



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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GENEVA, 13 March 2012

Annexes: 4 (available in English and French only)

Subject: Financial Contribution to the AMCOMET Trust Fund

Dear Sir/Madam,

The First AMCOMET Task Force meeting was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 21 to 23 November 2011. Task Force Members discussed the status of the AMCOMET process and provided guidance for the way forward, including the preparations for the Second AMCOMET Session, expected to take place in the third quarter of 2012. The following offers you a highlight of the meeting:

- Commendation on the role of the WMO as the Secretariat as well as the commitment exhibited by Member countries and the African Union Commission in ensuring the advancement of the AMCOMET process;
- Approval of the resource mobilization plan to ensure the engagement of necessary stakeholders, highlighting the role of development partners and the private sector;
- Approval of the Constitution which outlines the governance mechanism of AMCOMET;
- Approval of the Framework for the African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services to help enhance cooperation among African countries, increase the visibility and improve the capacity of National Meteorological Services.

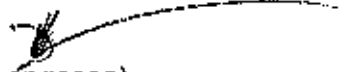
The official meeting report and all relevant documentation are annexed for your review. Following the recommendation from the meeting, WMO has engaged the services of Mr Alioune Ndiaye to mobilize financial resources to support the AMCOMET process, including organizing the Second AMCOMET Session.

We would greatly appreciate your guidance and identification of an AMCOMET or other focal point in your country with whom we can discuss the possibility of a financial contribution to AMCOMET. Your cooperation is critical in mobilizing enough resources to ensure the realization of the Second AMCOMET Session given the limited time left to prepare. Kindly contact Mr Alioune Ndiaye directly at andiaye@wmo.int.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of African countries

I look forward to your kind understanding and support as we continue with this important and historical task of strengthening the National Meteorological Services in Africa.

Yours faithfully,



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General

THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY (AMCOMET)

FIRST AMCOMET TASK FORCE MEETING

Nairobi Safari Club – Lillian Towers, Nairobi, Kenya

21 – 23 November 2011

AMCOMET RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The Nairobi Ministerial Declaration from the First Conference of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology (April 2010) established the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) as a high-level mechanism for the enhanced development of meteorological (and climate) services and applications in Africa to support economic development. The AMCOMET Bureau, composed of a Chairperson (Kenya), three Vice Chairpersons (Mali, Zimbabwe, Congo), and a Rapporteur (Morocco) was elected.

The Conference also designated a Task Force comprising of the five Bureau members and five additional members representing the five sub-regions in Africa (Algeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda and Zambia) supported by the WMO as the Secretariat with the collaboration of the African Union. The Task Force was requested to define the institutional framework and working arrangements of AMCOMET as well as charged with developing, by the Second Session of AMCOMET in 2012, an African Strategy on Meteorology to enable the strengthening of National Meteorological Services' capabilities for delivery of weather and climate services and in support of economic development, including strengthening existing African Regional and Sub-regional Climate Centres.

To date, the World Meteorological Organisation has financially supported the cost of the AMCOMET process, beginning with the preparations for, and including the First Ministerial Conference held in Nairobi. Furthermore, it has also established the AMCOMET Secretariat, comprised of two consultants (Kenya and Geneva based) to facilitate the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration.

Following the First AMCOMET Bureau meeting, it is now evident that additional financing for the AMCOMET process from other sources will be required to implement the decisions contained in the Ministerial Declaration. Two funding phases are proposed: financing of the AMCOMET process itself¹ and financing the implementation of the African Strategy on Meteorology, which will be proposed for endorsement during the Second AMCOMET Session, currently envisioned to take place Q3 of 2012.

¹ Bureau, Secretariat, Technical Team, Task Force meetings and the Second AMCOMET Session in 2012

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Mobilising financial resources for the AMCOMET process will be a challenge. The following avenues should be pursued in parallel to maximise potential financing and partnership opportunities, both in the short and long-term.

CLIMDEV Africa – This Strategy is in effect the Strategy for implementation of the African Component of the Global Framework for Climate Services and as such should also be strongly linked to the implementation of CLIMDEV Africa, which is financed by African Development Bank and Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). CLIMDEV Africa will be implemented by ACMAD, African Regional Centres (ICPAC, SADC-DMC, Agrhymet) and ACCP. Financial contributions to the development of the African Strategy on Meteorology should be sought from this process.

Traditional development financing mechanisms – begin engaging traditional development financing institutions, such as the World Bank, European Commission, the African Development Bank and Development Assistance Programmes (AUSAid, Canadian International Development Agency, Swiss Development and Cooperation, Japan Aid Agency, DFID, AFD, etc.), to ensure they are part of the AMCOMET process from the initial stages, with a view to a long-term partnership. This will pave the way for eventual institutional and financial support, in particular, the implementation of the African Strategy on Climate and Weather Services for Development.

Contribution from African countries – As AMCOMET is an African initiative, governments in Africa are urged to contribute financially either through voluntary or assessed process. WMO should begin campaigning to solicit contribution from participating countries, notably Egypt, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, among others to acquire seed funding for the AMCOMET process. During the Second Session of AMCOMET, outline the scale of assessment and begin heavily campaigning with Member states for financial contribution.

Private Sector – the involvement of the private sector is important as they represent a sustainable customer base for NMHSs. Developing long-term partnerships with the private sector that place emphasis on achieving impact and scale is highly valued. Identify relevant potential partners, within the agricultural, insurance, transport and tourism sectors, to name a few, that would greatly benefit from improved weather and climate services, and develop a mutually beneficial approach to a long-term collaboration. This will create an enabling environment whereby the private sector can eventually play a major role in implementing the African Strategy as well as providing them a platform where they can help shape climate-resilient policies beneficial not only for the businesses but also for the countries' long term economic growth as well as the well being of communities served.

Regional Economic Communities – Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are the building blocks of the African Union and facilitate the sub-regional development and implementation of AU supported programmes and mechanisms. As AMCOMET brings political support and mechanisms, and whose efforts are supported by the African Union, it is important that African RECs are part of its process from the initial phase to ensure financial support for and visibility of AMCOMET within their operations and promote intra-regional cooperation for socio-economic development within the context of climate and weather. Other institutions could also include the UNECA and the ACP Secretariat.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES and TIMELINES:

October – December 2011

- › WMO SG to send out a circular letter to RA1 Ministers requesting them to support the AMCOMET process and urge them to contribute financially
- › Send high-level correspondence to heads of traditional funding institutions and regional economic communities informing them of AMCOMET activities and inviting them to become a partner to the process
- › Begin the process of involving the private sector through the identification of appropriate organisations who would benefit from collaborating with AMCOMET

