



AMCOMET



REPORT OF THE EXPERT MEETING OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY

Palace of the National Assembly

Praia, Cabo Verde

10-12 February 2015

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Expert Meeting of the Third Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) was held in Praia, Cabo Verde on 10-12 February 2015.

2. Participation

- 2.1. The following 44 African countries participated in the Expert Meeting: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, South Sudan, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- 2.2. The following agencies, organizations and institutions also participated in the Expert Meeting: Southern African Development Community (SADC), Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), East African Community (EAC), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD), IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), Agrhymet / Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel (CILSS), Southern African Development Community – Climate Service Centre (SADC-CSC), African Development Bank (AfDB), African Union Commission (AUC), Africa, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) Secretariat, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), European Commission - EuropeAid, Department for International Development (DFID), World Bank, UN Economic Commission for Africa – Africa Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), United Nation's International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), UN World Food Program (WFP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW), European Union, European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), and United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UKMO), Meteorological Service of Canada, Finnish Meteorological Institute, Agencia Estatal de Meteorología (AEMET), International Air Transport Association (IATA), Agency for Aerial Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA), Monitoring of Environment and Security in Africa (MESA), African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST), French Institute of Research for Development (IRD), Meteo-France, Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CKDN), Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), International Research Institute (IRI,) South Africa Department Science and Technology, AU Space Working Group, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Presidency of Meteorology and Environment (Saudi Arabia) and Meteorological Service of Canada.
- 2.3. The Participant List is attached as **Annex 1**.

3. Opening Ceremony

- 3.1. The Permanent Representative of Cabo Verde with WMO, **Ms Ester Araújo de Brito**, was the Master of Ceremony and introduced distinguished guests who made Statements: **Dr Johnson Boanuh**, Director of the Department of Environment and Representative of the Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources of the ECOWAS Commission, **Dr Elena Manaenkova**, Assistant Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization, **Ms Olushola Olayide**, Officer in Charge, Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management Division and representative of the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission (AUC), and **Dr Amos Makarau**, Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe with the WMO and Representative of the Bureau Chair of AMCOMET. **H.E. Dr Emanuel Antero Veiga**, Minister of Environment, Habitation and Territory Planning, Cabo Verde, officially opened the Expert Meeting.

4. Organizational Matters

- 4.1. The Meeting adopted the programme attached as **Annex 2**.
- 4.2. The Representative of the Bureau Chair urged Member States to perform regional consultations for the election of the AMCOMET Bureau Members with a view to eventual election during the

Ministerial Meeting, for the next biennium 2014-2016 to fill the posts of Chair, Three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur. It was noted that Cabo Verde, as the host of the Third Session of AMCOMET, would assume the position of Bureau Chair of AMCOMET and represent the West African sub-region (ECOWAS).

5. Special Presentation: Future of the Global Data Processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) and the Expansion of the Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) in Africa

- 5.1. The participants noted with appreciation the presentation on the Future of the GDPFS and SWFDP.
- 5.2. An integrated GDPFS would be of great benefit to Africa in capacity development and the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) enabling the generation of customer tailored products and services for various users.
- 5.3. The participants noted the success of the SWFDP in Southern and Eastern Africa; and recommended the implementation of the same in West and North Africa considering the positive impacts it has had in capacity development and forecasting.
- 5.4. Success stories, included the development and improvement of the Regional Climate Outlook for a (RCOFs), for seasonal weather outlooks, which cascaded downscaled forecasts from regional, national to community scale using both empirical statistical models and dynamical methodologies.
- 5.5. The participants further recommended that WMO supports the development of a guide for the architecture of GDPFS at national level.

6. Report of the Bureau Chair

- 6.1. Dr Amos Makarau, on behalf of the AMCOMET Chair, provided an overview of the AMCOMET activities since the Second Session of AMCOMET, which took place 15–19 October 2012, in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The highlights of the achievements of the various Task Forces were discussed in detail during the Reports of Chairs of the Task Forces on the Constitution and Rules of Procedure, Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan and the African Regional Space Programme.
- 6.2. The participants thanked the Chair of AMCOMET for the significant results and success achieved since the Second Session of AMCOMET. Special thanks were expressed to the Government of Zimbabwe, appreciating the progress made under the able leadership of the H.E. Saviour Kasukuwere, the Minister of Environment, Water and Climate of the Republic of Zimbabwe. Similar appreciation was expressed to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for its commitment, especially in supporting and hosting the AMCOMET Secretariat and its operations, as well as raising funds through voluntary contributions from partner organizations. The meeting was grateful to the African Union Commission (AUC) for their continuous support to the AMCOMET Secretariat and for the guidance to the AMCOMET implementation process.

7. Consideration of the Draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services)

- 7.1. Mr Franz Uirab, Permanent Representative of Namibia with the WMO and Chair of the Task Force reported on the development of the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan (IRMP) as well as on the various stakeholder consultations and validation meetings that took place, including the Bureau endorsement of the IRMP. The Chair's full report is attached as **Annex 3**.
- 7.2. Ms Mary Power, Director of Resource Mobilization and Development Partnership (D/RMDP) at WMO Secretariat presented potential avenues of funding for the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services). She also urged Member States to be actively involved at the national level in the mobilisation of resources, both financial and implementing partners, to maximize the benefit for NMHSs.

- 7.3. The meeting raised the following policy-oriented issues that persist in the region:
- 7.3.1. Support for legislation to transform National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) into autonomous agencies / authorities to increase efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery;
 - 7.3.2. Challenges to cost recovery of meteorological services from users, particularly from aviation and marine sectors, which is necessary to help boost the revenue base;
 - 7.3.3. Need to develop a comprehensive framework for cost recovery for all stakeholders who are users of weather and climate data, products and services; and
 - 7.3.4. Need in sustaining the AMCOMET process in order to maintain the high-level support and advocacy required to place NMHSs as key enablers of sustainable development.
- 7.4. The main recommendations of the Task Force of the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan are to:
- 7.4.1. **Approve** the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan;
 - 7.4.2. **Request** the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and relevant partners and stakeholders, to facilitate the development and implementation of the new and existing initiatives under the Flagship Programmes to improve the availability, access and application of weather and climate services under the auspices of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services);
 - 7.4.3. **Further** request the prioritization of the development of the Strategic Plans of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services;
 - 7.4.4. **Note** that the African Union Commission has designated specific days to increase awareness of sectorial themes, such as the African Water Week and Africa Environment Day, recommend the designation of an African Meteorology Day; and **requests** the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the AUC, to develop a Concept Note for an Africa Meteorology Day, to be celebrated annually, preferably on 29 June, to give the much needed visibility for the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RAI (Africa); and
 - 7.4.5. **Extend** the current Task Force's mandate to provide guidance in the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and report to the Fourth Session of AMCOMET.

8. Progress on the Establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa

- 8.1. Mr Isidore Embola, representative of Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) provided an update on the progress in the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre (RCC) in Central Africa. The participants were pleased to note that the Ministerial Council of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), which met in November 2014, requested the ECCAS Secretary General to organize a meeting of Ministers in Charge of Meteorology to validate the documents with a view to establishing the RCC in Central Africa. The progress report is attached as **Annex 4**.
- 8.2. The participants noted the progress made in the establishment of the Regional Climate Centre (RCC) in Central Africa. The participants were informed that strategy takes into consideration best practices from other existing regional climate centres.
- 8.3. The following are the main recommendations of ECCAS and CEMAC:
- 8.3.1. **Approve** the Strategy for the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa; and
 - 8.3.2. **Requests** the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), WMO and relevant partners and stakeholders, to take the necessary steps towards the timely establishment of the Centre.

