### CONTENTS

| Regulation No. 253/2011 | Rift Valley Lakes Basin High Council and Authority Establishment Council of Ministers Regulation | Page 6180 |

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**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REGULATION No. 253/2011**

**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REGULATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RIFT VALLEY LAKES BASIN HIGH COUNCIL AND AUTHORITY**

This Regulation is issued by the Council of Ministers pursuant to Article 5 and Article 34 of the Definition of Powers and Duties of the Executive Organs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Proclamation No. 691/2010 and Article 3(1) and Article 21 of the River Basin High Councils and Authorities Proclamation No. 534/2007.

1. **Short Title**

This Regulation may be cited as the "Rift Valley Lakes Basin High Council and Authority Establishment Council of Ministers Regulation No. 253/2011".

2. **Definitions**

In the Regulation:

1/ "Proclamation" means the River Basin High Councils and Authorities Proclamation No. 534/2007;

2/ "Ministry" means the Ministry of Water and Energy;

3/ any expression in the masculine gender includes the feminine.
3. Establishment

1/ The Rift Valley Lakes Basin High Council (hereinafter the "High Council") is hereby established.

2/ The Rift Valley Lakes Basin Authority (hereinafter the "Authority") is hereby established as an autonomous federal government organ having its own legal personality.

3/ The Authority shall be governed by the Proclamation.

4. The High Council

1/ Members of the High Council shall be designated by the government in accordance with Article 5(1) of the Proclamation.

2/ The High Council shall be accountable to the Council of Ministers.

3/ The High Council shall have the powers and duties specified under Article 6 of the Proclamation.

4/ The High Council shall conduct its meetings in accordance with Article 7 of the Proclamation.

5. Objectives of the Authority

The overall objectives of the Authority shall be to promote and monitor the implementation of integrated water resources management process in an equitable and participatory manner in the Rift Valley Lakes Basin.

6. Head Office

The Authority shall have its head office in Hawassa and may have sub-basin branch offices in the basin as may be necessary.

7. Powers and Duties of the Authority

The Authority shall have the powers and duties to:

1/ initiate and submit to the High Council policy measures needed to create a conducive environment for the implementation of an integrated water resource management process within the basin; and follow up the implementation of the policy upon approval;

2/ undertake activities necessary for, and facilitate, the implementation of integrated water resources management in the basin;

3/ ensure that projects, activities and interventions related to water in the basin are, in their content, schedule, impacts and management are in line with the integrated water resources management process;
This Regulation shall enter into force on the date of publication in the Federal Negarit Gazeta.

Done at Addis Ababa this 29th day of August, 2011.

MELES ZENAWI
PRIME MINISTER OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA