



**ECOWAS/CEDEAO**

**ECONOMICAL COMMISSION OF WEST  
AFRICAN STATES**



**WMO/OMM**

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANISATION**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 11TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF  
DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES OF ECOWAS**

**13- 15 May 2014, Banjul, Gambia**

**3- REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS OF  
ECOWAS METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES**

The Committee commended the President for having achieved 80% of the recommendations of the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Committee also expressed its appreciation for the support provided by representatives of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Office for North Africa, Central Africa and West Africa and the ECOWAS Commission in the implementation of such recommendations. However, the Committee noted the difficulties involved in coordinating activities. The president was not able to attend the coordination meetings in Abuja. In the light of the foregoing, the following recommendations have been made.

**Participation of President of the Committee of Directors in Recommendation Implementation Meetings**

**Recommendation 1:** The Committee urges the ECOWAS Commission to facilitate:

- the participation of the President of the Committee of Directors of NMHSs in ECOWAS in Recommendation Implementation Meetings at least once every year during the inter-sessional period of the President's mandate,.
- communication between the President, the Member States and , the Commission to allow for better interaction among them

**Recommendation 2:** The Committee requests the ECOWAS Commission to make arrangements to invite ASECNA for future Committee sessions on the one hand, and attend AMCOMET meetings on the other. Also, the Committee requests the ECOWAS Commission to effectively participate in meetings organized by the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET).

**Recommendation 3:** Considering the disparate implementation of the Quality Management System in ECOWAS Member countries, the meeting recommends that:

- States brief the President of the Committee every six months on the status of implementation of QMS in each country who will report to the ECOWAS Commission and WMO;
- ECOWAS, through its 11<sup>th</sup> EDF, and WMO take the necessary steps to seek funding and assist countries within the framework of the implementation of QSM

#### **4. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NINTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS**

The Committee appreciated the presentation of the President and the commitment of all stakeholders in the implementation of the recommendations of the 10th meeting.

**Recommendation 4:** After analyzing the establishment of the West African Meteorological Association, the Committee has decided to cancel the process.

**Recommendation 5:** The Committee urges Member States and the ECOWAS Commission to call upon scientists in the sub-region to build their capacities.

#### **PRESENTATION OF THE ECOWAS METEOROLOGY PROGRAMME**

The Committee commended the ECOWAS Commission for its efforts to produce an ECOWAS Meteorology Programme final document. Discussions focused on developing a strategy for the implementation of QMS in the Member States and incorporating it into the document at the programme's strategic focus 1. The Committee finally agreed to build on the ECOWAS Commission's current policies and provide relevant products and services to meet the needs of the region. The Committee was informed of the outcome of the process: after adoption by the Committee, an implementation plan will be prepared and forwarded to the ECOWAS authorities for review and adoption by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers.

The document was adopted subject to consideration of amendments and its enrichment by the item on the implementation of QMS in the Member States and the health and Climate component.

**Recommendation 6:** After adopting the ECOWAS meteorology programme, the

Committee has set up a task force comprising the ECOWAS Commission, WMO - NCWA, AGRHYMET Regional Centre, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and the President of the Committee of Directors to finalize the document, draft the programme's implementation plan with a funding budget by taking into account the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology of WMO.

## **6: METEOROLOGICAL INITIATIVES FOR MEMBER STATES**

### **6.1 – Regional Initiatives**

The Committee was informed of the implementation of GFCS in some Member States with the support of partners and WMO. The Committee acknowledges the importance of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) for better management of the risks related to climate variability and change and adaptation to climate change at all levels, through the development and integration of science-based climate information and forecasting in planning, policies and practices. Therefore, the following recommendations have been made:

**Recommendation 7:** The Committee urges States that have yet to implement the National framework for meteorological services to make arrangements with partners and WMO for its implementation.

**Recommendation 8:** The Committee requests the ECOWAS Commission to take steps to facilitate Meteorological Services' access to available funds on the one hand, and to put in place a strategy for the establishment of a regional framework for climate services in accordance with the GFCS principles, on the other.

**Recommendation 9:** The Committee urges the ECOWAS Commission to raise the awareness of Member States' Governments to provide the necessary financial and institutional support for the implementation of the National Framework for climate services.

**Recommendation 10:** The Committee urges WMO to formally notify the ECOWAS Commission that the AGRHYMET Regional Centre has been designated as Regional Centre for implementation of the regional framework for climate services.

**Recommendation 11:** The Committee urges the AGRHYMET Regional Centre in its capacity as ECOWAS technical structure and Regional Centre for implementation of the regional framework for Climate Services to make arrangements, in synergy with the ECOWAS Commission, to bring their support to States in the implementation of their national framework for climate services.

**Recommendation 12:** The Committee urges WMO to continue to provide support to the least developed countries in the context of capacity building in training, scholarships, support for the development of projects and their implementation.

### **6.2 - OTHER INITIATIVES**

### 6.2.1 Presentation of MESA

**Recommendation 13:** The Committee requests the ECOWAS Commission to ensure that in the implementation of **MESA**, National Meteorological Services are fully involved to ensure sustainability.

### 6.2.2 Other ECOWAS initiatives

**Recommendation 14:** The Committee supports the need for meteorological departments to get involved in the preparation of Bamako meeting on climate change and agriculture through the National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIP) programme officers.

### 6.2.3 Capacity building

**Recommendation 15:** The Committee urges the ECOWAS Commission and WMO to ensure synergy of all relevant regional initiatives in order to maximize the resources in strengthening the capacity of meteorological services.

## 7: COOPERATION

### 7.1 – Charter to access hydrological and meteorological data

**Recommendation 16:** The Committee urges States to take ownership of the charter and submit it to the authorities in their countries for decision-making and forward comments during the inter-sessional period.

### 7.2 ECOWAS – Project on climate change Programme

**Recommendation 17:** The committee requested WMO to build human capacity at the regional office in West Africa, Central Africa and North Africa.

**Recommendation 18:** The Committee encourages AMMANET to support ECOWAS in the implementation of programs related to climate change

## 8. SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

**Recommendation 19:** The Committees urges States to put in place within meteorological services a unit responsible for awareness-raising using modern and traditional communication tools for information dissemination.

**Recommendation 20:** The Committee invites WMO and the ECOWAS Commission to provide the necessary support in order to better communicate on the dissemination of climate information in collaboration with the user interface pillar of the global framework for climate services.