9. Status of the African Regional Space Policy and the African Regional Space Strategy

Dr Valanathan Munsami, Chair of the Space Working Group (SWG), presented the updated African Space Policy, which takes into consideration the needs of meteorology as well as a draft African Space Strategy.

10. Progress on the Feasibility of Developing an African Regional Space Programme

- 10.1. Dr Agnes Kijazi, Permanent Representative of Tanzania with the WMO and Chair of the Task Force on the African Regional Space Programme reported on the Task Force inter-sessional activities, in particular, the consultations with the AU Space Working Group and the AUC Department on Human Resources and Science and Technology (HRST).
- 10.2. The participants were happy to note that the AMCOMET Bureau Chair and the AMCOMET Task Force Chair of the African Regional Space Programme have been actively participating in the consultations, reflecting an inclusive approach from all stakeholders.
- 10.3. The report of the Task Force Chair is attached as **Annex 5**.
- 10.4. The following are the recommendations of the Task Force on the African Regional Space Programme:
 - 10.4.1. **Endorse** the draft African Space Policy and draft African Space Strategy with the understanding that issues of meteorology are adequately taken into account;
 - 10.4.2. **Request** the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, to facilitate high level discussions with the Bureau Chairs of AMCOMET, AMCOST and African Union Conference of Ministers in Charge of Communications and Information Technologies (CITMC) to strengthen synergies and ensure a mutually beneficial approach throughout the entire process of developing an African Regional Space Programme;
 - 10.4.3. **Request** Ministers Responsible for Meteorology to take note of the resolution on the African Regional Space Programme of the Sixteenth Session of the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Association I (Africa), which took place in Praia, Cabo Verde, 3-9 February 2015; and
 - 10.4.4. **Extend** the current Task Force's mandate to continue with the feasibility study of developing an African Meteorological Space Implementation Plan, as part of an African Space Programme.

11. Plenary Discussion on the Sustainability of AMCOMET

- 11.1. Dr Joseph Mukabana, Director of the AMCOMET Secretariat, presented the draft annual budget for the operations and activities of the AMCOMET Secretariat for the period 2015–2017 and highlighted issues related to the sustainability of the AMCOMET process.
- 11.2. It was noted that the AMCOMET Secretariat is hosted by WMO and its work is supported through voluntary contributions from partners, in particular Norway, Finland, AUC, the Republic of Kenya, the Republic of Zimbabwe and the WMO.
- 11.3. The participants indicated that AMCOMET is an African process with African agenda, and must thus be owned by African and this ownership should be reflected through financial support to the AMCOMET operations and programmes from African governments.
- 11.4. The participants further noted the decisions of the AMCOMET Bureau and supported a fixed contribution of 10,000 USD per Member State classified as Least Developed Country (LDC) and a minimum of 10,000 USD per Member State classified as Developing Country.

12. Presentation of the Outcomes of the Conference on the Gender Dimensions of Weather and Climate Services

- 12.1. Dr Elena Manaenkova, Assistant Secretary-General of the WMO presented the outcomes of the Conference on the Gender Dimensions of Weather and Climate Services, which took place 5 – 7 November 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. The key outcomes, among others, are as follows:
- 12.1.1. Improve the understanding of the gender-specific impacts of weather and climate, and of the gender dimensions of weather and climate services on all climate sensitive sectors;
 - 12.1.2. Strengthen the capacity of women as well as men in climate sensitive sectors – to contribute to effective production, access and use of weather and climate services;
 - 12.1.3. Increase investment in gender-based weather and climate services to reduce gender gaps in this area, providing better gender-sensitive services; and
 - 12.1.4. Increase collaboration and integration of programmes and initiatives between WMO, key UNOs, RECs, RCCs, NMHSs and local actors to enable systematic integration of gender sensitive weather and climate services into their activities, networks, programmes and plans of all stakeholders, governments, RECs, among others.
- 12.2. The participants noted the outcomes with appreciation and indicated support in mainstreaming gender issues in the provision of weather and climate services. They further addressed the principles of gender equality and women's empowerment in various sectors, with a view to making a difference in the lives of women and men, and the youth.

13. Overview of the Climate Information and Services Programme for Africa (CIASA)

- 13.1. Ms Nicola Ranger, Advisor at the Department of International Development (DFID) at the UK provided an overview of the Climate Information and Services Programme for Africa (CIASA), which aims at supporting the development of needs-based and user-led climate services in Africa. The programme, while still in its initial stages and pending approval, is aligned with the principles of the Global Framework for Climate Services and the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services).
- 13.2. The CIASA Programme's objective is to improve the generation, use, and uptake of user-driven climate information and services to support climate risk management in Africa.
- 13.3. The participants were informed that key themes of interventions that arose from consultations on CIASA include the following: strengthened enabling environment for the generation, uptake and use of Climate Information Services (CIS); interdisciplinary research to support the generation, uptake and use of CIS and build intellectual leadership in climate research in Africa; improved data and systems support to CIS; strengthened global, regional, and national partnerships to support improved CIS; and a step change in the uptake and use of CIS at national, sub-national, and community levels, including NMHS strengthening.
- 13.4. The participants noted the upcoming CIASA Programme and requested DFID to continue the dialogue with Member States to ensure programmes developed meet the actual needs, complement or are in synergy with the regional aspect of the GFCS and the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services).

14. Consideration of the AMCOMET Constitution and Rules of Procedure

- 14.1. Mr Jacob Nkomoki, Permanent Representative of Zambia with the WMO and Chair of the Task Force reported on the development of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure as well as on the various consultations at the national level, including the endorsement of the documents by the Bureau of AMCOMET. The Chair's full report is attached as **Annex 6**.
- 14.2. The participants proposed one amendment to the Constitution, which has been incorporated.
- 14.3. The AUC provided an overview of the structural changes within the African Union (AU), notably the establishment of 14 Specialized Technical Committees (STC) and the decision to stop support to the functions, operations and scheduling of the Ministerial Conferences, including AMCOMET. The

participants agreed on the urgent need for Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa, under the leadership of the Bureau Chair, to participate in the First of the STC Meeting on *Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment* in the third quarter of 2015 in order to advocate for the establishment of a sub-committee on Meteorology under this STC.

14.4. The following are the key Recommendations of the Task Force on the Constitution and Rules of Procedures:

14.4.1. **Approve** the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET);

14.4.2. **Request** the Ministers to establish the Task Force composed of the Bureau Members and five other representatives of the sub-regions, on STC alignment to engage with the AUC and find possible ways of building linkages and synergies between the AMCOMET and appropriate STC(s), and report to the Fourth Session of AMCOMET; and

14.4.3. **Request** Members of the Bureau and encourage all Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa, under the leadership of the Bureau Chair, to take part in the First Meeting of the STC on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment in the third quarter of 2015, and to advocate for the establishment of a sub-committee on Meteorology under this STC and suggest to add "Weather and Climate" in the title of the STC.