- > Secure a meeting with the African Union (post or during Task Force Meeting) to resolve issues concerning Second Session of AMCOMET and resource mobilization.
- > Begin identifying appropriate institutions and contacts from the following countries and request a face to face meeting with a view to securing funding. The countries are grouped to facilitate travel and minimise cost. Travel cost from Group A – Group C, including DSA at 2.5 days per city, is currently estimated at 22,370 CHF.
 - o Group A
 - South Africa (indicated interest in hosting AMCOMET 2012)
 - Namibia (possibility of contribution as with WCC3)
 - Angola
 - Gabon
 - o Group B
 - Kenya
 - Tanzania
 - Mozambique
 - Zimbabwe
 - o Group C
 - Morocco
 - Tunisia
 - Nigeria
 - Algeria
 - o Group D (begin correspondences via letters and phone calls, personal visits as needed)
 - United States
 - Canada
 - Switzerland
 - Spain (support for West Africa pax)
 - UK
 - Norway
 - Finland
 - Russia
 - China
 - Japan
 - Korea

Other consideration for this task: Who will be leading the fundraising process within WMO? AU representation, proper documentation, budget implication

- > UNFCCC – host an event during COP17 featuring AMCOMET
 - o Facilitate to the extent possible meetings for the Kenyan Minister to promote / increase awareness of AMCOMET

January – June 2012

- > Begin actively soliciting support from the above countries – travel will be necessary. Upon approval of concept – a travel schedule with a list of meetings will be proposed.
- > Secure upper management approval to begin engaging with the private sector (i.e. banking, transport, tea and coffee companies – whose bottom line can be affected by the provision of accurate long term predictions and whose engagement will have a positive impact on affecting policy). If approved, the following are needed:
 - o Hiring of a marketing expert to draft tailored proposal using business language and sponsorship packages
 - o Reach out to targeted partners and secure face to face meetings
- > Begin planning of an AMCOMET Informational Session / AMCOMET Consultation (pilot private sector engagement / fundraising in African countries)

July – September 2012

- › Secure funding from targeted organisations

November 2012

- › Second AMCOMET Session

RESOURCES NEEDED

WMO as the Secretariat, primarily through RMO, RAF and the AMCOMET Secretariat, with the support of the Bureau Chairman's office, are the bulk of the human resources needed to implement the proposed resource mobilization plan. Additionally, engagement of a local marketing expert is needed to maximise impact within the private sector. This expert would help identify potential private sector donors, begin consultations with them and formulate a proposal tailored to sector specific needs in the format and language businesses can relate to.

THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY (AMCOMET)

FIRST AMCOMET TASK FORCE MEETING

Nairobi Safari Club – Lillian Towers, Nairobi, Kenya

21 – 23 November 2011

DRAFT AMCOMET CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

WE, the Ministers responsible for meteorology in Africa:

Recognising National Meteorological and Hydrological Services as the fundamental component of national development infrastructure of our countries and of the continent and a contributor to security and sustainable development, particularly poverty reduction efforts, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction;

Noting the increasing risks and threats to sustainable development associated with natural disasters of which 90% are due to or aggravated by hydro-meteorological extreme events; and that African countries are facing multi-faceted challenges of climate variability and change that require, among others, decision-making based on scientifically sound data and information by governments and communities in order to develop adaptation strategies and action plans as part of the ongoing development processes and policies at national, regional and continental level;

Taking into account the African Union Summit Decision on climate change and development, adopted by the 8th General Assembly in 2007, whereupon the Assembly expressed strong concerns about the vulnerability of Africa's socio-economic sectors and productive systems to climate variability and change and further noting that African countries demonstrably require additional resources for adaptation towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals;

Referring to Resolution 26 of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Congress XIII in 1999 on the Role and Operation of Meteorological Services which urges WMO Members to mandate the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services as the official voice in issuing weather warnings for public safety to help minimize risks to the health and safety of citizens as well as the primary national authority and official source of information and policy advice on the present and future state of the atmosphere and other aspects of national weather and climate, in support of policy development and the need to meet national, regional and international responsibilities in the effective implementation of the WMO programmes;

Recognizing the support provided to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services by

the regional institutions, including the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), the Centre for Training, Research and Applications of Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology (AGRHYMET), the specialized institution of CILSS, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Climate Services Centre (CSC) Drought Monitoring Centre (DMC) and the WMO Regional Training Centres in Africa;

Recognizing the importance of programmes in Africa such as ClimDev Africa, which is focused on climate observations, the African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) based on satellite observations, and the African Early Warning and Climate Services (AEWACS); and particularly, the support of the African Development Bank (AfDB), UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), and the African Union Commission (AUC);

Conscious of the opportunity presented at the First Conference of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa, which took place in Nairobi, 12-16 April 2010, to enhance regional cooperation for a common approach in tackling the challenges of achieving sustainable development at the regional levels,

Recalling the outcomes of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration, notably the establishment of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET);

Noting the gaps in operational observation and telecommunication networks, including maritime networks and their negative impact on the reliability of weather and climate information and services, and in view of the need to collectively address this situation to enable the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Africa to fulfil their national, regional and international mandates:

Recalling that the African Union Summit held in Addis Ababa in January 2011, adopted Decision No. EX.CL/Dec.606 (XVIII) that took note of the outcomes of the Nairobi Ministerial Conference and recommended that a number of actions are taken for the full implementation of the AMCOMET process.

Reaffirming our commitment to strengthen and sustain National Meteorological and Hydrological Services by providing them with all necessary resources and adequate institutional frameworks to enable them to fully perform their roles;

Reiterate our determination to fulfil our responsibility of making concerted efforts to work jointly to effectively and efficiently by exploiting the full potential of meteorology and related sciences to achieve sustainable development for the benefit of our present and future generations;

Recognising that the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology is the main regional inter-governmental body on all matters relating to meteorology and development of Africa;

Noting the support offered by the World Meteorological Organisation, which calls for international and regional cooperation for a Results Based Management (RBM) approach in tackling the challenges and achieving sustainable development;

ADOPT this Constitution of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) as the ministerial authority for meteorology for the Africa region and a high level mechanism for the development of meteorology in Africa.

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CHAPTER I: GENERAL PROVISION

ARTICLE 1: USE OF TERMS

For the purposes of this Constitution -

"AMCOMET" means the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology

"Bureau" means the bureau of the Conference as provided for under Article 10

"Conference" means the conference of ministers responsible for meteorology

"Member state" means a member of AMCOMET

"Secretariat" means the secretariat of AMCOMET established under Article 12

"Regional Economic Community" means an economic and / or development organisation that has been constituted by two or more Member states.

ARTICLE 2: NAME

The African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) shall be composed of African Ministers responsible for meteorology.

ARTICLE 3: VISION and MISSION OF AMCOMET

Taking into consideration the interests of Member states -

The vision of AMCOMET is to create a framework to promote cooperation, security, socio-economic development and poverty eradication on a pan-African level through sound governance and the application of the science of meteorology and its related applications.

The mission of AMCOMET is to provide political leadership and guidance, policy direction and advocacy in the provision of meteorological, hydrological and climatological information that meets societal needs.

