



Fourth Bureau Meeting of AMCOMET

MINISTERIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Decision 1 – 2018/9: AMCOMET Governance

Notes that the composition of the African Union (AU) Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment (STC-ARDWE) now includes Ministers responsible for Meteorology and the STC recommendation that, on the short term, Ministerial Conferences such as AMCOMET will be allowed to continue functioning in a transitional phase in accordance with the arrangements decided by the STC;

Further notes with appreciation the recommendations of the Second Meeting of the STC-ARDWE, which took place in October 2017, which recommended to endorse the report and decisions contained in the Third Session of AMCOMET held in Praia, Cabo Verde, 13 – 14 February 2015, the decisions of the AMCOMET Ministers present during the AMCOMET Bureau Meeting and the Communiqué of the AMCOMET Africa Hydromet Forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in September 2017; were endorsed by the African Union Summit which took place in January 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

Urges the AMCOMET Secretariat to ensure, to the extent possible, greater representation of Ministers during the Fourth Session of AMCOMET and the Third Meeting of the STC-ARDWE, expected to take place in October, 2019;

Recognises the importance of ratifying the AMCOMET Constitution and providing financial support to show commitment of Member States to the AMCOMET process, the Bureau **notes** the ratification of the Constitution by Burkina Faso, Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Mali and Tchad; and further **notes with appreciation** the financial support provided by Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Uganda; and

Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), to continue liaising with Member States with regards to the ratification of the Constitution and request them to take necessary action to contribute annually to the operations and activities of the AMCOMET Secretariat, as outlined in the Praia Ministerial Declaration.

Decision 2 – 2018/9: Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan

Considering the Secretariat Report on AMCOMET activities since February 2015; **appreciates** the achievements contained therein; **recognizing** the ambitious programme of the AMCOMET Secretariat, requests the WMO and Member States to take

the necessary steps to increase the staff complement of the Secretariat through secondments from Member States;

Requests Member States to ensure enhanced budgetary provisions for improvement of capacities for the collection and analyses of hydromet data as well as increased participation in AMCOMET activities; **further encourage** Member States to explore possibilities for the adoption and establishment of innovative financing for hydro-meteorological services; and

Invites WMO and development partners to guide and support ECOWAS and its Member States in the formulation and implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Programme for the modernization of national and regional hydro-meteorological services.

Decision 3 – 2018/9: Regional Climate Centers

Recognises the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) Secretary General and ECCAS Ministerial Conference on Meteorology on the progress made in the establishment and operationalization of the Climate Application and Prediction Center of Central Africa (CAPC-CA), **notes with satisfaction** the support provided by the African Development Bank, through the Satellite and Weather Information for Disaster Resilience in Africa (SAWIDRA) Programme, and further encourages the ECCAS Secretary General and ECCAS Ministerial Conference on Meteorology and relevant partners to continue with the momentum by mobilizing human and financial resources for the Centre's effective functioning;

Considering the mandate of ACMAD as a pan-African, which enables the Centre to generate and deliver more regionally-focused high-resolution climate data and products as well as training and capacity building; **Acknowledging** the need for the African Union Commission to recognize ACMAD as its technical arm for weather and climate to enable ACMAD to fully perform a specialized technical agency of the union for weather and climate to enable ACMAD to perform its functions; and further acknowledging that an Executive Council decision is needed to be able to implement the AUC recognizing ACMAD as a specialized technical agency of the African Union;

Requests Ministers Responsible for Meteorology to strongly emphasize this need and table this to on the agenda of the AU Executive Council through the Specialized Technical Committee Meetings and the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) for decision; and **further request** ACMAD, in collaboration with AUC and WMO, to prepare the necessary documentation outlining the financial, legal and structural implications to enable AU organs to make an informed decision;

Notes with appreciation the draft Partnership Agreement Endorsing the CILSS AGRHYMET Regional Center as the Regional Climate Center (RCC) for West Africa and the Sahel between the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) which outlines AGRHYMET's area of expertise as a designated WMO Regional Climate Center and the agreement in principle between ECOWAS and CILSS on the institutional arrangements to govern their partnership relations; and

Requests technical and financial partners, including WMO, AMCOMET, the World Bank, AfDB and USAID, among others, to provide support to conduct the necessary analysis, studies and consultations to enable to swift endorsement of the Regional Climate Center (RCC) for West Africa and the Sahel by ECOWAS.

Decision 4 – 2018/9: Integrated African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services

Noting the importance of the Integrated African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services for the African continent, and the evident influence it has had in supporting Member States on issues of weather, climate and water, and in bringing together relevant stakeholders to achieve a common goal of modernizing hydro-meteorological systems in the continent; **cognizant** of the need to ensure the strategy remains relevant in a changing landscape; requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to take the necessary steps to ensure issues such as public private engagement, disaster risk reduction, single sky regionalization, new generation satellites and big data, among others be included in the final update of the Strategy in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and present the updated Strategy for endorsement during the Fourth Session of AMCOMET; and

Further request the Secretariat to distribute the strategy for inputs by the AUC, Heads of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) and other relevant stakeholders.

Decision 5 – 2018/9: Proposed Agenda for the Fourth Session of AMCOMET

Having considered the proposed agenda and format of the Fourth Session of AMCOMET; **requests** AMCOMET Secretariat, AUC and Bureau Chair to consult and finalise the agenda for the Fourth Session of AMCOMET.

Decision 6 – 2018/10: Météosat Third Generation Status and Impact for Africa and the Draft Abidjan Declaration

Noting that the satellites of the Météosat Third Generation, expected to be launched and positioned over Africa from 2021 and until 2040 will provide increased and better weather, climate and environmental observations from space, expected to better support the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate services);

Endorse the Abidjan Declaration which calls upon the increase of capacities in Africa to ensure access to and exploitation of Météosat Third Generation observations; and

Call upon the creation of an African Meteorological Satellite Applications Facility (AMSAF) to generate African satellite meteorological products to better meet African needs.

With our deep gratitude to the Government of Cote d'Ivoire for the hospitality and warm reception to all our delegates

Endorsed by AMCOMET Bureau Ministers, 21 September 2018