

2nd meeting of the GFCS ACP Task Team

Darmstadt 4-6 June 2014

Main conclusions

Introduction

The second meeting of the GFCS ACP Task Team took place at EUMETSAT Headquarter, Darmstadt (Germany) from 4 to 6 June 2014. The agenda and list of participants are presented in Annex I and II.

Main outcomes

- The meeting noted the status of last meeting recommendations (see Annex III) and adopted its updated Terms of Reference (see Annex IV)
- The meeting welcomed the new structure of the AUC with the Specialised Technical Committee (STC) that will cover cross-sectorial issues related to meteorology, climate and disaster that are discussed within the different Ministerial Councils (e.g. AMCEN, AMCOW, AMCOMET), all under REA Department responsibility. From a GFCS perspective, this could facilitate policy awareness on the benefit of the Climate Services for the various AU policies (Climate Strategy, African Integrated Strategy on Meteorology, Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, etc.)
- The meeting noted the advanced status of the regional policies and plans in the Caribbean, Pacific and Indian Ocean regions with respect to Climate and/or disaster resilience, and welcomed the working relationship being established since RIO+20 between the IOC, the SPREP and the CCCCC (who encompasses most of the SIDS) in order to enhance the south-south cooperation and knowledge sharing across the three regions.
- The meeting indicates that the Project design and preparation phase will have to take into account the (sub-)regional¹ and SIDS strategies and their respective implementation plan, that requires information on climate (climate change and climate variability). The meeting also noted that the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) and the Pacific Island Meteorological Strategy, explicitly support the implementation of Climate Services at regional and national level.

¹ means Pacific, Caribbean, Western, Eastern, Central, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean regions

- The meeting noted the presentation from all the (sub-)regions on the update of their regional policies and activities related to Climate Change and Climate Services. It noted also the report of the progress of implementation of the GFCS, provided by WMO. The meeting agreed on a common template to map, in a synthetic way, the existing sub-regional capacities for the different component of the GFCS, and the needs for developing/strengthening these capacities where needed (see Annex VII). The template also allows referring to existing document providing more detailed information on these capacities and needs.

Action: each sub-region RCCs is invited to provide a complete and detailed mapping by end of June, to the joint-secretariat and to their respective REC (or AUC for ACMAD) for further inputs and comments.

- The meeting noted that each REC, pending availability of sufficient internal capacities, could play a very important role notably in the following area:
 - o to advocate at policy level for the national implementation of GFCS, and to facilitate the interface and links between the regional and the national implementations of the GFCS;
 - o to communicating, as a regional policy Institution needing to streamline climate information in various policies, to their respective RCC their own needs and requirements in terms of climate information,;
 - o to ensure that the regional Climate Service are designed in order to answer needs from the regional users, in the various sectors (Disaster, Health, Water and agriculture)
 - o ensure integration of climate information into regional policy and related implementation plan, and encourage relevant ministers to support national implementation of the GFCS, and use available climate information in their various national policies
- The meeting also reminded that the GFCS is demand driven and that interaction with user community is key, in order to properly identify priority areas and the elements to be put in place in the various GFCS components. The meeting also highlighted the importance of establishing appropriate functional links between the global-regional-national implementation of Climate Services in order to ensure achievements at national level. In this respect, the RCC or equivalent institutions will have the following role
 - o to assess the needs of the regional users and representative national producers/users;
 - o to design and develop the GFCS components to answer these needs;