ARTICLE 4: OBJECTIVES OF AMCOMET

The objectives of AMCOMET shall be to:

- 1) Increase the visibility of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services within the political arena through the integration of meteorological services' contribution to the sustainable development of various economic sectors and in national development programmes;
- 2) Promote political cooperation and streamline policies among Member states and the evolution of common political values in the management of meteorological science and its related applications;

- 3) Strengthen cooperation among Member states by facilitating the exchange of expertise and knowledge;
- 4) Liaise with relevant ministries to ensure that sub-regions are adequately served by their meteorological and climate service institutions and help improve the capacities and capabilities of their NMHSs;
- 5) Promote the development and dissemination of weather and climate information to improve disaster risk management, minimise the negative impacts of extreme weather events and climate change on society, and meet developmental needs to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- 6) Provide a framework for establishment and consolidation of a sound partnership between Member states and other bilateral and multilateral partners in ensuring the sustainable development of Africa;
- 7) Promote public and private partnerships and strengthen public and political support and cooperation for regional, regional and national initiatives through the mobilisation of resources;
- 8) Promote the harmonisation and coordination of sustainable development programmes in collaboration with the governmental, non-governmental and civil society organisations and the private sector, and
- 9) Develop a long-term funding strategy to ensure the sustainability of AMOCMET.

ARTICLE 5: GENERAL PRINCIPLES

AMCOMET shall function in accordance with the following principles:

- 1) Collaboration and common initiatives at the national, regional and international levels for the achievement of sustainable socio-economic development;
- 2) Development of international and regional policies, customised at the national level to meet specific country needs;
- 3) Working together to increase NMHSs profile at the national and regional level and their contribution to:
 - a) Various economic sectors, in particular agriculture and food security, health, water resources, and disaster risk management;
 - b) The achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goal1: eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; Goal 5: Improve maternal health, and Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.
 - c) Adaptation and mitigation to climate change, climate variability and its negative impacts in the entire region.

CHAPTER II: INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

ARTICLE 6: FUNCTIONS OF AMCOMET

- 1) AMCOMET shall, in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization, African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities and other organisations, be responsible and provide a political voice on meteorological, and hydro-meteorological matters, including climate change science in Africa.
- 2) The functions of AMCOMET are to -
 - a) Provide policy guidance on meteorological issues and related policies as they apply to sustainable development;
 - b) Promote the coordination, harmonisation and integration of meteorology and its applications to sound socio-economic development of Africa, in particular, disaster risk management, food security, health, transportation, energy, environment and water resources;
 - c) Initiate policy and legislative proposals on meteorological matters at regional levels;
 - d) Foster intergovernmental and regional dialogue for sound management and integration of meteorological considerations into poverty reduction, health and environmental strategies and international development plans;
 - e) Collaborate with the African Union and its organs on matters of meteorology;
 - f) Develop and promote common policy approaches on issues of mutual concern and advance such policies collectively in international fora;
 - g) Promote policy guidance on research and technology development, information collection and exchange, capacity development, and the application of appropriate technologies in the science of meteorology and its applications;
- 3) AMCOMET shall have an advisory and leading role; and shall be competent, inter alia, to -
 - a) Facilitate the approval of the implementation of meteorological initiatives in Africa;
 - b) Make general or specific recommendations to Member states and other bodies, including the African Union, regarding meteorological management in Africa, and;
 - c) Mobilize necessary resources for achieving the objectives of AMCOMET.
- 4) The activities of AMCOMET shall be undertaken at national, regional and regional levels, as appropriate.

ARTICLE 7: AMCOMET SUBSIDIARY BODIES

AMCOMET shall have the following subsidiary bodies:

- 1) The Conference;
- 2) The Bureau;
- 3) The Secretariat;
- 4) Expert Group(s) as established under Article 13; and

- 5) Task Force(s), as established under Article 15.

ARTICLE 8: FUNCTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The Conference shall be the principal policy making entity of AMCOMET.
- 2) In accordance with this Constitution, the functions of the Conference shall be to -
 - a) Make decisions of AMCOMET and on any meteorological matter in Africa;
 - b) Review overall progress of AMCOMET;
 - c) Consider and approve the strategic plan(s) of AMCOMET;
 - d) Provide the policy direction of AMCOMET;
 - e) Elect Members of the Bureau of the Conference;
 - f) Approve Financial Regulations and Rules of Procedure of the AMCOMET, and;
 - g) Carry out any other function entrusted to it by this Constitution.

Article 8.1: ORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The Conference shall hold its Ordinary Sessions once every [two] years.
- 2) Ordinary Sessions of the Conference shall be preceded by the meetings of the Bureau of the Conference. The Conference may also be preceded by a meeting of Experts and Task Force, as appropriate.
- 3) Ordinary sessions of the Conference shall be held upon invitation by the prospective host and approval by the Bureau. Failing such invitation, the session shall be convened at the location of the Secretariat.
- 4) AMCOMET Secretariat shall bear the cost of travel and stay of staff of the Secretariat as well as for the Conference facilities and services.
- 5) Member states shall be responsible for the participation of their delegations in meetings of the Conference and the Bureau.

Article 8.2: EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS

- 1) The Conference may convene Extraordinary Sessions in between Ordinary Sessions as may be determined by the Bureau or the Conference.
- 2) The conditions for holding an Extraordinary session shall be provided for in the Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 9: MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) AMCOMET shall be open to all states in Africa.
- 2) The Conference shall consist of African Ministers responsible for meteorology of the Member states of the World Meteorological Organization
- 3) The National Permanent Representatives to the WMO shall be the principal advisors of the Ministers responsible for meteorology on all matters related to AMCOMET.

Article 9.1: COMMITMENT OF MEMBER STATES

The Member states shall cooperate among themselves and, where appropriate and

possible, cooperate with other states and organisations to -

- 1) Give full effect to the provisions of this Constitution;
- 2) Enhance individual and collective collaboration in adopting the policies and measures under this Constitution;
- 3) Harmonise policies at regional, regional and national levels as appropriate;
- 4) Provide resources, political will and support for AMCOMET programmes and activities.

Article 9.2: OBSERVERS

- 1) The Conference may invite observers to its meetings. Observers may include the following:
 - a) Regional Economic Communities, national or regional institutions and organisations, governments and civil society, international multilateral organisations and the private sector, whose activities relate to meteorological management, the science of meteorology and its related applications and sustainable development;
 - b) Specialised United Nations agencies, including **International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)**, **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, **WMO**, **International Oceanographic Commission / United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)**, **United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)**, among others;
 - c) Members of the World Meteorological Organization, including Regional Associations of the WMO
 - d) Experts or Group of Experts
- 2) The conditions for admission and participation of observers shall be as prescribed in the Rules¹ of Procedure of the Conference.

ARTICLE 10: THE BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The Bureau of the Conference is hereby established.
- 2) The functions of the Bureau of the Conference shall include:
 - a) Overseeing the Conference affairs and the activities of the Secretariat between sessions of the Conference;
 - b) Carrying out, between one ordinary session of the Conference and the next, such interim activities on behalf of the Conference as may be necessary, giving priority to matters on which the Conference has previously recorded its approval;
 - c) Make preparations on issues, inter alia, draft resolutions and recommendations for consideration at the next session of the Conference;
 - d) Overseeing the implementation of policies and decisions of the Conference, the execution of the Conference's budget and conduct of the Conference's programmes;
 - e) Provide guidance and advice to the Secretariat on the implementation of the Conference decisions, relations between AMCOMET and Member states,

¹ The Rules need to be amended to take into account the expanded attendance of observers, how they should be admitted and what they may do during the sessions and in between sessions.

preparation of meetings and on any other matters relating to the exercise of the functions of the AMCOMET and the Secretariat;

- f) Submit proposals to the Conference on any matter relating to the implementation of the objectives and functions of AMCOMET and report to the Conference on activities it has carried out between the session of the Conference, and;
 - g) Perform any other functions that may be entrusted to it by the Conference.
- 3) The Bureau of the Conference may appoint such ad hoc committees to advise it, as deemed appropriate and necessary, in the implementation of its functions.
 - 4) The Bureau of the Conference shall meet in an Ordinary Session at least once in every year and in an Extraordinary Session at any other time that circumstances may warrant.

