



AMCOMET Activities and Achievements (since AMCOMET-3, 2015)

The Praia Ministerial Declaration¹, endorsed by Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa during the Third Session of AMCOMET (Cabo Verde, 13-14 February 2015), set the Work Plan for the AMCOMET Secretariat during the intersessional period. Furthermore, decisions taken during the 3rd Bureau Meeting² of AMCOMET (Ethiopia, 13-14 September 2017) are also included in the Secretariat's Work Plan. Below are the key decisions and recommendations and status of implementation:

1. Establishment of Task Force on Specialized Technical Committees (STC) Alignment³ to advocate for the establishment of a sub-committee on meteorology in the African Union (AU) Specialized Technical Committees (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment (STC-ARDWE) and to retain the AMCOMET brand name.

STATUS: The Bureau Meeting of the AU-STC on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment took place in September 2017 and *resolve that the **STC should be comprised** of Ministers of the sectors in Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Sanitation, Environment and Natural Resources, Disaster Risk Reduction, **Meteorology**, Fauna and Flora supported by senior officials, experts as well as NPCA, AfDB and the RECs. The Bureau of the STC further recommended that, on the short term, the Ministerial Conferences: African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (**AMCOMET**), **will be allowed to continue functioning in a transitional phase in accordance with the arrangements decided by the STC.***

Furthermore, the Second Meeting of the AU-STC on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment also took place in September 2017 and *Senior Officials took note with appreciation the evident commitment of Member States to the AMCOMET process, in particular through Member States' ratification of the AMCOMET Constitution and the financial support provided for the AMCOMET Secretariat and its activities. The meeting further appreciated AMCOMET achievements since the Third Session of AMCOMET in February 2015. It was therefore recommended to **endorse the report and decisions contained in the third AMCOMET Session** held in Praia, Cabo Verde in February 2015, the **decisions** of the AMCOMET Ministers present during the **AMCOMET Bureau***

¹

http://www.wmo.int/amcomet/sites/default/files/field/doc/events/doc_17_praia_ministerial_declaration_final_en.pdf

²

https://www.wmo.int/amcomet/sites/default/files/field/doc/events/decisions_amcomet_bureau_14_sept_-_en.pdf

³ STC Alignment Task Force Members: Angola, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroun, Comoros, Egypt, Mozambique, Morocco, Sudan and Zambia

Meeting and the Communiqué of the AMCOMET Africa Hydromet Forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in September 2017.

2. Request Member States to ratify the AMCOMET Constitution endorsed by Ministers responsible for Meteorology during AMCOMET-3.

STATUS: The AMCOMET Constitution has been ratified by Burkina Faso, Egypt, Liberia, Libya, Mali and Tchad. The AMCOMET Secretariat continues to send official correspondence on an annual basis requesting Member States to ratify the AMCOMET Constitution.

3. Request Member States to support the AMCOMET operations and Secretariat functions through a financial contribution of USD 10,000 per Member States classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and a minimum of USD 10,000 for other Member States.

STATUS: The following countries paid their contribution.

2016: Cabo Verde, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal

2017: Benin, Central African Republic, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Senegal, Uganda

2018 as of 31 December: Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Madagascar and Uganda

4. Following the approval of the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan (IRMP) of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services), Ministers requested the AMCOMET Secretariat, AUC and other relevant partners to prioritize the development of the Strategic Plans of NMHSs and to facilitate the implementation of existing projects in the Flagship Programmes. A Task Force⁴ on the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan was established to facilitate the above.

STATUS: Support for 10 NMHSs⁵ to develop their National Strategic Plans using the Strategic Plan Template⁶ and Guide⁷ developed by WMO-AMCOMET and endorsed by RECs and Member States representing the sub-regions in May 2016 under the auspices of the AUC and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

Funding has also been secured to implement existing projects in the Flagship Programmes, namely AMDAR implementation in Kenya and implementation of "Highway" in the Lake Victoria Basin Region. More information is available under Resource Mobilization Section.

Due to lack of financial resources, the Task Force on the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan has not met to date.

