar'adua a position paper on their mission as ambassadors.

It could be recalled that Hajiya Amina Namadi Sambo was earlier presented with a plaque during the International Women's Day celebration by the GWA as a mark of the ambassadorialship.

Earlier at a meeting, the first ladies had mapped out strategies on how to embark on interventions related to water and sanitation in communities, as well as poverty reduction strategies.

In her contribution, wife of the state governor, outlined such strategies to include capacity building, water sanitation and conservation.

She also suggested the inclusion of hygiene and environmental sanitation in schools' extra curriculum activities.

In their separate remarks, the GWA Executive Director Mrs. Joke Muylwijk, and Nigeria Advisor of GWA Mrs. Hajiya Salamatu Garba, said the objectives of the organisation include among others to influence policy makers to have gender sensitive policies on water and sanitation.

It is also to ensure the domestication of water for agricultural purposes in urban and rural areas among the different gender.