Article 10.1: MEMBERSHIP OF THE BUREAU

- 1) At each Ordinary Session, the Conference shall elect members of the Bureau.
- 2) The members of the Bureau of the Conference shall be ministers responsible for meteorology elected on an equitable geographical distribution representing the five sub-regions, namely, one each from Western Africa, Eastern Africa, Central Africa, Northern Africa and Southern Africa.
- 3) Elected Bureau Members shall serve a single period of one-term of two years
 - a) A Member may serve a maximum of two-terms, subject to outstanding performance and approval by a particular region.
- 4) Members of the Bureau of the Conference shall be elected as:
 - a) The Chair of the Conference and Bureau;
 - b) Three Vice Chairs; and
 - c) Rapporteur.
- 5) The Chair of the Conference shall be the Chair of the Bureau of the Conference.
- 6) The Bureau of the Conference may invite observers, including the President of WMO's Regional Association 1, to participate in its deliberations, as appropriate.

Article 10.2: TASKS OF THE BUREAU MEMBERS

- 1) A Member state elected to the Bureau of the Conference shall ensure that the following tasks are accomplished:
 - a) Ensure that its representative attends meetings and activities of AMCOMET;
 - b) Solicit opinion and find out the interests of the Member states of the sub-region for purposes of AMCOMET²

² This is intended to strengthen sub-regional coordination in the sub-regional economic communities so that decisions and actions taken at that level are in the interest of each state. It also strengthens the role of sub-regional economic communities and sub-regional conferences.

ARTICLE 11: THE FUNCTIONS OF THE BUREAU MEMBERS

Article 11.1: THE CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The function of the Chair of AMCOMET shall include:
 - a) Oversee and preside over the work of the Conference and the Bureau; and
 - b) Regularly liaise with the Secretariat on the work of AMCOMET.
- 2) The Chair shall be elected at each Ordinary Session of the Conference and shall hold office until the next Ordinary Session. The Chair should be rotated among the five geographical regions of Africa, and should consider gender equity and balance.
- 3) The Chair shall preside over the sessions of the Conference and in his or her absence one of the Vice Chairs shall preside.
- 4) The Chair shall also preside over the meetings of the Bureau of the Conference and in his or her absence one of the Vice Chairs shall preside.
- 5) The Chair, in collaboration with the other Bureau members, shall be responsible for issues related to resource mobilization.

Article 11.2: THE FIRST VICE CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The function of the First Vice Chair of AMCOMET shall include:
 - a) Replacing the Chair in all functions as outlined above
 - b) Supervise the activities related to the African Strategy on Meteorology

Article 11.3: THE SECOND VICE CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The function of the Second Vice Chair of AMCOMET shall include:
 - a) Replacing the Chair in all functions as outlined above
 - b) Supervise the activities related to the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services for the African region.

Article 11.4: THE THIRD VICE CHAIR OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The function of the Third Vice Chair of AMCOMET shall include:
 - a) Replacing the Chair in all functions as outlined above
 - b) Supervise the activities related to the implementation of the Quality Management Systems

Article 11.5: THE RAPPOREUR OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) The function of the Rapporteur of AMCOMET shall include:
 - a) Prepare reports of meetings of the Conference and the Bureau;
 - b) Make the records of proceedings of previous meetings available during the sessions of the Conference and the Bureau;
 - c) To disseminate the documents relating to meetings of the Conference and the Bureau;

ARTICLE 12: THE HOSTING OF THE SECRETARIAT OF AMCOMET

- 1) The World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) is hereby designated as the Secretariat of AMCOMET, with the support of the African Union Commission; until such time as AMCOMET is ready to create the Secretariat as a separate entity.
- 2) The headquarters of the Secretariat would normally be hosted by the WMO or the African Union Commission in the region.
- 3) While the Secretariat is hosted by the WMO, the Executive Secretary will normally be the Director, WMO Regional Office for Africa, as is currently the case with African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN).

ARTICLE 13: THE EXPERT GROUP OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) An Expert Group of AMCOMET is hereby established.
- 2) The functions of the Expert Group include:
 - a) Providing expert information, or necessary documentation for the Conference
- 3) Membership to the Expert Group:
 - a) The WMO Permanent Representatives of Regional Association 1 (Africa), or their representatives, shall constitute the Expert Group.
 - b) The Expert Group shall meet prior to the Conference;
 - c) There shall be no restriction to the term-limit of an appointed expert
- 4) The President of the WMO's Regional Association 1 (Africa), or his representative, shall be invited to the Expert Group meetings as an observer.
- 5) The WMO Management Group of Regional Association 1 shall be invited to the Expert Group meetings as an observer.

ARTICLE 14: THE SECRETARIAT OF AMCOMET

- 1) A Secretariat of AMCOMET is hereby established.
- 2) The functions of the Secretariat include:
 - a) The Secretariat shall be responsible for the day to day running of AMCOMET
 - b) Assist the Conference, the Bureau of the Conference, the Chair, Expert Group and any established Task Force and ad hoc committee or forum, in their deliberations and work;
 - c) In consultation with the African Union Commission, arrange for and service meetings of the Conference and its entities, undertake organisation of work during sessions and execute the decisions of the Conference;
 - d) Support the Rapporteur during meetings and the Conference in writing the reports;
 - e) Undertake other coordination activities as necessary for the smooth functioning of AMCOMET in the achievement of its objectives;
 - f) Draw to the attention of the Conference, matters pertaining to the objectives of this Constitution, and its implementation;

- g) Prepare draft programmes of work and strategies for consideration and approval by the Bureau or the Conference;
- h) Prepare relevant activities and financial reports and other documentation as necessary for the deliberations of the Conference, the Bureau and other entities of AMCOMET;
- i) Administer the budget for the Conference and the Trust Fund;
- j) Coordinate its activities with other organisations including regional economic communities and intergovernmental and international organisations, civil society organisations and the private sector.
- k) Support Member states and the Bureau in resource mobilization efforts;
- l) Enter into such administrative and contractual arrangements as may be required for the effective discharge of the functions of AMCOMET;
- m) Act as the repository for the reports, and other information for AMCOMET and disseminate relevant information;
- n) Monitor implementation of the decisions, recommendations and declarations of the Conference;
- o) Undertake, under agreed programmes, and as appropriate occasional scientific and technical studies into issues affecting implementation of the Conference decisions; and
- p) Perform such other functions as may be determined by the Conference or the Bureau.