15. Presentation on the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Agenda (Scientific Advisory Committee, Institutional Collaboration Platform, Secretariat and Governance Structure)

15.1. Dr Wilfran Moufouma-Okia, Climate Science Expert of the African Climate Policy Centre, provided an overview of the genesis of the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Agenda, which highlights the need for improved climate science knowledge and predicting capability. The CR4D Agenda was developed during the African Climate Conference (ACC2013), which took place in Arusha Tanzania, October 2013, where delegates addressed the priority research gaps for informed adaptation and decision-making in Africa. The main outcomes of the conference included a coordinated Agenda for African Climate Research to serve development and urged African institutions to establish a sustainable coordination platform on Climate Research for Development.

15.2. Dr Joseph Mukabana highlighted the strong linkages between AMCOMET and CR4D, in particular Strategic Pillar 4 of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) which supports the provision of weather and climate services for climate change adaptation and mitigation. This pillar further advocates for the allocation of 5% of budgets of NMHSs and associated institutions to be used for research and development and calls to galvanize greater engagement between producers of climate information and development at the community level. He further recalled that AMCOMET has a pan-African mandate to promote cooperation at all levels and advocates informed decision making based on robust science in matters related to weather and climate.

15.3. A proposed joint oversight of the CR4D agenda, by the Clim-Dev Programme, AMCOMET and WMO was presented for the participants' consideration and endorsement. The presenters further called for the participants to facilitate the emergence of a single authoritative voice to development agencies and to encourage applied/operational research collaboration in building the demand for and capacity to use climate information and services in decision making across Africa.

15.4. The meeting recommended the endorsement of the proposed joint oversight of the CR4D agenda by the Clim-Dev Programme, AMCOMET and WMO and the establishment of a Task Force to support the development and implementation of the CR4D agenda.

16. Discussion on the new Members of AMCOMET Bureau

16.1. Following sub-regional consultations, the following Member States representing the five African sub-regions were proposed for the next Bureau of AMCOMET; **Cabo Verde** (Chair), **Egypt** (First Vice-Chair), **Cameroun** (Second Vice-Chair), **Sudan** (Third Vice-Chair) and **Zambia** (Rapporteur).

17. Consideration of the Draft Praia Ministerial Declaration

- 17.1. Following the discussions during the Expert Meeting, the AMCOMET Secretariat drafted the Praia Ministerial Declaration, which was submitted for consideration and endorsement by Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa during the Ministerial Meeting of the Third Session of AMCOMET.

18. Closing Ceremony

- 18.1. Dr Amos Makarau, Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe with the WMO and Representative of the Bureau Chair of AMCOMET thanked the participants for their active engagement during deliberations and officially closed the Expert Meeting of AMCOMET at 5 p.m. on 12 February 2015.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

DELEGATION OF COUNTRIES			
Angola	NASCIMENTO Domingos José do	National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Benin	NAKPON Marcellin Kokou	Services météorologiques du Bénin	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Benin	AWO Salifou K.	Services météorologiques du Bénin	DAAN et Gestionnaire de la météo
Burkina Faso	YAKA Pascal	Direction de la météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Cabo Verde	GARCIA VEIGA Emanuel Antero	Ministry of Environment, Habitation and Territorial Planning	Minister of Environment, Habitation and Territorial Planning
Cabo Verde	ARAÚJO DE BRITO Ester	National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Cabo Verde	DA VEIGA CORREIA Francisco	National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics	Administrator
Cabo Verde	SANTOS SOARES Emanuel	National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics	Administrator
Cameroon	EWOLO Alexis Christian	Cameroon Meteorological Department	Sous Directeur des application météorologiques
Central African Republic	TETEYA Joël Urbain	Ministère des Transports et de l'Aviation Civile	Inspecteur Central de l'Aviation Civile et de la Météorologie
Chad	MBAITOU BAM Elie	Météorologie Nationale du Tchad	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Chad	BILAL Adam Mahamat	Météorologie Nationale du Tchad	Chef de Division de Maintenance
Comoros	ANYNAYABINTIE Abdourazakou	Agence Nationale de l'Aviation Civile et de la Météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Congo	LOUMOUAMOU Camille	Direction de la Météorologie Nationale	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Congo	KANGA Alphonse	Direction de la Météorologie Nationale	Chef de Service des Systèmes d'Observation et Télécommunications

Côte d'Ivoire	KONATE Daouda	Direction de la Météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	MPUNDU ELONGA Jean-Pierre	METTELSAT	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Djibouti	OSMAN SAAD SAID Osman	Djibouti National Meteorology Agency	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Egypt	MOHAMED Ahmed Abdelaal	The Egyptian Meteorological Authority	Chairman, Board of Directors of Egyptian Meteorological Authority and Permanent Representative with the WMO
Egypt	MOHAMED HASSAN Nadia	The Egyptian Meteorological Authority	Director General of International Affairs
Egypt	ZACKEY ABDELMAWGOUD Ashraf Saber	The Egyptian Meteorological Authority	Director General of Scientific Research
Egypt	HAMED ABD-ELNABY Ahmed Saad	The Egyptian Meteorological Authority	Senior Reasearcher
Ethiopia	TESHOME TOLA Fetene	National Meteorological Agency	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Gambia	TOURAY Lamin Mai	Department of Water Resources	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Ghana	NKANSAH Andrew	Ghana Meteorological Agency	Director
Ghana	NYARKOTEY QUAO Stephen	Ghana Civil Aviation Authority	Meteorologist
Guinea	BAH Mamadou Lamine	Direction Nationale de la Météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Guinea Bissau	TCHEDNA João Lona	National Institute of Meteorology	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Kenya	KONGOTI James	Kenya Meteorological Service	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Kenya	MASIKA Peter	Kenya Meteorological Service	Acting Assitant Director in charge of International Relations and Regional Cooperation
Kenya	MUIRURI Sospeter	Kenya Meteorological Service	Acting Deputy Director
Lesotho	TSEOLE Charles	Lesotho Meteorological	Expert

		Services	
Liberia	GAR-GLAHN Arthur	Liberia Meteorological Services	Permanent Representative with the WMO
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Madagascar	RAHARIVELOARIMIZA Soarijaona Samuëline	Direction générale de la météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Malawi	NKHOKWE Jolamu	Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Mali	DIALLO Mamadou Adama	Agence Nationale de la Météorologie	Head of Climatology
Mauritania	KHTOUR Mohamed el Ghali	Office Nationale de la Météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Morocco	MOKSSIT Abdallah	Météorologie Nationale du Maroc	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Morocco	OULDBBA Abdelaziz	Météorologie Nationale du Maroc	Chef de la Division de la Coopération internationale et de la Formation au sein de la Direction de la Météorologie nationale
Mozambique	MANHIQUE Atanásio João	National Institute of Meteorology	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Namibia	UIRAB Franz	Namibia Meteorological Service	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Namibia	DIRKSE Simon Andre	Namibia Meteorological Service	Expert
Niger	LABO Moussa	Météorologie Nationale	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Nigeria	AFIESIMAMA Ernest	Nigerian Meteorological Agency	Head, Adviser to the Permanent Representative
Sao Tomé and Príncipe	XAVIER FERNANDES Anselmo	Institut National de la Météorologie	Directeur Adjoint
Senegal	DIONGUE NIANG Aida	ANACIM	Directrice de l'Exploitation Météorologique
Senegal	NDIAYE Ousmane	Agence National de l'Aviation Civile et de la Météorologie	Chef du Département Recherche et Développement
Sierra Leone	BOCKARI Alpha	Meteorological Department, Ministry of	Permanent Representative with the

