



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Weather • Climate • Water
Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: CLPA/AGM/HMNDP

GENEVA, 15 January 2013

Subject: High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policy (HMNDP), 11-15 March 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

You are aware that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with other United Nations agencies and programmes and international organizations, are organizing a High-Level Meeting on National Drought Policy (HMNDP) from 11 to 15 March 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland. The HMNDP International Organizing Committee (HIOC) held two meetings and e-forums that have helped develop the programme and the expected outcomes of the Meeting.

The organization of the Meeting is progressing well and is at an advanced stage. Through the sessions of HIOC and its subcommittees, the Meeting Programme and the draft Meeting Declaration have been developed. The draft Meeting Declaration has been sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and copied to you in a separate letter dated 14 January 2013.

HMNDP will start with a half-day opening plenary (with a major keynote address) followed by three days of scientific segment and one and half days of the High Level segment. The detailed programme for the scientific segment can be downloaded from www.hmndp.org.

It should be noted that the support and endorsement of the declaration from the highest political level is needed for successful implementation of the outcomes from the Meeting. Your efforts to interest participation of, especially, the high level government officials from your country, are vital for achieving the objectives of HMNDP. I would like to encourage you to explore the possibility of being part of your national delegation.

In view of the limited financial resources available for the Meeting, it is hoped that the cost of your participation in HMNDP will be borne by your Government or Service. However, if it is not possible for your Government or Service to meet the expenses of your attendance, WMO will consider, upon request, to provide some financial support, lump sum in lieu of travel and per diem to participants from developing and least developed countries and countries with economies in transition.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6682)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

Please note that the Organization accepts limited responsibility for compensation in the event of death, illness or injury attributable to the attendance at meetings or the performance of services, on behalf of the Organization, by non-staff members of the Organization who are authorized to travel at its expense and/or who are receiving a daily subsistence allowance. These persons are therefore fully responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of events which are not attributable to attendance at meetings or the performance of services on behalf of the Organization and for arranging such life, health and other forms of insurance as they consider appropriate".

I would appreciate receiving your response before **4 February 2013**.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Lengoasa', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General