Article 14.1: STAFF OF THE SECRETARIAT

- 1) The staff of the Secretariat shall be composed of -
 - a) The Executive Secretary;
 - b) Professional or technical staff;
 - c) Other professional or technical officers that have been seconded to the Secretariat from Member states or from other bodies as may be approved by the Bureau of the Conference, and;
 - d) Support staff.

Article 14.2: FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- 1) There shall be an Executive Secretary of AMCOMET who shall be the chief executive officer responsible for the day-to-day proper functioning of AMCOMET and its entities.
- 2) The Executive Secretary shall attend all meetings pertaining to AMCOMET.
- 3) The Executive Secretary shall ensure the implementation of this Constitution. In particular, the Executive Secretary shall carry out the following functions:
 - a) Follow-up the resolutions and decisions of the Bureau and Conference;
 - b) Manage the affairs of AMCOMET, including the preparation of document for meetings and control of all funds;
 - c) Prepare reports, budgets, plans, strategies, circulars, press releases and any other document necessary for carrying out the functions of AMCOMET;
 - d) Represent AMCOMET in its relations with any third parties, governments and

multilateral organisations and, negotiate agreements, contracts and related instruments as may be approved by the Bureau;

- e) Prepare financial, staff rules and regulations, rules of procedure for the conference and the Bureau or amendments thereto for the consideration and approval by the Conference or the Bureau, and;
- f) Ensure proper and responsible operations of the Secretariat and its functions, as may be required or approved by the Bureau or the Conference.

ARTICLE 15: THE TASK FORCE OF THE CONFERENCE

- 1) As the Conference deems necessary, a Task Force of the Conference may be created for a specific purpose.
- 2) The membership, terms of reference, scope of work and term-limit for the Task Force shall be determined by the Conference.
- 3) The Task Force, as a sub-committee of the Conference, may hold meetings inter-sessionally with the guidance of the Bureau.
- 4) The President of the WMO's Regional Association 1 (Africa), or his representative, shall be invited to the Task Force meetings as an observer.
- 5) The Management Group of Regional Association 1 shall be invited to the Task Force meetings as an observer.

ARTICLE 16: WORKING LANGUAGES OF AMCOMET

- 1) The working languages of AMCOMET shall be the following:
 - a) English, French (mandatory)
 - b) Arabic, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili (as required)

CHAPTER III: FINANCIAL MATTERS

ARTICLE 17: MODE AND SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1) The financial resources towards the budget of AMCOMET and its activities shall consist of the following:
 - a) Assessed annual contributions from Member States
 - b) Assessed contributions from Member States [utilising an appropriate financial mechanism, i.e. Trust Fund];
 - c) Voluntary contributions from Member States; and
 - d) Contributions from the private sector and other partner organisations.
- 2) Contributions from Member states to the budget of the Conference shall be in accordance with the scale of assessment approved by the Conference. The scale of assessment shall be presented during the Second Session of AMCOMET.
- 3) At each Ordinary session of the Conference, a budget for the financial period of the

session shall be adopted.

ARTICLE 18: COMMITMENT ON FINANCIAL MATTERS³

- 1) Member States shall make financial contributions to the activities of AMCOMET to ensure that the objectives of this Constitution are fulfilled.
- 2) Member States, individually or jointly, shall seek to mobilise further financial resources. To this effect, Members shall seek full use and continued qualitative improvement of all national, bilateral and multilateral funding resources and mechanisms; using consortia, joint programmes and parallel financing. Members shall also seek to involve private sector funding, including non-governmental and civil society organisations.
- 3) All decisions of the Conference and the Bureau shall take into account the need for adequacy, predictability and timely flow of funds and the importance of burden sharing among the Member States⁴.
- 4) Contributions from other States and organisations on a voluntary basis shall be encouraged.
- 5) During Ordinary Sessions of the Conference, the Executive Secretary shall inform the Conference on the state of contributions by Member States.

ARTICLE 19: SANCTIONS

- 1) The Conference shall have the power, upon recommendation of the Bureau, to determine appropriate sanctions, including duration, to be imposed on any Member State that fails to meet its financial obligations or contribution to the budgets of the Conference in the following manner⁵
 - a) Denial of attendance at meetings;
 - b) Denial of the right to vote at a meeting; and
 - c) Denial to present a candidate for any position or post in the Conference or Secretariat or to benefit from any activity or commitment, there from.
- 2) The Bureau shall apply the sanctions imposed by the Conference in respect of arrears or failure to meet a financial contribution or other obligation.

ARTICLE 20: TRUST FUND

- 1) A Trust Fund is hereby established. Refer to Annex 1 for the AMCOMET Trust Fund Terms of Reference.
- 2) Contributions to the Trust Fund shall consist of assessed contributions from Member states, pledges and other contributions.
- 3) Pledges to the Trust Fund shall be made at each session of the Conference and matters

³ Objective: to strengthen Members' contributions and make them obligatory and provide sanctions for failure to contribute

⁴ Intended to discourage taking decisions that are not backed by resources for implementation

⁵ There is need to amend the Rules of procedure to include this item and the manner in which to handle a Member state that has partially fulfilled or complied with its penalties or sanctions.

- of the Trust Fund shall be an agenda item for each Ordinary Session.
- 4) Other partners shall be encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund.
 - 5) The Executive Secretary shall report on the status of the Trust Fund and audited accounts at each Ordinary Session of the Conference.

ARTICLE 21: MANAGEMENT OF THE FINANCES

MANAGEMENT OF THE FINANCES

- 1) The Executive Secretary of the AMCOMET Secretariat shall be responsible for the management of the finances of the Conference.
- 2) The financial records of the Conference shall be subject to external audit once every year and the audited accounts shall be submitted to the Bureau and the Conference at their ordinary sessions or meetings for approval.
- 3) The Bureau of the Conference may request, from the Secretariat, a financial audit of the finances of AMCOMET at any time as deemed appropriate.

CHAPTER IV: COOPERATION AND FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 22: INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION

- 1) AMCOMET shall cooperate and collaborate with all African national and regional institutions active in the field of meteorology and related weather and climate fields and sustainable development.
- 2) AMCOMET shall work with the full support of the African Union Commission the Regional Economic Communities, and the World Meteorological Organization.
- 3) AMCOMET shall maintain working relations and cooperate with the African Development Bank and other financial institutions, the United Nations and its agencies, and other organizations capable of assisting or collaborating in the achievement of AMCOMET's objectives.

ARTICLE 23: ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONSTITUTION

- 1) This Constitution shall provisionally enter into force when adopted by the Conference with the participation of not less than two thirds of the Member States.
- 2) This Constitution shall definitively enter into force after it is duly signed by two thirds of representatives with full powers of the Member States.

Article 23.1: AMMENDMENTS AND ANNEXES

- 1) Any Member state may propose an amendment or annex to this Constitution.
- 2) Amendments or annexes to this Constitution shall be adopted at an Ordinary Session of the Conference.
- 3) The text of any proposed amendment or annex shall be communicated to the Member State by the Secretariat at least six months before the meeting at which it is proposed for

adoption.