		Transport and Aviation	WMO
South Africa	MAKULENI Linda	South African Weather Service	Permanent Representative with the WMO
South Africa	MAJODINA Mark	South African Weather Service	International Relations
South Africa	SHONGWE Mxolisi	South African Weather Service	Expert
South Africa	NDABAMBI Mnikeli	South African Weather Service	Expert
South Africa	KHAMBULE Gaborekwe	South African Weather Service	Expert
South Sudan	OGAWI MODO Mojwok	South Sudan Weather Service	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Sudan	SHARAFELDEIN Idris Ahmed	Sudan Meteorological Authority	Head of Delegation Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs
Swaziland	NHLENGETHWA-MASINA Duduzile	Swaziland Meteorological Service	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Tanzania, Republic of	KIJAZI Agnes	Tanzania Meteorological Agency	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Tanzania, Republic of	WANIHA Pascal	Tanzania Meteorological Agency	Acting Director of Technical Services
Togo	EGBARE Awadi Abi	Direction Générale de la Météorologie Nationale	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Tunisia	NMIRI Abdelwaheb	Institut National de la Météorologie	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Uganda	NKALUBO Michael S. Z.	Uganda National Meteorological Authority	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Zambia	NKOMOKI Jacob	Zambia Meteorological Department	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Zambia	KANYANGA Joseph K.	Zambia Meteorological Department	Assistant Director Meteorology
Zambia	MUSONDA Bathsheba	Zambia Meteorological Department	Meteorologist
Zimbabwe	MAKARAU Amos	Meteorological Services Department	Permanent Representative with the WMO
Zimbabwe	BUNGARE Elliot	Meteorological Services Department	Head of International Relations

Zimbabwe	MUDAWU Kasirai	Economist	Economist
Zimbabwe	NKOSI Sylvia	Meteorological Services Department	External Relations Officer
AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS			
ACMAD	DIALLO Adama Alhassane	Director General	
ACMAD	LAMPTEY Benjamin	Deputy Director	
ACMAD	BAYALA Serge	Expert en Communication	
ACMAD	KAMGA André	Continental Thema Project Manager	
African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) - UNECA	DENTON Fatima	Coordinator	
African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) - UNECA	INTSIFUL Joseph	Climate Science Expert	
African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) - UNECA	MOUFOUMA OKIA Wilfran	Climate Science Expert	
African Development Bank	JOHM Ken	Manager	
African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW)	TALL Bai Mass	Secrétaire Exécutif	
African Union Commission	OUEDRAOGO Mahama	Director, HRST	
African Union Commission	OLAYIDE Olushola	Officer in Charge, Environment, Climate Change, Water and Land Management Division	
African Union Commission	WASAMBO Jolly	MESA Project Officer	
African Union Commission	KHIMULU Rehema	Intern, HRST	
African Youth Initiative on Climate Change	PALAZUELOS Antonio	Focal Point	
AGRHYMET / CILSS	BOUAFOU Marcel Guy	Director General	
AGRHYMET	SAMAKE Mamadou	Chef du Département DAT	
AGRHYMET	SONGOTI Henri	Exp. Génie Logiciel	
AGRHYMET	TRAORE Seydou	Coordinateur Scientifique	
ASECNA	NGOUAKA Dieudonné	Responsable Réseaux Météorologiques	
ASECNA	OBAME-EDOU Claire-Josette	Directeur de l'Exploitation Technique	
ASECNA	ZOUMARA Siméon	Chargé des Relations avec l'OMM et les Directions Météorologiques Nationales (DMN)	
AU Space Working Group, Department of Science and Technology, South	MUNSAMI VALANATHAN Valanathan	Chief Specialist, Astronomy and African Space Science	

Africa		
CEMAC	EMBOLA Isidore	Chef de projet
EAC	MUNGAI John	Project Manager
ECCAS	KUITSOUC Dominique	Expert en Réduction des Risques de Catastrophes et Adaptation au Changement Climatique
ECOWAS	BOANUH Johnson	Director of Environment
IGAD/ICPAC	ATHERU Zachary	Programme Manager
IGAD/ICPAC	MWESIGWA Jasper	Expert
SADC-CSC	GARANGANGA Bradwell	Coordinator
UN BODIES		
FAO	FONSECA Luciano	Representative
FAO	WOMDIM Rémi Nono	Representative
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GOMEZ Bernard	WMO Reepresentative for North, Central and West Africa
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AGENDA OF THE EXPERT MEETING

Expert Meeting, 10 – 12 February 2015

Tuesday, 10 February 2014

08.00 – 09.00	Registration of Participants
09.00 – 10.00	Session 1: Opening Ceremony
10.00 – 10.15	Session 2: Organizational Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adoption of the Expert Programme ▪ Organization of Work
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee / Tea / Health Break
10.30 – 11.00	Special Presentation: Future of the Global Data Processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) and the Expansion of the Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) in Africa (WMO)
11.00 – 11.30	Session 3: Report of the Bureau Chair
11.30 – 12.00	Session 4: Consideration of the Draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan on the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) (Chair of the Task Force on the Implementation Plan)
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break
14.00 – 14.30	Session 4 (Continued): Consideration of the Draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan on the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) (Chair of the Task Force on the Implementation Plan and M. Power, Director Resource Mobilization and Partnership Development)
14.30 – 15.00	Session 5: Consideration of the AMCOMET Constitution and Rules of Procedures (Chair of the Task Force on the Constitution)
15.00 – 15.30	Session 6: Progress on the Establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa (ECCAS / CEMAC)
15.30 – 15.45	Coffee / Tea / Health Break
15.45 – 16.15	Session 7: Status of the African Regional Space Policy and the African Regional Space Strategy (AU Space Working Group, AUC)
16.15 – 17.00	Session 8: Progress on the Feasibility of Developing an African Regional Space Programme (Chair of the Task Force on the African Regional Space Programme)
17.00	End of Day 1

Wednesday, 11 February 2014

09.00 – 10.00	Session 9: Plenary Discussion on the Sustainability of AMCOMET (Chair of the Bureau, assisted by AMCOMET Secretariat)
10.00 – 10.15	Coffee / Tea / Health Break
10.15 – 10.40	Session 10: Presentation on the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Agenda (Scientific Advisory Committee, Institutional Collaboration Platform, Secretariat and Governance Structure) (ACPC, AMCOMET Secretariat)
10.40 – 11.00	Session 11: Presentation of the Outcomes of the Conference on the Gender Dimensions of Weather and Climate Services (WMO ASG)
11.00 – 11.30	Session 12: Overview of Climate Information and Services Programme for Africa (CIASA) (DFID)
11.30 – 12.00	Session 13: Discussion on Task Forces
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break
14.00 – 14.30	Session 14: Discussion on the new Members of AMCOMET Bureau
14.30 – 15.15	Sessions 15: Development Partners' Dialogue
15.15 – 15.30	Coffee / Tea / Health Break
15.30 – 16.15	Session 16: Consideration of the Draft Expert Meeting Report and Draft Praia Ministerial Statement and Decisions
16.15 – 16.45	Any Other Business
16.45 – 17.00	Closing Ceremony
17.00	Closure of the Expert Meeting

Thursday, 12 February 2015

SCHEDULE OF AMCOMET SIDE EVENTS

A summary of the Side Events are available in **Annex 7**.