⁴ Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan Task Force Members: Cameroun, Cote d'Ivoire, Namibia, Sudan, and Tunisia

⁵ Burundi, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda

⁶ http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/mohippo/pdf/international/wiser/nmhs-strategic-plan-template_africa.pdf

⁷ http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/mohippo/pdf/international/wiser/wmo-integrated-strategic-planning-guide_africa.pdf

5. Endorsement of the African Space Policy and African Space Strategy, developed by the AU Space Working Group

STATUS: The African Space Policy and African Space Strategy were subsequently endorsed by AU Heads of State and Government in January 2016.

The AMCOMET Task Force⁸ on the African Space Programme met in September 2016 on the margins of the EUMETSAT User Forum in Africa and agreed to develop a Pilot Project as input to the African Space Implementation Plan. Focus of the Pilot project are identification of existing assets and gaps on the ground (infrastructure) and application segments as well as to propose concretely how regional cooperation in the Application Segment can be strengthened.

The proposed pilot project has not yet been developed due to lack of resources.

6. A strategic partnership was established between AMCOMET and the Africa Climate Policy Center (ACPC) to collaborate on the pan-African Climate Research for Development (CR4D) Initiative. CR4D aims to create a multi-institutional and multi-stakeholder collaborative platform that mobilizes expertise and resources to facilitate user-inspired climate science research to inform policy. AMCOMET is part of the joint Oversight Board of the CR4D Initiative with the ClimDev Africa Programme. A CR4D Task Force⁹ was established to provide guidance on the implementation of the CR4D Agenda.

STATUS: A sub-committee was established to develop CR4D's 5-Year Strategic Plan, currently being reviewed for endorsement by CR4D's Scientific Advisory Committee. The Institutional Collaboration Platform, a congress of users and providers of research was established in October 2017.

The Africa Climate Risk (ACRA) Conference 2019, partially funded by DFID, is currently being planned in collaboration with South South North¹⁰, ACPC, WMO, through the GFCS Office, and the AMCOMET Secretariat; all are members of the Steering Committee. ACRA 2019 is expected to take place in October back to back with the Second Edition of the AMCOMET Africa Hydromet Forum.

7. The AMCOMET Secretariat continues to actively mobilize resources to support the implementation of the priorities identified in the Praia Ministerial Declaration.

STATUS: WMO, through the AMCOMET Secretariat, in partnership with the World Bank, African Development Bank, African Union Commission, jointly organized the successful AMCOMET Africa Hydromet Forum, which brought together over 500 experts from governments, academia, NGOs, UN agencies, development partners and private sector and over 30 ministers from ministries responsible for meteorology, hydrology and disaster risk management as well as executive management from Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and other relevant African institutions.

The AMCOMET Bureau Chair, AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, Representatives of RECs and RCCs and the Cote d'Ivoire Minister of Transport

⁸ African Space Programme Task Force Members: Algeria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa

⁹ CR4D Task Force Members: Egypt, Gabon, Malawi, Senegal and Uganda

¹⁰ South South North: <http://southsouthnorth.org/about-us-2/>

jointly signed the Abidjan Declaration¹¹ which aims to support Africa readiness for Météosat Third Generation, expected to be launched in 2021, and the feasibility of an African Meteorological Satellite Application Facility (AMSAF).

AMCOMET gained momentum as the continental coordination platform for all investments / interventions related to weather, water and climate; not just within the meteorological community but also from important technical and development partners.

The Table below outlines funding secured and related activities.

Year	Amount ¹² (CHF)	Partner(s)	Activities/Projects
2015	608,417	Norway, Finland, AUC, other donors	Third Session of AMCOMET, Workshops to develop National Strategic Plans for all Member States and development of regional proposals
2016	578,792	DFID, AUC, Norway	Development of nine (9) National Strategic Plans three (3) Capacity Needs Assessments for Regional Climate Centres, validate the Strategic Plan Template and Guide, and hold a consultation meeting for WISER implementation in East Africa
	29,625	Mali, Kenya, Cabo Verde	
2017	4,007,916	DFID	Implementation of the HIGH impact Weather Lake System Project ¹³ in the Lake Victoria Region ("Highway") which aims to establish a regional Early Warning System
	626,236	DFID	Implementation of the AMDAR Programme in Kenya ¹⁴ , a public private partnership
	In-kind contribution	World Bank and African Development Bank	Participation of African Member States and other Stakeholders in the AMCOMET-African Hydromet Forum (Sept 2017) and ECOWAS and ECCAS Sub-Regional Hydromet Forums which took place in September and November 2018, respectively
	102,431	Nigeria, Madagascar (2 years), Senegal, Uganda, Benin, Central African Republic, Kenya	Participation of Member States, AUC and stakeholders to the following meetings: 3 rd AMCOMET Bureau Meeting, Meeting of the AU Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment, AMCOMET-Africa Hydromet Forum, ECOWAS and ECCAS Sub-Regional Hydromet Forums, and 4 th AMCOMET Bureau Meeting