- 4) The Executive Secretary shall communicate proposed amendments or annexes to the Depository.
- 5) The Member States shall make every effort to reach agreement on any proposed amendment or annex by consensus.
- 6) Where all efforts at consensus have been exhausted, the amendment or annex shall be adopted only when two thirds of the Member states present at that session so vote with at least two thirds of Member States present and voting.
- 7) An amendment or annex to this Constitution shall form an integral part of the Constitution.

Article 23.2: DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

- 1) Disputes arising between any two or more Member States concerning the interpretation or application of this Constitution shall be settled by negotiations or any other peaceful means of their own choice.
- 2) If the dispute is not satisfactorily settled, it may be submitted for arbitration in accordance with Annex 2.
- 3) Matters relating to management of finances of AMCOMET or other matters affecting the legal person of AMCOMET shall be dealt with by the Bureau.

Article 23.3: DEPOSITORY

The Secretariat of AMCOMET shall be the Depository of this Constitution.

Article 23.4: DISSOLUTION

- 1) AMCOMET may be dissolved by a resolution supported by two thirds of all Members participating at the session in which at least two thirds of all Members are represented and voting.
- 2) In case of dissolution, the assets of the AMCOMET shall be used to liquidate the liabilities and obligations.

ARTICLE 24: AUTHENTIC TEXT

The original text of this Constitution shall be in English and French languages, both of which shall be equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Ministers responsible for meteorology in Africa, being duly authorized to that effect, have signed this Constitution.

DONE at

[.....] on this day of Two Thousand and Twelve

ANNEX 1: AMCOMET Trust Fund – Terms of Reference

African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET)

Characteristics of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology Trust Fund (henceforth referred to as the Fund)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Fund is intended to support activities for the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology, which was established after the First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Meteorology. It will be used to finance the following, based on availability of funding:

1. Support for the AMCOMET Process, which includes, the establishment and related logistics for the AMCOMET Secretariat, the Bureau, the Task Force, the Technical Team and the Second AMCOMET Session expected in 2012. These include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Organization of meetings, working groups, and expert consultations with a view to elaborating policy proposals
 - b. Enabling regional groups to make an effective contribution to the AMCOMET process
 - c. Provision of effective participation of delegations from developing and transition economy countries
 - d. Promotion and mobilization of support for AMCOMET through effective outreach
 - e. Supplementing regular budget resources to meet staff costs for coordinating, monitoring and follow-up activities
2. Support of various projects and programmes derived from the African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services.

Contributions to the Fund

3. Contributions to the Fund can be made by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private institutions and individuals.
4. Contributions in cash to the Fund may be accepted in United States dollars or other fully convertible currencies.
5. Any financial contributions which are accompanied by an indication of the specific activities for which they are earmarked shall be assigned the appropriate electronic code for such activities.
6. Any interest income derived from contributions to the Fund shall be credited to the Fund in accordance with the applicable United Nations regulations, rules, policies and procedures. In addition, any interest income derived from financial contributions earmarked for specific activities shall be earmarked for the same activities.

Administration of the Fund

7. The Regional Office of Africa of the WMO, or his authorized representative, shall be responsible for the management of contributions made to the Trust Fund.
8. The Regional Office of Africa of the WMO shall administer the Fund in accordance with the WMO Financial Regulations, Standing Instructions and established procedures of WMO, supplemented by the provision of the present rules.
9. The accounting of the expenditures of the Fund shall be as provided for in paragraph 8 above, as well as any other directly identifiable charges related to the administration of the Fund and programme support cost charges. The programme support costs will be charged according to WMO support cost policy.
10. Accounting and reporting of the Fund will be made in US Dollars. The United Nations rate of exchange prevailing on the date of the transaction or report will apply for the conversion into Swiss Francs of contributions or income received and payments made or charges incurred in

any other currency. WMO shall report to the donor on the use of the Fund on an annual basis.

11. The annual statement of income and expenditure of the Fund will be incorporated in the overall audited financial statements submitted by the Secretary General of WMO to the Executive Council for approval. External audit will be conducted as provided for in the WMO Financial Regulations. The audit report will be available to contributing partners on request.

Procedures for the utilization of the Fund

12. The utilization of the fund shall be based upon work plans and budgets agreed upon between the donor and WMO.
13. The Secretary General of WMO will not enter into any financial commitments unless he has received the funds required.

Legal Responsibilities

14. Under no circumstances will the Fund be made liable to pay and/or reimburse any taxes on emoluments or honorarium, or any customs and import duties, value added taxes or similar charges. If applicable, these will be payable by the beneficiaries of the support provided.

ANNEX 2: ARBITRATION

ARTICLE 1

The claimant party or parties shall notify the Secretariat that the parties have agreed to submit the dispute to arbitration in accordance with Article 32 paragraph 2 of this Constitution. The notification shall state the subject matter of arbitration, and include in particular, the article of this Constitution, the interpretation or application of which is at issue. The Secretariat shall forward all the information received to all parties to this Constitution.

ARTICLE 2

The Arbitral Tribunal shall be composed of three Members. Both the claimant party or parties and the other party or parties to the dispute shall appoint an arbitrator, and the two arbitrators so appointed shall designate, by common agreement, the third arbitrator, who shall be the President of the Arbitral Tribunal. The latter shall not be a national of one of the parties to the dispute, nor have his or her usual residence in the territory of one of these parties, nor be employed by one of them, nor have dealt with the case in any other capacity.

ARTICLE 3

If the President of the Arbitral Tribunal has not been designated within two months of the appointment of the second arbitrator, the Chair of the African Union shall, at the request of either party to the dispute, designate the President within a further two-months period.

If one of the parties to the dispute does not appoint an arbitrator within two months of the receipt of the request, the other party may so inform the Chair of the African Union, who shall designate the President of the Arbitral Tribunal within a further two months period. Upon designation, the President of the Arbitral Tribunal shall request the party, which has not appointed an arbitrator to do so within two months. If it fails to do so within that period, the President shall inform the Chair of the African Union who shall make this appointment within a further two-month period.

ARTICLE 5

The Arbitral Tribunal shall render its decision in accordance with international law and in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 6

The Arbitral Tribunal shall draw up its own rules of procedure.

ARTICLE 7

The decisions of the Arbitral Tribunal, both on procedure and substance, shall be taken by a majority vote of its Members.

ARTICLE 8

The Tribunal shall take all appropriate measures to establish the facts.

ARTICLE 9

The parties to the dispute shall facilitate the work of the Arbitral Tribunal and in particular shall, using all the means at their disposal:

- a) provide the Tribunal with all the relevant documents, facilities and information;
- b) Enable the Tribunal, where necessary, to call witnesses or experts and receive their evidence.

ARTICLE 10

The parties to the dispute and the arbitrators shall protect the confidentiality of any information they receive in confidence during the proceedings of the Arbitral Tribunal.

ARTICLE 11

The Arbitral Tribunal may, at the request of one of the parties, recommend interim measures of protection.

ARTICLE 12

If one of the parties to the dispute does not appear before the Arbitral Tribunal or fails to defend its case, the other party may request the Tribunal to proceed with the proceeding and render its final decision. Absence of a party or failure to defend its case shall not constitute a bar to the proceedings.