Time	Wednesday, 11 February 2015	
	ROOM 2 (5TH FLOOR) No Interpretation	MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM No Interpretation
13.00 – 14.00		Enhancing Climate Services in Africa by Improving the Availability, Access and Use of Climate Information (IRI)

Time	Thursday, 12 February 2015	
	ROOM 2 (5TH FLOOR) No Interpretation	MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM With Interpretation (EN, FR, POR)
09.00 – 10.15	Development Partners Round Table (CLOSED MEETING)	Linkages of the African Space Policy and Strategy to Meteorology and other Existing Initiatives (AUC, AMCOMET, WMO)
10.15 – 10.30	Coffee / Tea / Health Break	
10.30 – 11.30	Development Partners Round Table (CLOSED MEETING)	Linkages of the African Space Policy and Strategy to Meteorology and other Existing Initiatives (AUC, AMCOMET, WMO)
11.30 – 12.30		
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14:00 – 15:00	MESA and satellite coverage of Africa (AUC)	Mainstreaming Gender in Weather and Climate Services ¹ (IGAD, ICPAC)
15.00 – 16.00	Opportunities for Non Traditional Observations in Africa (UK Met Office)	Climate Research for Development ² (ACPC)

¹ The Side Event on Mainstreaming Gender in Weather and Climate Services was cancelled.

² The Side Event took place during the Ministerial Meeting of the Third Session of AMCOMET (13 February 2015)

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE CHAIR OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN

1. Following Decision 02/4 of the Second Session of AMCOMET, the Ministers:
 - a. Adopted the Integrated Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services);
 - b. Established a Task Force to draft the Implementation Plan and Resource Mobilization Plan for the Integrated Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and to submit its findings for consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET; and
 - c. Invited the African Union Commission (AUC) and the WMO to submit the adopted Integrated Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) to the relevant AU and WMO organs for endorsement.
2. The following Task Force Members were designated through consultations with the sub-regions:
 - a. Namibia (Southern Africa) – Chair of the Task Force
 - b. Sudan (Eastern Africa) – Member
 - c. Cameroun (Central Africa) – Rapporteur of the Task Force
 - d. Cote d'Ivoire (Western Africa) – Member
 - e. Tunisia (Northern Africa) – Member
3. In October 2013, the AMCOMET Secretariat, in consultation with the African Union Commission (AUC), engaged an expert to develop the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan of the Strategy. The expert consulted with various stakeholders, including Permanent Representatives of Member States with the WMO, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), the AUC, Technical Departments of WMO and other continental and regional Institutions.
4. A Meeting of Stakeholders was organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2014 to review the Implementation Plan. Participants included expert representatives of the Task Force and representatives of relevant partner organizations. Feedback provided by stakeholders were integrated into the document.
5. Member State Validation Meetings, under the auspice of the AUC, were organized, inviting Member States of the East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) sub-regions.
6. The Task Force, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014, reviewed the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan and submitted it to the Bureau of AMCOMET for approval.
7. The Bureau of AMCOMET, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014:
 - a. Endorsed the amendments to the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan along with the Regional Flagship Programmes, and their associated Expected Results and Activities;
 - b. Requested Member States, RECs, RCCs and other development partners to align ongoing and future development programmes and related initiatives with the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) taking into consideration priorities and specificities of their sub-regions;
 - c. Requested the AMCOMET Secretariat to finalise the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan;
 - d. Requested the Chair of the Task Force to present, the Third Session of AMCOMET, the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan; and

- e. Requested AMCOMET Member States to proactively engage with development partners, as indicated in the resource mobilization plan, to attract funding towards the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services).
8. On the behalf of the Task Force, I submit for your consideration the draft Implementation Plan and Resource Mobilization Plan and request you to present it to Ministers Responsible for Meteorology for approval and endorsement. The Task Force further:
- a. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) and relevant partners and stakeholders, to facilitate the development and implementation of new and existing initiatives under the Flagship Programmes to improve the availability, access and application of weather and climate services under the auspices of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services);
 - b. Further requests the prioritization of the development of the Strategic Plans of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services;
 - c. Noting that the African Union Commission has designated specific days to increase awareness of sectorial themes, such as the African Water Week and Africa Environment Day, recommends the designation of an African Meteorology Day and requests the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the AUC, to develop a Concept Note for an Africa Meteorology Day, to be celebrated annually on 29 June, to give the much needed visibility for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services; and
 - d. Recommends that the current Task Force's mandate be extended to provide guidance in the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and report to the Fourth Session of AMCOMET.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL CLIMATE CENTRE IN CENTRAL AFRICA

1. Following Decision 02/2 of the Second Session of AMCOMET, the Ministers:
 - a. Noted the message from the Commission on Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) to the Second Session of AMCOMET, stressing the need for a regional climate centre in Central Africa to enable them to serve the interest of the region; and
 - b. Urged WMO, in collaboration with the African Union Commission and partners, to take all necessary steps to establish a regional climate centre in Central Africa.
2. In October 2013, the AMCOMET Secretariat, in consultation with the African Union Commission (AUC), engaged an expert to develop the Strategy and estimated 5-year budget for the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa. The expert consulted with stakeholders in Central Africa, including Permanent Representatives of Member States with the WMO, Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), and the African Union Commission (AUC).
3. A Meeting of Stakeholders was organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2014 to review the Strategy. Participants included representatives of relevant partner organizations. Feedback provided by stakeholders were integrated into the document.
4. The Task Force, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014, reviewed the draft Strategy and budget and submitted it to the Bureau of AMCOMET for approval.
5. The Bureau of AMCOMET, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014:
 - a. Requested AMCOMET Secretariat to submit the report on the feasibility of establishing a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa to Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC);
 - b. Requests ECCAS and CEMAC to convene a meeting of experts to review the feasibility document for validation and reach a consensus on the venue, designation and structure of a Regional Climate Centre within their respective sub-region;
 - c. Further request ECCAS and CEMAC to submit the recommendations of the Meeting of Experts to the Ministers in charge of Meteorology in Central Africa for adoption and transmission to Heads of States of Central African States for consideration and endorsement; and
 - d. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to present the validated report to the Third Session of AMCOMET for endorsement; and
 - e. Further requests the AUC to present the validated report to the AU Policy Organs.
6. A Validation Workshop for the draft Strategy to establish a Regional Climate Centre in Central took place 22 – 24 October 2014 in N'djamena, Chad. The meeting was participated by Central African Member States, namely, Burundi, Cameroun, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe and Chad as well as by stakeholders, namely ECCAS, CEMAC and WMO. Following the review and deliberations on the document, the main recommendations of the participants are:
 - a. the centre should be created as a multi-functional centre;
 - b. the country who would host the centre would put in place the necessary infrastructure for the effective running of the centre;
 - c. the Regional Climate Centre should be named “Regional Climate Centre of Central Africa”;
 - d. the Centre be a specialized institution of ECCAS and CEMAC;
 - e. the community contributions from ECCAS and CEMAC be integrated as other potential source of financing for the centre;

- f. the Conference of Ministers responsible for meteorology of the ECCAS adopt the project;
 - g. requests Cameroun to host the Conference of Ministers responsible for meteorology of the ECCAS no later than March 2015 to adopt the project
7. The Ministerial Council of Central African States (ECCAS), met 21 – 22 November 2014, was informed of the approved strategy and implementation for the establishment of the RCC in Central Africa. The Ministerial Council requested the ECCAS Secretary General to organize a meeting of Ministers in Charge of Meteorology to validate the documents with a view to establishing the RCC in Central Africa.
8. On the behalf of ECCAS and CEMAC, I submit for your consideration the Strategy for the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa and request you to present it to Ministers Responsible for Meteorology for approval and endorsement. ECCAS and CEMAC further requests the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC), WMO and relevant partners and stakeholders, to take the necessary steps towards the timely establishment of the Centre.

