



AMCOMET

**SECOND BUREAU MEETING OF THE AFRICAN
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY
(AMCOMET)**

**29 – 30 May 2014
Cresta Lodge
Harare, Zimbabwe**

FINAL MEETING REPORT

I. Opening Ceremony

1. **Dr. Joseph R. Mukabana**, Executive Secretary of the AMCOMET Secretariat was the Master of Ceremony. Opening Statements were made successively by **Mr. Michel Jarraud**, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and **Ms. Olushola Olayide**, Representative of the Commissioner of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission (AUC).
2. The meeting noted with appreciation the presence of Ministers and Ambassadors, notably **H.E. Yamfwa Mukanga, MP**, Minister of Transport, Works, Supply and Communications of Zambia; **H.E. Ms. Flavia Munaaba Nabugere**, Minister of Water and Environment of Uganda; **Hon. Jesca Eriyo**, Deputy Secretary-General of the East African Community; **M. Hassan Adoum Bahkit Hagggar**, Commissioner in charge of Infrastructure and Sustainable Development of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC); **H.E. Hon Prince Mupazviriho**, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate;
3. **H.E. Hon Prof Jonathan Moyo**, Minister of Information, Media and Broadcasting Services, representing the Minister of Environment, Water and Climate of Zimbabwe and Chair of AMCOMET, welcomed the delegates to Harare and thanked the WMO and the AUC for their support. His Excellency also pledged Zimbabwe's full support to the initiatives that would stem out of the AMCOMET process that will promote the sustainable development of the country. His Excellency further urged the AMCOMET Members States to use all means available to mobilize resources nationally. Hon Prof Jonathan Moyo thanked the Task Forces for the hard work that had been done, wished the participants good discussions and officially opened the meeting.

II. Participants

1. The Second AMCOMET Bureau meeting was attended by the following Member States; Cameroun, Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia, The Gambia, Mauritania, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
2. The meeting was also attended by the following Regional Economic Communities (RECs); East African Community (EAC), Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and South African Development Community (SADC).
3. The following partner institutions were also represented; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

The List of Participants is attached as **Annex I**.

III. Adoption of Agenda and Organization of Work

4. The meeting adopted the Agenda and Programme as indicated in **Annex II** attached, requesting to end at 12h30, Friday the 30th May 2014.

IV. Report of the Task Forces

5. **H.E. Hon Flavia Nabugere**, Minister of Water and Environment of Uganda, and Rapporteur of the AMCOMET Bureau, chaired the Session.

6. **Mr. Jacob Nkomoki**, representing the Chair of the Task Force on the Constitution and Rules of Procedures presented the recommendations of the Task Force, which were adopted with minor modifications as attached in **Annex III, Report of the Second Task Force Meeting of AMCOMET (See Annex 3 – Report of the Task Force on Constitution and Rules of Procedures)**.
7. **Dr Agnes Kijazi**, representing the Chair of the Regional African Space Programme presented the recommendations of the Task Force, which were adopted by the Bureau Members, as attached in **Annex III, Report of the Second Task Force Meeting of AMCOMET (See Annex 4 – Report of the Task Force on the Joint African Regional Space Programme)**.
8. **Mr. Franz Uirab**, representing the Chair of the Task Force on the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan, which were adopted with minor modifications by the Bureau Members. These recommendations are attached in **Annex III, Report of the Second Task Force Meeting of AMCOMET (See Annex 5 – Report of the Task Force on Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan)**.

V. Report on the Resource Mobilization Plan

9. Mr. Al-Hamndou Dorsouma presented the existing avenues for resource mobilization, in particular the 5th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V), which were adopted by the Bureau Members as attached in **Annex III, Report of the Second Task Force Meeting of AMCOMET (See Annex 5 – Report of the Task Force on Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan)**. The presentation is also attached as **Annex IV**.

VI. Report on the Sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat

10. Dr. Joseph R. Mukabana presented the recommendations on the Sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat, which were adopted as attached in **Annex III, Report of the Second Task Force Meeting of AMCOMET (See Annex 6 – Report on the Sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat)**.