ARTICLE 13

The Arbitral Tribunal may hear and determine counter-claims arising directly out of the subject-matter of the dispute.

ARTICLE 14

Unless the Arbitral Tribunal decides otherwise because of the particular circumstances of the case, the expenses of the Tribunal, including the remuneration of its Members, shall be borne equally by the parties to the dispute.

ARTICLE 15

Any party to this Constitution, which has an interest of a legal nature in the subject matter of the dispute and which may be affected by a decision in the case may intervene in the proceedings with the consent of the Tribunal.

ARTICLE 16

The Arbitral Tribunal shall render its decision within five months of the date on which it is established unless it finds it necessary to extend the time-limit for a period which should not exceed five months.

ARTICLE 17

The award of the Arbitral Tribunal shall be accompanied by a statement of reasons. It shall be final and binding upon all parties to the dispute. The award shall be transmitted by the

Arbitral Tribunals to the parties to the dispute and to the Secretariat. The Secretariat will forward the information received to all the State parties.

ARTICLE 18

Any dispute which may arise between the parties concerning the interpretation or execution of the award may be submitted by either party to the Arbitral Tribunal which made the award, if the latter cannot be seized with the matter thereof, to another Tribunal constituted for the purpose in the same manner as the first.

THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY (AMCOMET)

FIRST AMCOMET TASK FORCE MEETING

Nairobi Safari Club – Lillian Towers, Nairobi, Kenya

21 – 23 November 2011

AFRICAN STRATEGY FOR WEATHER AND CLIMATE SERVICES

DRAFT INDICATIVE OUTLINE

[Note: This is an indicative outline for discussion that will be utilized to provide guidance to the oversight body and supporting Experts who will be responsible for development of the Strategy on behalf of the Task Force and is not intended to constrain the scope of the Strategy]

1. Introduction

- 1.1. AMCOMET Mandate
- 1.2. Strategy Process – how will the strategy be conceptualized, i.e. consultations
- 1.3. Basic working definitions and Acronyms

2. Situational Analysis (overview of operational and political landscape)

- 2.1. National Profiles – Status of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) (Infrastructure, Institutional Arrangements and Service Delivery Capacities)
- 2.2. Regional Coordination Mechanisms and Regional Centres
- 2.3. Challenges and Opportunities

3. Scope of the Strategy

3.1. Overarching Goal

To provide a framework for integrated and coordinated mechanisms, which will give strategic direction to Member States and other stakeholders in addressing challenges and opportunities associated with establishing adequate Weather and Climate Services at National and Regional Levels in Africa; to help countries cope with the challenges posed by climate variability and climate change, and related increased occurrences of Hydro-meteorological Disasters with a view to improving the lives and livelihoods of the African people and sustainable environment management.

3.2. Intended Outcomes

- 3.2.1. **Increase the visibility** of NMHS at public and political levels and bring to the attention of Africa's policy makers the present and potential contribution of NMHSs to socio-economic development to enable them to map out action-

oriented strategies to support further development and strengthening of Weather and Climate Services for integration in national development programmes in Africa.

- 3.2.2. **Mainstream the role of NMHS** and their products and services in contributing to key development risk areas: (Disaster Risk Management and Reduction; Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation strategies and actions, Agriculture and Food Security, Water, Tourism, Transport (air, land and sea) and Health and Public Safety, Energy, Production and distribution, etc.)
- 3.2.3. **Enhance the cooperation among African countries** to strengthen NMHSs and address trans-boundary weather and climate impacts and contribute to regional and global initiatives, networks and climate change scenarios.
- 3.2.4. **Strengthen the capability and capacity of NMHS** (infrastructure, institutional and political frameworks, human capacity and capital, market sector engagement and delivery of products and services).
- 3.2.5. **Promote climate change research**, modeling and prediction, technology acquisition, development and transfer.
- 3.2.6. **Enhancing Partnerships** with related agencies at national and regional levels.
- 3.2.7. **Enhance Research, capacity development, and service delivery**

3 Guiding Principles and Values of the Strategy

African ownership, Equity, Solidarity ...

4 Components of the Strategy

To be elaborated by the Technical Meeting (and invited experts) in line with the specific objectives above, considering the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) implementation plan as a potential guide, including Monitoring and Evaluation.

(Supported by Consultant)

5 Links to ongoing and planned strategies and initiatives

Regional Association 1 (Africa) strategy, WMO strategic and operational plan, African Union and EU climate change strategy, (Others?) GFCS, ClimDev, AMESD, Thorpex, Afrimet, GCOS, African Development Bank, World Bank, National Communications and National Adaptation Plans of Action)

6 Stakeholders

- 6.1 African Union Commission, Economic Commission of Africa, Regional Economic Groupings
- 6.2 National governments, relevant ministries, NMHSs
- 6.3 Global / Regional Climate and related Centers

7 Funding Mechanisms

8 Implementation Plan

THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY (AMCOMET)

FIRST AMCOMET TASK FORCE MEETING

DRAFT EXPERT REPORT

**Nairobi Safari Club, Nairobi, Kenya
21 – 23 November 2011**

1. Official Opening

- 1.1. At the kind invitation of the Government of Kenya, the First AMCOMET Task Force Meeting was held in Nairobi, Kenya on 21-23 November 2011. The meeting was held in two segments namely the Technical Team on 21-22 November and the Ministerial Segment on 23 November 2011. All Task Force Members were in attendance namely: African Union, Algeria, Cameroon, Congo, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Morocco, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
- 1.2. The Task Force Meeting held on the 23 November 2011 was officially opened by Hon. John Michuki, Minister of Environment and Mineral Resources in Kenya and Chair of AMCOMET Bureau and Task Force. He noted with appreciation that the all Task Force Members were in attendance. In addition, he thanked H.E. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture for her participation. He further expressed gratitude to Mr. Michel Jarraud for finding time to participate in the meeting. This, he underlined, was proof that AUC and WMO were committed to work with the AMCOMET Task Force in the implementation of the decisions of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration (April 2010) and the AU Summit Decision on AMCOMET (January 2011).
- 1.3. The Minister recalled the main milestones of achievement since the establishment of AMCOMET by the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration in April 2010. The African Union had endorsed the outcomes of the Nairobi Conference as contained in the Ministerial Declaration and thereby set the stage for the implementation of the process. He reported that the Bureau met in May 2011 and subsequently the Chair addressed the 16th WMO Congress on the status of the AMCOMET process. He called upon the Task Force to address the various important issues as contained in the Terms of Reference. The Task Force, he said, should ensure that concrete deliverables are presented to the next AMCOMET Conference and to the African Union Summit.
- 1.4. The AUC Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, H.E. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, in her opening statement, thanked Kenya Government through Hon. John Michuki, for hosting the AMCOMET Task Force Meeting. She expressed appreciation to the WMO Secretary General for the support he had accorded to the implementation of the AMCOMET process and establishment of the AMCOMET Secretariat. The Secretariat, she noted, had done commendable work in co-ordinating the activities of AMCOMET.
- 1.5. H.E. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime recalled the January 2011 Summit of AU Heads of State and Government that adopted a decision on the Report of the First Conference of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa (AMCOMET) and noted that the meeting of the Task Force was towards the implementation of the decision. Since AMCOMET is still at infancy stage, the Task Force is expected to develop the institutional framework and constitution for AMCOMET. Further, the Task Force is to propose an outline for the development of the African Strategy on Meteorology. H.E. the Commissioner informed the meeting that the 2nd

AMCOMET Meeting had been included in the AU Calendar of Meetings in 2012 along with the 3rd African Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction.