- to agree with the users on the role and function of the “user interface” component and on the respective responsibility of the service providers and the users;
 - to contribute to putting in place the GFCS at regional level, in order to serve the regional users in the different sectors;
 - to provide to regional Institutions the requested relevant data and product, and services, as agreed with them;
 - to strengthen its capacities to ensure sustainability of the regional Climate Service activities and to ensure appropriate support at national level;
 - to provide data and products to the national level, as input to the national Climate Service Information System, which is a critical component of GFCS;
 - to support the appropriate national implementation of the various components of the GFCS, with focus on the User Interface, through capacity building, coordination, harmonisation, standardisation of the services and facilitating relationship with medias;
 - to ensure the establishment of appropriate links between the regional and the global level (i.e. Global Production Centres, International partners, etc).
- On fund mobilisation, the meeting noted that discussions related to 11th EDF at intra-ACP and at regional level (RIP) are on-going and not expected to be finalised before Q3 or Q4 2014. Taking into account the principles of concentration highlighted in the “Agenda for Change” (e.g. maximum of 3 priority areas per region) and without pre-empting the outcome of the above mentioned dialogues, the meeting recommended that:
- the intra-ACP as the main potential funding sources for the project.
 - additional RIP funds are also relevant, notably in order (i) to ensure regional ownership, (ii) to provide specific support for regional thematic priorities and (iii) to improve and consolidate the capacities of the RCC and other regional institutions, in continuation of the efforts provided under various programmes, such as AMESD and MESA.
- The meeting noted that the implementation of regional aspects of GFCS will allow streamlining climate information efficiently in various regional priority areas (Agriculture, Health, Disaster, Water, Climate adaptation). The meeting noted the importance of bringing more attention to climate services during the negotiations on 11th EDF.
- The meeting also noted that WMO has developed case-studies report for the various application areas of the GFCS, which illustrate Climate services and showcase concrete benefits.

- The meeting recommended
 - o to the ACP Secretariat to include GFCS ACP as a project in the concentration area related to Climate Change and DRR;
 - o to highlight the Addis Ababa Declaration and the benefit of the GFCS for the various sectors, notably those that have been prioritised in their Regional Indicative Programme, during the discussion between EU and RECs on the 11th EDF programming;
- The meeting asked the African Union Commission to highlight this last recommendation in the cover letter when sending out the report of the meeting to the Executive of the represented institutions;
- The meeting identified list of events during which the Task Team could communicate the workshop accomplished and raise the profile of this initiative (See Annex V)
- The meeting revised and adopted its roadmap (See Annex VI)

List of annexes

- Annex I: List of participants
- Annex II: Agenda of the meeting
- Annex III: Status of recommendation from first meeting
- Annex IV: updated Terms of reference of the Task Team
- Annex V: List of events relevant for the Task Team and its members
- Annex VI: Roadmap
- Annex VII: template for mapping regional capacities

Annex I – List of participants

1	Atheru Zachary	ICPAC
2	Bouafou Koumaé Guy Marcel	AGRHYMET
3	Alfari Issifou	AGRHYMET
4	Garanganga Bradwell	SADC CSC
5	Lamprey Benjamin L.	ACMAD
6	Saah Michel Legrand	AMCOMET Consultant for RCC Central Africa
7	Wasambo Jolly	AUC
8	Boanuh Johnson	ECOWAS
9	Embola Isidore	CEMAC
10	Mbougua Hugues Rodrigue	ECCAS
11	Jean-Paul Gaudechoux	IOC
12	Salesa Nihmei	SPREP
13	Trotman Adrian	CIMH
14	Ojo Olusola	ACP Secretariat
15	Jambou Michel	DG DEVCO
16	Vicente Ruiz Cristina	EU delegation to AU
17	Mary Power	WMO
18	Jay Wilson	AMCOMET Secretariat
19	<i>Jerry Lengoasa</i>	<i>WMO (Opening)</i>
20	Mara Dambourg	EUMETSAT
21	Vincent Gabaglio	EUMETSAT
22	Barisano Emilio	EUMETSAT
23	Mark Higgins	EUMETSAT
24	<i>Paul Counet</i>	<i>EUMETSAT (Opening)</i>
25	<i>Alain Ratier</i>	<i>EUMETSAT (Opening)</i>