VII. Discussion on the Third Session of AMCOMET

11. Dr. Joseph R. Mukabana informed the participants that due to extenuating circumstances, the Republic of Benin, which was expected to host the Third Session of AMCOMET following the Second Session, which took place in Zimbabwe, was no longer in a position to honour the offer.
12. The meeting was also informed that following an official correspondence from the Republic of Benin, African Member States were requested to propose the possibility of hosting both the Third Session of AMCOMET (AMCOMET-3) as well as the 16th Session of the Regional Association I (RAI-Africa). It was also mentioned that Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire and Tunisia responded positively to this request. The meeting was further informed that since their offer, Cote d'Ivoire unfortunately, is no longer in a position to host the Conference.

VIII. Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Bureau

13. The Bureau adopted the Reports and Recommendations of the Task Forces of the Constitution and Rules of Procedures, Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services), and the Joint Task Force to investigate the feasibility of developing an African Regional Space Programme. The **summary of the recommendations** are outlined below.

a. Constitution and Rules of Procedures

- i. Takes note of the Report of the Task Force on the Constitution and Rules of Procedures and present it to the Third Session of AMCOMET.
- ii. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to liaise with the WMO Legal Office to review the draft Constitution and draft Rules of Procedures and make the necessary modifications in consultation with the Task Force;
- iii. Adopts the same governance mechanism and structure for AMCOMET as a Joint Meeting of AU-WMO and with the same arrangement for the meeting of African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the UNECA Africa Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
- iv. Urges all AMCOMET Member States to attend the Meeting of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment to be convened in 2015 by the African Union Commission (AUC) to ensure that a sub-committee on meteorology is established; and
- v. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to take the necessary action for the adoption of the Constitution and Rules of Procedures during the Third Session of AMCOMET

b. Joint African Regional Space Programme

- i. Recalls the African Union Decision on the feasibility of developing an African Space Programme;
- ii. Welcomes the draft African Space Policy and adopts the amendments on incorporation of meteorology issues by the AMCOMET Task Force;
- iii. Requests the Chair of the Task Force to present the Draft African Space Policy consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET;
- iv. Urges AUC to present the draft African Space Policy with the proposed amendments to other relevant sectors;
- v. Takes note that the AMCOMET Bureau Chair has reached out to the AMCOST Bureau Chair with a view to fully engaging in the process and requests the AUC and AMCOMET Secretariat to facilitate engagements of the Chairs of AMCOMET and AMCOST in order to strengthen synergies and ensure a mutually beneficial approach throughout the entire process of developing an African Regional Space Programme;
- vi. Requests AUC and AMCOST, in collaboration with AMCOMET, to link the African Space Programme to the WMO Space Programme and other ongoing regional programmes and initiatives, such as Monitoring of Environment for Security in Africa (MESA) and African Satellite Meteorology Education and Training (ASMET) programme;
- vii. Requests 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
- viii. Further request the AUC to present the finalized African Space Policy to the AUC Policy Organs at the appropriate time.

c. Implementation Plan

- i. Takes note of the AU Decision on the establishment of the Task Forces;
- ii. Endorses the amendments to the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan along with the Regional Flagship Programmes, and their associated Expected Results and Activities;
- iii. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to finalise the Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan;
- iv. Noting that weather and climate (meteorology) affects every sector of life, Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa are urged to give the AMCOMET process a high priority in their action plans;
- v. Request Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Climate Centres (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) to the extent possible;
- vi. Requests Member States, the AUC and RECs, to collaborate with AMCOMET, on the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) at continental, sub-regional and national levels;
- vii. Urges Member States to be actively involved in the implementation of GFCS by establishing the appropriate coordination mechanisms, including user interface platforms, to address the entire value chain for the production, data exchange and application of climate services in climate sensitive sectors and by investing in the development of the appropriate capacities;
- viii. Requests the Chair of the Task Force to present the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan along with the Regional Flagship Programmes for consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET; and
- ix. Requests the AUC to present the endorsed Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan to the AU Policy Organs.

d. Resource Mobilization Plan

- i. Welcomes the draft Implementation and Resource Mobilization Plan;
- ii. Urges AMCOMET Member States, as part of the process of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) to allocate a fraction of the Green Climate Fund to strengthen the capacities of developing countries to provide effective weather and climate services to support adaptation through the enhancement of infrastructure and human capacity;
- iii. Request the WMO to collaborate with the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), African Union Commission (AUC), UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) / African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to prepare a briefing on the “Loss and Damage” process with the UNFCCC;
- iv. Requests 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); and

e. Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa

- i. Welcomes the draft report for the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre in Central Africa;
- ii. Request 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);
- iii. 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;
- iv. 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
- v. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to present the validated report to the Third Session of AMCOMET for endorsement; and
- vi. Further requests the AUC to present the validated report to the AU Policy Organs.