¹¹ https://www.wmo.int/amcomet/sites/default/files/field/doc/events/abidjan_declaration_-_signed_by_all.pdf

¹² Includes in-kind support from external stakeholders; WMO in-kind contribution not included

¹³ Partners include UK Met Office, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda, Lake Victoria Basin Commission and East African Community

¹⁴ Partners include Kenya Airways and Kenya Meteorological Department

Year	Amount ¹² (CHF)	Partner(s)	Activities/Projects
2018	1,252,473	DFID	Implementation of the Field Campaign of the Highway Project, activities include purchase of temporary capital equipment for research purposes
	59,178	Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Madagascar, Egypt	Participation of Member States, AUC and stakeholders to the 4 th AMCOMET Bureau Meeting
2019	6,888,605	EU	Implementation of Intra-ACP Climate Services and related applications
	1,878,710	DFID	Purchase of capital equipment for the Highway country beneficiaries
	TBC	African Development Bank	On-going discussions to establish a Facility to support the implementation of the Integrate African Strategy on Meteorology

8. Establishment of the ECCAS Climate Application and Prediction Center of Central Africa (CAPC-CA), in collaboration with Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) the WMO and the AMCOMET Secretariat. The Center is hosted by Cameroun and is based in Douala.

STATUS: The ECCAS Secretary General and ECCAS Ministerial Conference on Meteorology have made progress in the establishment and operationalization of the Climate Application and Prediction Center of Central Africa. The African Development Bank, through the EU Funded Satellite and Weather Information for Disaster Resilience in Africa (SAWIDRA) Programme and the EU Funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and related applications Programme, currently provides support for the operationalization of the Center.

9. Explore the possibility of affiliating African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) as the meteorological (weather and climate) technical arm of the African Union Commission. ACMAD was also requested to develop appropriate management and governance systems to facilitate carrying out its mandate.

STATUS: Following the Ministerial Decision from the 3rd Bureau Meeting of AMCOMET, which took place in September 2017; discussions have been on-going between ACMAD and AUC. ACMAD and AUC are expected to present their findings during AMCOMET-4. ACMAD and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) have proposed amendments to the financial and staff regulations as part of the management modernization effort. A draft strategic plan for ACMAD which includes a strategic goal to improve governance and management of ACMAD is the framework under which the proposed amendments have been prepared and will be examined by the ACMAD Board of Governors.

10. Recommendation of the Regional Association to designate AGRHYMET Centre as the Regional Climate Centre for West Africa

STATUS: At the 4th Bureau Meeting of AMCOMET, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) reported that technical consultations and agreement in-principle have been on-going to establish AGRHYMET as the West Africa and Sahel Regional Climate Centre. Since then, CILSS/AGRHYMET have continued discussions with ECOWAS to address governance and resource issues. A Memorandum of Understanding between the two institution was developed and signed CILSS; and is now with ECOWAS for signature for the endorsement of AGRHYMET as the Regional Climate Center for West Africa and the Sahel. ECOWAS also has on-going discussions with the World Bank for support to conduct institutional, legal and financial analyses to identify in preparation for the endorsement.

Furthermore, AGRHYMET is currently preparing a formal request to WMO, via the Niger PR and the president of the WMO Regional Association I, to start the RCC demonstration phase. This request is expected to be submitted by mid-March 2019.

11. Recommendation of the Bureau to update the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology to include emerging issues.

STATUS: Expert was engaged to update the Strategy and consult with all stakeholders. The first draft was presented at the 4th Bureau Meeting which took place in Abijan, September 2018. An updated draft will be submitted for consideration during AMCOMET-4.