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON THE AFRICAN REGIONAL SPACE PROGRAMME

1. Following Decision 02/5 of the Second Session of AMCOMET, the Ministers:
 - a. Noted that it is time for Africa to develop an African Regional Space Programme to enhance data availability from remote and inaccessible areas; and
 - b. Established a Task Force to investigate the feasibility of developing an African Regional Space Programme and to submit its findings for consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET.
2. The African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government, in January 2013, requested the establishment of a Joint Task Force to investigate the feasibility of developing an African Regional Space Programme, ensuring close collaboration with other relevant Departments (of the African Union) and stakeholders.
3. The following Task Force Members were designated through consultations with the sub-regions:
 - a. Tanzania (Southern Africa) – Chair of the Task Force
 - b. South Africa (Southern Africa) – Rapporteur of the Task Force
 - c. Kenya (Eastern Africa) – Member
 - d. Democratic Republic of Congo (Central Africa) – Member
 - e. Nigeria (Western Africa) – Member
 - f. Algeria (Northern Africa) – Member
4. Consultations have been ongoing with representatives of the AUC Human Resources and Science and Technology Department (HRST) and the African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST) since December 2013 to ensure that meteorological needs are addressed in the (African Space Policy and African Space Strategy, which are pan –African and spearheaded by the AUC-HRST.
5. Further consultations took place during the Task Force Meeting in May 2014, where the Chair of the African Union (AU) Space Working Group (SWG), established by AMCOST, presented the background, rationale, goals, objectives and principles of the draft African Space Policy. This policy was presented to the AMCOST Bureau, and will be presented for approval by the African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government. It was also mentioned that the AU SWG was in the process of drafting the African Space Strategy. Below is the composition of the AU Space Working Group:
 - a. Namibia and South Africa (Southern Africa)
 - b. Kenya and Tanzania (Eastern Africa)
 - c. Cameroon and Congo-Brazzaville (Central Africa)
 - d. Ghana and Nigeria (Western Africa)
 - e. Algeria and Egypt (Northern Africa)
6. The Task Force, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014, agreed that AMCOMET and AMCOST needed to work closely together to support the development of the African Space Policy and the African Space Strategy and noted that African Heads of State and Government already decided on the establishment of a Regional African Space Programme, therefore relevant institutions needed to facilitate the implementation of this decision.
7. The Bureau of AMCOMET, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014:
 - a. Requested the Chair of the Task Force to present the Draft African Space Policy consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET;

- b. Requested AUC and AMCOST, in collaboration with AMCOMET, to link the African Space Programme to the WMO Space Programme and other on-going regional programmes and initiatives, such as Monitoring of Environment for Security in Africa (MESA) and African Satellite Meteorology Education and Training (ASMET) programme;
 - c. Requested the AUC Space Working Group (SWG) to ensure inclusive participatory process in the development of the African Space Strategy to adequately address sectoral needs; and
 - d. Further requested the AUC to present the finalized African Space Policy to the AUC Policy Organs at the appropriate time.
8. The AU Space Working Group held meetings in August 2014 in Egypt and in December 2014, in Tunisia, to incorporate inputs from other user sectors and AU policy organs into the Draft African Space Policy, commenced drafting the African Space Strategy and considered the African Space Governance Framework. The AMCOMET Bureau and Task Force Chairs participated in the meetings where inputs from the Bureau Meeting of AMCOMET were adopted with minor alterations in line with the Terms of Reference for the development of a high-level, goal-based holistic and inclusive African Space Policy able to satisfy all user sectors across that spectrum. The Working Group Meetings developed the structure of the strategy, defined the strategic goals and key priorities, thematic focus areas, implementation framework, including functional and support platforms. The meetings recommended that the African Space Policy, the African Space Strategy and the African Space Governance Framework be presented to AU policy organs, including AMCOMET.
9. A Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) and Africa Coordination Team Meeting took place in December 2014, in Tunisia. The AMCOMET Bureau and Task Force Chairs participated in the meeting whose objective was to discuss the governance and structure of the Coordination Team, define and identify the process of the three priority themes of GMES and Africa and to finalize the remaining six chapters of the GMES and Africa Panaf Project. The main recommendations from the meeting are to share the project document to Member States and RECs and request their feedback to the AUC, to enhance countries' involvement, understanding and owning of the process. The meeting further recommended that Africa should determine its data needs and make the appropriate request bearing in mind that the data is provided free of charge and that there should be continuous dialogue between the AMCOMET Task Force and the AU Space Working Group.
10. Noting the AMCOMET Bureau's request to link the African Regional Space Programme to the WMO Space Programme and other on-going regional programmes and initiatives, the Task Force also reviewed the Concept Note for an AMCOMET-WMO Regional Space Programme for Africa, which supplements the efforts of the African Regional Space Programme coordinated by AUC-HRST, which has a particular focus on meeting the needs of the meteorological sector. It was further noted that the role of AMCOMET, through the AMCOMET Task Force on the Regional Space Programme, is to provide inputs relevant to operational meteorology and its links to the thematic areas in the African Regional Space Programme.
11. The Task Force proposed the following recommendations:
 - a. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat, in collaboration with the African Union Commission, to facilitate high level discussions with the Bureau Chairs of AMCOMET, AMCOST and African Union Conference of Ministers in Charge of Communications and Information Technologies (CITMC) to strengthen synergies and ensure a mutually beneficial approach throughout the entire process of developing an African Regional Space Programme;
 - b. Request the submission of the draft African Space Policy and draft African Space Strategy to Ministers Responsible for Meteorology for their consideration and endorsement with the understanding that issues of meteorology are adequately taken into account;
 - c. Request Ministers Responsible for Meteorology to take note of the resolution on the African Regional Space Programme of the Sixteenth Session of the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Association I (Africa), which took place in Praia, Cabo Verde, 3-9 February 2015; and
 - d. Recommends that the current Task Force's mandate be extended to continue with the feasibility study of developing an African Meteorological Space Implementation Plan, as part of an African Space Programme;

REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE CHAIR OF THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF PROCEDURES