f. Quality Management Systems, and Competency Assessment and Documentation

- i. Takes note of the updates on Status of African Countries in meeting the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Requirement Compliance on Quality Management Systems (QMS) & Competency Assessment and Documentation;
- ii. Urges Member States and RECs to support NMHSs, who have not attained QMS and Competency Assessment and Documentation Certification, to take all the necessary steps to meet the ICAO Requirements;
- iii. Urges WMO and ICAO to continue supporting Member States as needed in the implementation process of QMS and Competency Assessment and Documentation;
- iv. Urges Member States to transform their NMHSs into autonomous entities, through legislation, to enable provision of efficient and effective services and facilitate cost recovery of aeronautical and marine meteorological services to sustain the QMS process at the national level;
- v. Takes note of Member States' specialized services provided by NMHSs to many sectors that drive the economies of African States, including agriculture, water resources, public health, energy, disaster management, aviation and marine transport, among others, and introduce QMS for all services, including agro-meteorology (for agriculture), bio-meteorology (for health), hydro-meteorology (for water), and marine meteorology (for maritime transport and fisheries); and

- vi. Requests the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to encourage Member States to participate in the Technical Commission of Aeronautical Meteorology, which takes place 7-18 July 2014, in Montreal, Canada.

g. Sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat

- i. Acknowledging that AMCOMET is an African process and in order to show ownership of the process, African Member States must indicate willingness and commitment to contribute to the sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat;
- ii. Requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to explore the modalities for African Member States to make annual contributions of a minimum of 10K USD in order to match the AMCOMET Secretariat annual budget, and present its findings for consideration during the Third Session of AMCOMET;
- iii. Urges all Member States to own the AMCOMET process by showing commitment to the sustainability of the AMCOMET Secretariat (operations, activities, projects and programmes) through the following sources:
 - 1. Standing annual contributions from Member States (10K USD as a minimum, as is the practice in other Ministerial Bodies);
 - 2. Propose an assessed contribution of 0.01% of GDP of Member States to the AMCOMET Fund;
 - 3. Propose an increase to the WMO assessed contributions of African Member States (currently at 0.02% of WMO overall budget) and allocate such increase to the effective funding of the AMCOMET process; and
 - 4. Alternative sources of funding for programmes and projects through the following:
 - a. Trust Fund (Voluntary Contributions);
 - b. Bilateral and Multi-lateral Partnerships; and
 - c. Allocate a portion of country development projects (World Bank, GEF, AfDB, etc) as institutional support for AMCOMET.

h. Third Session of AMCOMET

- i. Acknowledge with appreciation the offers of Tunisia and Cape Verde to host the Third Session of AMCOMET
- ii. Recognize the benefit of holding the Third Session of AMCOMET, immediately after the WMO Regional Association-I (RAI-Africa) Session in order for AMCOMET to have a better understanding of the technical issues and challenges facing NMHSs in Africa.
- iii. Urge WMO to explore the possibility of holding Regional Association-I (RAI-Africa) and the Third Session of AMCOMET (Experts and Ministerial sessions) back to back in one venue.

- iv. Further requests the AMCOMET Secretariat to consult with AUC, WMO and the AMCOMET Bureau concerning the hosting of the Third Session of AMCOMET for a final decision.

IX. Adoption of the Report and the Recommendations

14. **H.E. Hon Flavia Nabugere**, Minister of Water and Environment of Uganda, and Rapporteur of the AMCOMET Bureau, read the recommendations of the Bureau, which were adopted with minor modifications already captured in this report.

X. Closing Ceremony

15. Closing Statements were made successively by **Mr. Michel Jarraud**, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and **Ms. Olushola Olayide**, Representative of the Commissioner of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission (AUC).
16. **H.E. Hon Prof Jonathan Moyo**, Minister of Information, Media and Broadcasting Services, representing the Minister of Environment, Water and Climate of Zimbabwe and Chair of AMCOMET thanked the delegates for their active participation and officially closed the meeting.