Annex II – Agenda

See document EUM/SIR/AGN/14/758135

Annex III – Status of recommendations of first meeting

	Conclusion / Action	Status
	<i>Main Conclusion</i>	
1	The meeting approved the Terms of Reference of the Task Team;	Considering follow-up meeting comments, needs to be updated
2	The meeting approved the Roadmap, subject to regular update during its next meetings;	Needs to be updated as indicated
3	The meeting agreed to extend the scope of the actions resulting from the Addis Ababa declaration to encompass and take into consideration the Caribbean and Pacific regions (i.e. GFCS ACP programme, hereafter “the programme”);	NA
4	The meeting confirmed that the focus of the programme would be on the regional ² level of the GFCS, on the understanding that a well structured GFCS regional level programme will facilitate links between national and global GFCS implementation activities and facilitate the implementation of the GFCS at national level in the respective regions;	Considering follow-up meeting comments, needs to take in consideration specific situation as the SIDS (see point 10)
5	The meeting indicated that the Programme shall build upon and strengthen the existing technical entities and infrastructure, notably the RCC; and put in place and strengthen appropriate User Interfaces (e.g. RCOF, other Users Fora, Help Desk) to be pertinent in addressing development challenges in the respective regions.	Pending
6	The programme shall be based on and coherent with the GFCS Implementation Plan. The Task Team shall liaise, through WMO, with the GFCS governance structure as appropriate.	Done
7	Regarding the African region, the Task Team shall establish the appropriate linkages with the AMCOMET, through the African Union Commission and the WMO;	Done
8	The meeting agreed to explore having the programme funded through the 11th EDF intra-ACP and Regional Indicative Programme budget lines.	In exploration
9	The TT Chairperson shall liaise with the RECs to seek their intent to contribute to the funding of such programme through their Regional Indicative Programme (RIP), and clarify calendar for RIP establishment (fund mobilisation). The TT Chairperson shall invite the RECs to communicate as soon as possible to their respective EU Delegation about their intent towards the funding of this programme.	pending

² Africa (West, Central, East, South and Indian Ocean), Pacific and Caribbean regions

10	Based on the presentations provided by the African RCC, the SPREP and the CCCCC, the meeting noted the importance and relevance of GFCS regional actions to address the already expressed priorities of their respective regions;	Needs to consider specifically SIDS needs and requirement and to favourite synergy between concerned regions (see point 11)
11	The meeting re-iterated that cross-cutting aspects of the GFCS (Capacity development) and cross fertilisation between regions are important elements of a GFCS ACP programme.	
12	The meeting initiated discussion on the possible organisational and implementation aspects of such a programme, taking into account the multidimensionality of the GFCS at regional level (multi-theme, multi-regions, multi-climatologic characteristics). The meeting participants shall make comments and suggestions on these aspects, based upon the initial presentation by end of February 2014.	Pending
	Action	
1	The TT Chairperson shall send main recommendations and the report of this first meeting to the members of the Task Team.	Done
2	The next meeting of the Task Team will take place in Q2 2014. The secretariats will consult with the chairperson and inform all members as soon as possible on the exact date and location.	Done

Annex IV – Terms of Reference of the Task Team

GFCS ACP Task Team

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Task Team is to facilitate the implementation of the “Addis Ababa Declaration”, attached hereby, through the establishment of a project covering Africa, and, based on expression of interest from the Caribbean and Pacific regional entities, also the Caribbean and the Pacific region. The objective of such a Programme would be coherent with the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services), notably the Strategic Pillar 4:

Ensure the implementation of a structured GFCS at regional (i.e. continental) level, based on the input provided in the Addis Ababa Declaration in Support of the Implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Service (GFCS) in Africa, attached as Annex [...] as well as WMO’s Implementation Plan of the Global Framework for Climate Services, on the understanding that the regional GFCS implementation will facilitate links between national and global GFCS implementation activities;

The Task Team will also take into account existing strategies in the Caribbean and Pacific regions addressing Climate Services.

2. Membership

The Task Team will include the following members.

- the African Union Commission
- the ACP Secretariat
- the five Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS, CEMAC, IGAD, IOC, SADC)
- Regional Economic Communities in the Caribbean region or/and CCCCC
- Pacific, Secretariat of the Pacific Region Environment Programme
- Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
- A representative of the AMCOMET Bureau
- the African Regional Climate Centres (ACMAD, ICPAC, AGRHYMET, SADC-Climate Service Centre)
- the Caribbean Regional Climate Centre: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH);
- World Meteorological Organisation Secretariat;
- The European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)
- The European Commission’s Joint Research Centres (JRC);

The Task Team can invite additional experts and institutions to attend its meeting and contribute to its work, on a case by case basis.

