



Brief Note from AMCOMET to AMCEN

The African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) was established in 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya as a high-level mechanism to foster the development of weather and climate services and their applications to meet sector specific societal needs in Africa. This is informed by the inability of many African institutions dealing with weather, water and climate service provision to deliver sector-specific information that meets the needs of end-users. The mechanism therefore enables the harmonization of sustainable development programmes and coordination amongst partners through sound governance of meteorology and its applications.

AMCOMET, through the African Union Commission and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), refocuses national attention on the urgent need to improve weather, climate and water services by strengthening African National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Regional Climate Centres. It strengthens the African weather and climate institutions through the implementation of its Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (weather and climate services) and calls for support from governments and partners to provide the legislative framework and financial resources to support delivery of accurate meteorological products and services.

AMCOMET has developed generic templates for national strategic plans and uses these to assist member States to develop their own National Strategic and Actions Plans. These plans are essential for their resource mobilization as well as ensuring that governments and other stakeholders like AMCEN may mainstream weather and climate information and services into their national transformation agenda. AMCOMET is currently working with WMO to improve the co-production of sector-specific climate risks and impacts indicators at national and regional levels to support the African Group of climate change negotiators (AGN), 2023 global stock take processes, and adaptation planning. Progress on these issues will require climate science advances and improved understanding of tailoring climate information for regional and local needs across Africa.

In addition to the above, AMCOMET is enhancing its institutional network through the development and implementation of Regional and National Frameworks for Climate Services at Regional and National Climate Centres respectively. These Climate Centres are aligned to the needs of the Regional Economic Commissions in Africa. With the endorsement of the Cairo declaration (Annex 1) at the 4th AMCOMET Session, member states are urged to implement National Frameworks for Climate Services (NFCS) and work closely with National Designated Authorities (NDAs).

Therefore, it would be appropriate for AMCOMET and AMCEN to work closely in an integrated manner to develop sector-specific climate risk and impact indices for the African Group of climate change negotiators – which was established in Berlin, Germany in 1995 as an alliance of African member states that represents the interests of the region in the international climate change negotiations, with a common and unified voice. AMCOMET is on the Oversight Board (OB) of Climate Research for Development (CR4D) and have access to research products that deal specifically to the African climate and would be able to better inform AMCEN in climate change and variability in Africa for mitigation and adaptation. Furthermore, AMCOMET would

- (i) assess climate information needs of African Group of climate change negotiators (AGN); and
- (ii) build the capacity of AGN to access, use and understand climate information for decision making at national level;

Mindful of the standing agreement and working arrangements between WMO and UNEP during the formation of the IPCC, it is vital that AMCOMET and AMCEN also partner and complement each other in accordance to our expertise for the benefit of Africa. As such, the composition of the AGN may also include an expert on meteorology, especially now that weather extremes and associated disasters are now a priority on the world stage, economically and politically.