1. Following Decision 02/1 of the Second Session of AMCOMET, the Ministers:
 - a. Noted that the draft Constitution and Rules of Procedures needed further consultations and review;
 - b. Decided to establish a Task Force to consider all comments and prepare the revised drafts of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure; and
 - c. Requested the AMCOMET Bureau to consider the final drafts of the Constitution and Rules of Procedure for submission to the Third Session of AMCOMET.
2. The following Task Force Members were designated through consultations with the sub-regions:
 - a. Zambia (Southern Africa) – Chair of the Task Force
 - b. Ethiopia (Eastern Africa) – Member
 - c. Chad (Central Africa) – Member
 - d. Mauritania (Western Africa) – Member
 - e. Morocco (Northern Africa) – Rapporteur of the Task Force
3. Consultations were conducted in each sub-region, through the sub-regional representatives of the Task Force. Member States' feedback were submitted to the AMCOMET Secretariat, consolidated and presented during the Task Force Meeting, which took place in May 2014, in Harare, Zimbabwe.
4. The Task Force, taking into account that AMCOMET is a joint initiative of the African Union Commission (AUC) and the World Meteorological Organization, decided that it should have its own Constitution and Rules of Procedures, with a provision that when the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) of the AUC are fully operational, the Constitution and Rules of Procedures will be harmonized as appropriate.
5. The Task Force reviewed the Constitution and Rules of Procedures, proposed further modifications and submitted the updated documents for consideration by the Bureau Members of AMCOMET.
6. The Bureau of AMCOMET, at its meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe in May 2014:
 - a. Noted the Report of the Task Force on the Constitution and Rules of Procedures and requested presentation of the documents to the Third Session of AMCOMET;
 - b. Requested the AMCOMET Secretariat to liaise with the WMO Legal Counsel to review the draft Constitution and draft Rules of Procedures, and make the necessary modifications in consultation with the Task Force;
 - c. Adopted the same governance mechanism and structure for AMCOMET as a joint initiative of the AU-WMO and similar in context to the relationship existing between the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the UNECA Africa Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; and
 - d. Requested the AMCOMET Secretariat to take the necessary action for the adoption of the Constitution and Rules of Procedures during the Third Session of AMCOMET
7. The AMCOMET Secretariat facilitated the decisions of the Bureau Members and circulated the updated and approved Constitution and Rules of Procedures to Member States.
8. Items for discussion not covered during the Bureau Meeting:
 - a. Nomenclature of Conference Segments (Expert and Ministerial Segments), which indicates that the African Ministerial Conference for Meteorology is one Meeting, with two segments; and

- b. Title of Director of the Secretariat (Executive Director), in conformity with other ministerial conferences in Africa
9. On behalf of the Task Force, I submit for your consideration the Constitution and Rules of Procedures and request you to present it to the Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa for approval and adoption. The Task Force further requests that the Ministers sign the Constitution of AMCOMET during the Ministerial Segment of the Third Session of AMCOMET, which takes place 13 – 14 February 2015.

SUMMARY OF SIDE EVENTS

Enhancing Climate Services in Africa by Improving the Availability, Access and Use of Climate Information

The International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), in collaboration with partners, has embarked on an ambitious initiative to transform climate services in Africa. The ENACTS (Enhancing National Climate Services) initiative strives to improve the availability of climate data, access to climate information products, and the use of climate information at national level. It focuses on the creation of reliable and actionable climate information that is suitable for national and local decision-making. Data availability is improved by combining quality-controlled data from the national observation network with proxies such as satellite and reanalysis products. Access to information products is enhanced by providing online tools for data analysis and visualization as well as through sharing products with national stakeholders. The online tool is integrated into NMHS web pages. The use of climate information is facilitated through sustained engagements with stakeholders and co-production of information products.

The ENACTS approach was presented at a Side Event during the Third Session of AMCOMET. Following a welcome from the Chair, Dr Mamadou Lamine Bah, (PR of Guinea), Dr Tufa Dinku (IRI) presented the rationale and science behind the development of ENACTS and indicated how the approach could be used to create quality climate services for national decision-making. The presentation was followed by country experiences with implementation reported by Mr Fetene Teshome (PR of Ethiopia) and Dr Agnes Kijazi (PR of Tanzania). Both Directors expressed satisfaction with the ENACTS approach and indicated that it had already stimulated new demand for climate services in their countries. They also highlight the need for training of met staff in the use and delivery of ENACTS products and services. Dr Madeleine Thomson (IRI) then expanded on the value of ENACTS to the non-climate development community. 10 country representatives made comments or requests from the floor in favour of greater support and implementation of ENACTS in Africa.

Linkages of the African Space Policy and Strategy to Meteorology and other existing initiatives

The African Space Policy and Strategy to Meteorology and other existing initiatives are spurred by the necessity to realize a future where decisions for action are informed by coordinated, comprehensive and sustained Earth observations and information, through harnessing the potential benefits of space science and technology in addressing Africa's economic, environmental, political and social opportunities and challenges. Hence, the policy principles are geared towards addressing user needs, developing the regional and international markets, adopting good governance and management, coordinating the African space arena, and promoting international cooperation.

The African Space Policy and Strategy serves the needs of the meteorological community in addressing the critical shortage of land based observations, communication gaps for data exchange between countries, access to products and services from advanced centres, enable tracking and forecasting of high-impact weather events in support of disaster risk management, and foster research and development in the science of meteorology and its applications. In this vein, the AUC and AMCOST, in collaboration with AMCOMET are requested to link the African Space Programme to the WMO Space Programme and other ongoing regional programmes and initiatives and further requests the AUC Space Working Group (SWG) to ensure an inclusive participatory process in the development of the African Space Programme, including the African Space Strategy, to adequately address sectoral needs. The AUC is further requested to present the finalized African Space Policy to the AUC Policy Organs at the appropriate time and to continue with the visibility study to develop the Implementation Plan for the African Meteorological Space Programme as part of the African Space Programme.

Given the linkages between the various initiatives, the African Space Programme is highly encouraged to use existing infrastructure and expertise built for astronomy, to co-locate instruments, build human capital, ensure synergy and coordination among the various disciplines, and to build sustainable scientific programmes in line with the African Space Strategy.

The Africa Caucus in the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) partnership includes 24 Member States and 7 African intergovernmental and regional Participating Organizations. The AfriGEOSS Initiative, developed

GEO framework, aims to enhance Africa's capacity for producing, managing and using Earth observations data and information for informed decisions and policies. This will be achieved through a coordination mechanism considering national, regional, continental and global levels.

In addition to the coordination network the AfriGEOSS four functional areas support the African Space Policy Principles: user needs and applications (principle 1 and 3), data and infrastructure (principle 2), human capital development (principle 4), resource mobilization and communication and outreach. Through these functional areas and the GEO Data Sharing Principles AfriGEOSS supports Africa in achieving open and affordable access to EO data, operational use of EO data in daily pursuits of national mandates and for evidence-based decision-making; and skills, capacity and competencies to exploit fully the advantages of EO and Africa's involvement in GEO and other international initiatives.

Most importantly, AfriGEOSS support the African Space Policy objective for coordinating the African space arena through the coordination mechanism that promotes collaboration and partnerships across all sectors and disciplines (nine GEO SBAs); the establishment of Communities of Practice such as the Working Group on Land Cover for Africa; building on the work of ARMC, harmonization and standardization of EO infrastructure to ensure appropriate and continent wide data access. AfriGEOSS promotes intra-continental partnerships for the use of Earth observations in decision making to improve the quality of life of all Africans.

Climate Research for Development (CR4D)

The objective of the Side Event was to provide a multidisciplinary platform to discuss various perspectives for enhancing the provision of robust climate and weather information services to address users' needs and support Africa's social and economic transformation.

The Side Event, which also officially launched the Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Agenda was chaired by the H.E. Pa Ousmane Jarju, Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Water Resources and Parks, and Wildlife Management from The Gambia, who is also the chair of the Least Developed Countries Group (LDC). Recognizing the central role of climate research in informing development and policy formulation in Africa, his Excellency underscored that the value of the CR4D rest upon the user-led and multidisciplinary approaches used to address critical development needs associated with climate-sensitive sectors including agriculture, food security, forestry, energy and water resources. The Minister also noted that economic transformation across the continent is possible through better management of climate risks and opportunities.

