



AMCOMET

MEETING ON HARMONIZATION OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL STRATEGIES WITH THE INTEGRATED AFRICAN STRATEGY ON METEOROLOGY (WEATHER AND CLIMATE SERVICES) AND VALIDATION OF THE DRAFT IMPLEMENTATION AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN ON THE MARGINS OF 11TH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF ECOWAS DIRECTORS OF METEOROLOGY

Banjul, The Gambia

15 – 16 May 2014

Objective of the Meeting / Background:

1. Meeting Conveners: The African Union Commission (AUC) in collaboration with the African Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) is convening the Meeting on Harmonization of Regional and National Strategies with the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate services) and Validation of the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan on the margins of 11th meeting of the Committee of ECOWAS Directors of Meteorology, Banjul, The Gambia, 15 – 16 May 2014.
2. Meeting Hosts: The meeting is co-hosted by the ECOWAS Commission and The Gambian government.
3. Meeting Participants are from;
 - A. ECOWAS Region – Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d’Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.
 - B. Central Africa Region – Burundi, Cameroun, Chad, Republic of Congo, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe.
 - C. Northern Africa Region - Algeria, Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia.
 - D. Regional Economic Communities (RECs) – Commission of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Secretariat of Economic Community of Central African State (ECCAS); Secretariat of the Arab Maghreb Union – (AMU) a
 - E. African Regional Institutions – ACMAD, AGRYHMET, CILSS
 - F. AMCOMET – Chair and Secretariat
 - G. African Union Commission
 - H. World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
4. Meeting objectives are:

- A. To sensitize the AU Member States to the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology that was adopted by AMCOMET in 2012 and endorsed by the African Union (AU) Summit in 2013 as the continental policy framework on meteorology (weather and climate services).
- B. To validate the draft Implementation and Resources Mobilization Plan for African countries to make inputs before it is finalized and adopted by AMCOMET and AU Summit.
- C. To promote African ownership of the continental documents (Strategy and Implementation and Resources Mobilization Plan) with the overall goal of improved National Hydro-meteorological Service in Africa.

5. Expected Outcomes are:

- A. Harmonization of the Regional and National Strategies on Meteorology with the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services), where in existence;
- B. Advocacy for the development of Regional and National Strategies, where inexistence
- C. Integration of weather and climate services in National; and Regional development programmes.
- D. Validation of the draft Implementation Plan along with the draft Resource Mobilization
- E. Ownership of the African Policy Framework (Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services)

6. Meeting documents:

- A. Provisional Agenda /Programme in English and French version
- B. AU January 2013 Decision
- C. Draft Implementation Plan

7. Background;

- A. The African Union Commission in collaboration with the Secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Partner Institutions are implementing the Decision of the January 2013 AU Summit that endorsed the Integrated African Strategy for Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services). The collaboration on issues of meteorology with AMCOMET has enhanced the establishment of a framework to promote cooperation, security, socio-economic development and poverty eradication on a pan-African level through sound governance and application of the science of meteorology and its related applications.
- B. Integrated African Strategy for Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services): The Integrated African Strategy for Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) was developed to enhance the cooperation between African countries and to ensure that National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) have the capacity to fulfil their responsibilities including in the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).
- C. The Strategy identifies five key pillars for action: (a) Increase political support and recognition of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and

related Regional Climate Centres AMCOMET (b) Enhance weather and climate service delivery for sustainable development (c) Improve access to meteorological services for in particular for Marine and Aviation Sectors (d) Support the provision of weather and climate services for climate change adaptation and mitigation (e) Strengthen partnerships with relevant institutions and funding mechanisms.

- D. The Strategy sets out priority actions that can be undertaken at national, regional and continental levels. These priority actions are supported by a set of institutional partnerships that bring together AMCOMET and Development Partners to support meteorological (weather and climate) services in the African continent.

8. Progress:

- A. The AMCOMET Secretariat recruited three Consultants to facilitate the Task Force to prepare the Draft Implementation Plan on the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) along with the Resource Mobilization Strategy; Establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Central Africa; and support the AMCOMET Secretariat.
- B. Convened the Meeting of Experts / Stakeholders on draft Implementation Plan and Resource Mobilization Strategy in February 2014 at the AUC Headquarters. The meeting considered three key issues: (a) draft Implementation Plan; (b) Initial work on the establishment of the Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa; and (c) Feasibility of establishing an Africa Regional Space Programme.
- C. The AMCOMET revised draft Implementation Plan on the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) is to be validated by Member States and RECs on the margins of RECs Meteorology meetings as agreed during the Addis Ababa February 2014: (a) EAC: 5 – 7 May 2014; and (b) ECOWAS: 13 – 14 and 15 – 16 May 2014; presented to the meeting of the AMCOMET Taskforce (26 – 28 May 2014 and AMCOMET Bureau (29 – 30 May 2014); submitted for consideration of the Third Session of AMCOMET (date is yet to be confirmed); and thereafter presented for endorsement of the January 2015 Summit.