The following institutions will be invited to the attend Task Team meeting as observer

- the EU delegation to the AU;
- the European Commission’s Director General for Development and Cooperation (EuropeAID)

3. Tasks

The Task Team will support the implementation of the recommendations of the Addis Ababa Declaration by:

- supporting the definition and preparation of a “GFCS ACP project”;
- identifying funds for the implementation of such “GFCS ACP project”, in particular through the EDF mechanism;

The first meeting of the Task Team agreed to extend the scope of the recommendations resulting from the Addis Ababa declaration to encompass and take into consideration the Caribbean and Pacific regions.

To achieve this, the Task Team will also request each member to report on their respective activities related to the implementation of Climate Services, notably regarding

- implementation of the GFCS aspects included in the “Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services)”;
- establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa, and
- inclusion of the GFCS in the Joint EU-Africa Strategy;

The mandate of the Task Team will cease upon the formal establishment of a funded “GFCS ACP project”.

4. Working arrangement and schedule

The Members of the Task Team will perform their tasks in the framework of their official duty within their organisation.

The Task Team will be chaired by the African Union Commission, with the support of the ACP Secretariat.

EUMETSAT and WMO will jointly serve as the Secretariat of the Task Team.

The Task Team shall define its own roadmap and meet as necessary (at least twice a year). The meeting of the Task Team will be organised, as far as possible, back to back with other events in Africa involving the members of the Task Team (e.g. MESA). Electronic means will be used as much as possible.

The target is to come up with a funded GFCS ACP project within three years.

Annex V - List of events relevant for the Task Team and its members

- UN Conference on SIDS (OMM) , (28-30 August), 1-4 September 2014
Official Side-Event on GFCS for SIDS
- EUMETSAT User Forum in Africa (EUMETSAT) (8-12 September 2014);
Proposed event: High level event on GFCS – 7th September 2014 with GFCS IG Board representatives and Task Team members
- 3rd AMCOMET session (Sec AMCOMET), October 2014 and
WMO RA-I meeting (OMM), October 2014
Side-meeting to inform WMO PR about the work in progress and messages
- GFCS Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services, Geneva, November
- Meeting of the Caribbean meteorological Council , November 2014
- CDEMA Signature event for Disaster Risk Reduction – December 2014
- MESA User Forum (early 2015)
Take stock of the progress on MESA Climate Services
- 3rd Pacific meteorological Council and ministerial meeting – July-August 2015

Annex VI – Indicative roadmap of the Task Team (establishment of the project)

2014

- Q3 RECs provide calendar for the establishment of 11th EDF (Regional Indicative Programme).
- Q3 Information on intra-ACP funding level and calendar from 11th EDF further to ACP Sec and DG-DEVCO discussions.
- Q3 Mapping of regional capacities and needs consolidated and provided to the TT Secretariat
- Q3-4 Pending positive outcomes of the DG DEVCO – ACP Secretariat discussion, first elements of ToR for the Feasibility Study for GFCS-ACP programme prepared by the TT Secretariat and circulated to the Task Team members*

2015

- Q1 Third Task Team Meeting (together with Feasibility Study Kick-off)
- Q1-Q3 On-going Feasibility study
- Q4 Restitution and validation of the feasibility study

2016

- Q1-Q3 Project Identification study (PIF and PAF)
- Q4 Restitution of the identification study

- 2017** Signature of the Financing agreement and start of the programme

Annex VII – Template for the mapping of regional capacities

Introduction			
Strategies/Policies/plan related to Climate services	Existing	Under approval	Remark
- In support to the implementation of GFCs			
- Policy requiring climate information			
Observation and Monitoring	Existing capacities	Needs	Remarks (on-going project)
- In-situ data (inc airborne, data rescue)			
- Satellite data (GEO/LEO)			
Research, modelling and prediction	Existing capacities	Needs	Remarks (on-going project)
- Research			
- Modelling			
- Prediction			
Climate Service Information System (infrastructure)	Existing capacities	Needs	Remarks (on-going project)
- Archiving			
- Production/processing			
- Distribution, data sharing, standardisation			
- ""			

User Interface	Existing capacities	Needs	Remarks (on-going project)
- Agriculture/Fisheries			
- Health			
- Water			
- Disaster			
Users organisation	Existing user organisation	Needs for links	Remarks (on-going project)
- Agriculture/Fisheries			
- Health			
- Water			
- Disaster			

Capacity building			
- HR			
- Institutional capacity			
- Financial			
-			