The WMO Secretariat presented "*Enhanced climate research at NMHS for informed decision-making*", which covered the motivation for research by NMHSs and the principles under which the research is undertaken mainly to provide tailored services for decision making. The presentation articulated most of the services currently being provided by NMHSs and the projected trends, taking into consideration the negative impacts of climate change.

ACPC presented "*Development perspective of the CR4D*" and covered the pillars of the CR4D followed by disaster risk as an indicator of development in Africa. The presentation discussed the global levels of disasters as well as the levels in Africa, including climate variability and change, and disaster risk as it relates to development. A conceptualization of a multi-sectoral adaptation planning based on sustainable development indicators as a way of addressing priority research gaps to inform policy and decision-making in Africa were also presented.

Both presentations converged on the challenges in enhancing climate research in Africa, both from an NMHS perspective as well as from a broader range of stakeholders.

The capacity of African countries to address challenges is compromised by lack of adequate technology, weak social infrastructure, conflicts and poor institutional arrangements. It is imperative that research and development address the vulnerability of key sectors including agriculture, food security, water supply, energy, security, migration, health, and biodiversity and the need for integrated and comprehensive action research to support long-term multi-sectoral adaptation planning and decision making mechanisms. The need to actively interact with users of climate information to facilitate informed decision making, in particular with women, was also addressed. Finally it was also mentioned that enhanced support in the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) was needed in order to build resilience.

Participants agreed that current research being undertaken is fragmented and there is a need for a paradigm shift into a multi-disciplinary approach to research in order to benefit users and communities. Participants request the AUC, WMO, NMHSs, RECs and development partners to undertake affirmative measures and support the participation of African researchers / scientists in the work of IPCC. Currently, very few African researcher/ scientists participate in the assessment reports of IPCC, which compromises the understanding of climate change status in Africa, as much of what is written in IPCC ARs are based on outside-Africa researchers / scientists and initiatives. It also makes it difficult to customize the IPCC findings to the African development and climate change adaptation and mitigation agenda.

Participants further requested AUC, WMO, NMHSs, RECs and development partners to subscribe to peer-review journals and support African researchers / scientists to undertake continental research and publish their works. Most NMHSs are limited in their research materials to Technical Notes and Annual Reports that are not eligible for authentic reference in IPCC.

MESA and satellite coverage of Africa

The MESA Side Event informed the participants on latest status of this EDF programme implemented by the African Union Commission and seven (7) Regional Implementation Centre (RICs). Presentations focused on the aspect of the programme directly pertinent for the NMHS, in particular, the upgrade of the PUMA 2010 into new PUMA 2015 satellite receiving stations and the associated training. ACMAD also presented the two main continental services currently being developed as part of the MESA Climate Service THEMA, in close cooperation with ICPAC, AGRHYMET, SADC-CSC, the University of Nairobi, Kenya and the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Sénégal. Finally, EUMETSAT informed the participants about the plan to ensure future coverage of Africa from geostationary orbit satellite: the continuation of the Indian Ocean Data Coverage (IODC) and the features of the Meteosat Third Generation (MTG).

Opportunities for Non Traditional Observations in Africa

The Side Event explored the potential that 'non-traditional' or 'opportunistic' observations could have in offering a viable alternative to 'traditional' observations, especially in areas where the network is sparse or difficult to maintain. The Met Office presenters shared the developments made in this field in the UK - especially in partnership with third parties - to help explore what could work in Africa. The Side Event also looked into open-source methods of capturing and sharing data between organisations and the opportunities this provides for the development of impact-based climate services and analyse the viability of operating open data platforms on the continent.

One of the topics that was discussed, and had numerous questions, was the use of the Met Office '*Weather Observations Website*' (WOW) in Africa. This is a free-to-use web based data collection platform and visualization system which is used (in the UK and overseas) by volunteer observers, professional networks and other third parties to input weather observations, including visual reports e.g. pictures of snow, flooding.

Discussions revolved around how WOW could benefit NMHSs and forecasters in Africa through the ability to obtain more and different observations for utilization from a number of sources in a user friendly and cost effective manner (i.e. farmers, plantations). It was also discussed how there are a number of developments planned that will enhance the website further over the next couple of years, and potentially increase the utility by NMHSs worldwide. Those participating in the Side Event were encouraged to trial the website which can be found at <http://wow.metoffice.gov.uk/>.

Development Partners Round Table

The main objective of the Round Table is to foster dialogue between Africa's Development Partners concerning the effective coordination and implementation of weather and climate services' initiatives in Africa, seeking opportunities for mobilizing partnerships and resources for the realization of the goals set out by the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services).

- Enhance coordination for the implementation of weather and climate initiatives in Africa; and
- Improve relationships and synergies between WMO, World Bank, African Union, RECs and other regional institutions as well as Africa's development partners in order to support flagship programmes under the joint AUC-WMO Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology.

The Round Table brings together Africa's key Development Partners and pan-African institutions to explore mechanisms for greater coordination of efforts, identify opportunities for pooling of resource and further mobilizing resource for weather and climate services initiatives in Africa.

Round Table participants agreed on the importance of initiating dialogue / cooperation on new programmes at the initial phase of the project design and that partnerships are vital in addressing technical and financial challenges.

It was also noted that there are significant investments currently available or will be available which is not optimized. These multiple efforts need to set up a better coordination mechanism to identify priorities. WMO is ready to play a key role in this coordinating mechanism and has agreed to facilitate an on-going dialogue between Development Partners. Other partners also highlighted the need to coordinate at the national level for NMHSs to fully benefit from existing opportunities for funding.

The participants were further advised of the possibility to map or identify all coordinating instruments available to align priorities to complement all partners.

The participants agreed on having an informal gathering of a donor coordination platform once or twice a year, which would be more flexible during the consultative process, with a view to a more structured coordination during the active engagement stage of collaboration. In closing, WMO agreed to draft the 'rules of engagement' or ToR for such a platform, to initiate a Dialogue Forum, and open an email dialogue discussion on lessons learnt and sharing experience.

LIST OF NAMES AND THEIR ACRONYMS

ACP Secretariat	African Caribbean Pacific Secretariat
ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development
AECID	Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation
AfDB	African Development Bank
AMCOMET	African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology
AMCOST	African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology
CITMC	African Union Conference of Ministers in Charge of Communications and Information Technologies
AMCOW	African Ministerial Council on Water
AU	African Union
AUC	African Union Commission
AU SWG	African Union Space Working Group
AEMET	Agencia Estatal de Meteorología
ASECNA	Agency for Aerial Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar
CKDN	Climate and Development Knowledge Network
CEMAC	Central African Economic and Monetary Community
CILSS	Comité permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte contre la Sécheresse dans le Sahel
DFID	Department for International Development
DST	South Africa Department Science and Technology
EAC	East African Community
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
ECOWAS	Economic Community Of West African States
EU	European Union
EUMETSAT	Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
FMI	Finnish Meteorological Institute
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICPAC	IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IATA	International Air Transport Association
IRD	French Institute of Research for Development
IRI	International Research Institute
MSC	Meteorological Service of Canada
MESA	Monitoring of Environment and Security in Africa
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
QMS	Quality Management Systems
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SADC-CSC	Southern African Development Community – Climate Service Centre
UKMO	United Kingdom Meteorological Office
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA-ACPC	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa – Africa Climate Policy Centre
UNISDR	United Nation’s International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
WB	World Bank
WFP	United Nations World Food Program
WMO	World Meteorological Organization