



Ref.: 03773/2022-1.6 S/CS

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22 February 2022

Subject: Launch of the demonstration phase by RCC Economic Community of West African States (RCC-ECOWAS) hosted by AGRHYMET

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the Regional Climate Centre for Economic Community of West African States (RCC-ECOWAS) hosted by AGRHYMET initiated the demonstration phase since 1 September 2021. This is in alignment with to RAI XV session recommendations (pp.16-17, Abridged final report [WMO-No. 1068](#)) to establish RCCs in each of the Economic Communities in Africa, including ECOWAS.

The RCC-ECOWAS provides its products and services to the countries of the region, through the official website of the RCC-ECOWAS with links to the mandatory functions and relevant products accessible at <http://ccr-agrhymet.cilss.int/>.

Performing a successful demonstration phase is an important step for the formal designation of a WMO RCC candidate. During the demonstration phase the RCC-ECOWAS is committed to refine their products and services. In this process they will work closely with the Services Commission (SERCOM) Standing Committee for Climate Services (SC CLI), the Regional Association I (RA I) [Committee](#) on Services, which is mandated to assist the President of RA I on matters related to RCC implementation. Overall facilitation and support will be provided by the Regional Climate Prediction Services Division (RCP) at Services department of the WMO Secretariat that is responsible for RCC implementation worldwide.

I would like to invite National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of the Member countries in the ECOWAS region to (i) fully exploit products and services of the RCC-ECOWAS in order to provide improved climate services at the national level, (ii) actively support the generation of RCC products and services by sharing national data, products and expertise and (iii) provide feedback in order to help further refine its products and services to address Members' needs.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Elena Manaenkova
for the Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote D'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinee, Guinee Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Chad & Togo

cc: President of RAI, president of SERCOM, president of INFCOM