- 1.6. She noted that AU would be participating in the COP17 in Durban, South Africa (28 November - 9 December 2011) and was pleased to note that WMO and AMCOMET would be showcasing at the African Position at COP17. She re-affirmed AUC commitment to support AMCOMET and the work of the Task Force.
- 1.7. The WMO Secretary General Mr. Michel Jarraud expressed WMO's appreciation to the Republic of Kenya for hosting the AMCOMET Task Force Meeting. He noted that Kenya through hosting UNON and WMO Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa, had demonstrated willingness to play a pioneering role in supporting international and regional programmes. The Secretary General recalled that H.E. Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya had declared 2010 the Green Year of Kenya stating:
- 1.8. Mr. M. Jarraud noted that weather, climate and water are essential resources for African countries. However, the productive capacity of some of these countries, in particular of LDCs, is especially vulnerable to climate change in areas like agriculture and food security, health and water quality, transport and energy, industry and tourism, among others, as well as to the impacts of natural hazards.

Although climate science has made outstanding advances, some countries may not be capable of benefiting fully from this progress, so WMO is assisting them in modernizing their respective NMHSs and organizing Regional and National Climate Outlook Forums and other capacity building activities, including fellowships and training.

- 1.9. The Secretary General recalled that the 2009 third World Climate Conference (WCC-3) considered optional ways to provide decision-makers with the most scientific tools information and services. The most significant outcome of the WCC-3 is the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) and he noted that AMCOMET would be a key partner as an implementation platform for GFCS.
- 1.10. He noted that the Task Force Meeting was taking place just before the COP17 session of UNFCCC, which auspiciously, will be held in Africa, and at the same time, in the months leading to Rio+20 and the extraordinary session of the WMO Congress, which has a mandate to launch the GFCS implementation process. He reaffirmed that WMO shall do the utmost to contribute to the success of AMCOMET.

2. Adoption of Agenda and Organization of the Meeting

- 2.1 The AMCOMET Task Force Meeting was attended by all the designated Task Force Members. Further, it was noted with appreciation the participation of H.E. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, AUC Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture and Mr. Michel Jarraud, WMO Secretary General.
- 2.2 The meeting adopted the Agenda attached in Annex I

3. Presentation of the Report of the Technical Team

- 3.1 The Rapporteur, Mr. Abdalah Mokssit presented the achievements of AMCOMET since its inception and reviewed the outcomes of the Bureau Meetings held in Nairobi and Geneva (April/May 2011), and the status of the AMCOMET process. He highlighted the following:
 - 3.1.1 The endorsement of the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration by the WMO Executive Council (June 2010), the 15th Session of the WMO Regional Association I (Africa) in Marrakech (November 2010) and the 16th WMO Congress (May/June 2011).
 - 3.1.2 The African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government in January 2011 adopted a decision which took note of the Report of the First Conference of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa and directed that further actions be undertaken

including preparation of an Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology and a related framework for action.

3.1.3 The approval by AMCOMET Bureau, at its meeting in April/May 2011, of the Terms of Reference for the AMCOMET Task Force and designated a Technical Team of the Task Force to carry out the preparatory institutional arrangements and governance options for AMCOMET, as well as prepare the framework for the African Strategy on Meteorology.

3.1.4 The presentation by the AMCOMET Bureau Chair, Hon. John N. Michuki, MP, EGH, Minister of Environment and Mineral Resources in Kenya to the 16th WMO Congress.

3.2 The meeting commended WMO and AUC for the achievements made in the implementation of the AMCOMET Process and recommended that:

The Task Force made the following recommendations:

Rec. 1: WMO and AUC continue with efforts to support the AMCOMET Secretariat in the implementation of the AMCOMET process as contained in the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration

4. AMCOMET Task Force Terms of Reference

4.1 The meeting noted the AMCOMET Task Force Terms of Reference adopted by the AMCOMET Bureau at their meeting in Geneva (May 2011) noting that the key work of the AMCOMET Task Force include the following:

4.1.1 Development of the institutional arrangements (Constitution) of AMCOMET;

4.1.2 Development of a governance framework for AMCOMET, ensuring its inter-governmental nature;

4.1.3 Development the Rules of Procedure of the Conference and agree on the guiding principles for decision making related to the Conference;

4.1.4 Proposing a draft African Strategy on Meteorology to enhance cooperation between African countries and to strengthen the capabilities of their National Meteorological Services and those of the existing Regional and Sub-regional climate centres in Africa that would enable them to effectively meet government and societal needs and requirements for weather and climate information and services.

4.2 The meeting noted that the Mandate of the Task Force would be completed on submission of its final report to the First AMCOMET Session.

5. AMCOMET Resource Mobilization Plan

5.1 Mary Power, Director of Resource Mobilization with the WMO presented the meeting with some perspectives on the challenges and opportunities for financing of the AMCOMET process, taking into consideration that sustainable financing framework for the AMCOMET process is needed.

5.2 It was noted that funding is required for both the development and implementation phase: the financing of the AMCOMET process itself towards a sustainable and self sustaining process and financing the implementation of the African Strategy for Meteorology.

5.3 The meeting underlined that AMCOMET is an African Process and the African Governments should be committed and be in the forefront in supporting and financing the AMCOMET process.

- 5.4 Further the meeting observed that AMCOMET needs to collaborate and take advantage of the existing Pan African Regional Initiatives, such as ClimDev Africa, AMESD, which could serve as implementation platforms.

The Task Force made the following recommendations:

Rec. 2: The traditional Financing mechanisms be pursued (RECs, Bilateral ODA, Development Banks, Climate Financing Mechanisms- GEF, Adaptation Fund, Green Fund among others)

Rec. 3: WMO and African Union Commission include the AMCOMET implementation process in their respective funding frameworks

Rec. 4: WMO Members States of Regional Association 1 (Africa), be asked to contribute financially to a Trust Fund. In this respect, a joint letter be sent by AUC and WMO to all members of AMCOMET

Rec. 5: WMO, AUC and the Chair of the Bureau be designated to oversee Resource Mobilization efforts and to engage potential partners for support to the AMCOMET process

Rec. 6: A consultant(s) be engaged to develop a branding and communications strategy for AMCOMET in order to attract financing from development partners and the private sector

6. AMCOMET CONSTITUTION

- 6.1 The meeting discussed in detail the draft constitution as presented. The following offers some points of discussion on the constitution:

- 6.1.1 Objectives and Function of AMCOMET
- 6.1.2 Governance Structure
- 6.1.3 AMCOMET Subsidiary Bodies
- 6.1.4 The Secretariat of AMCOMET
- 6.1.5 Financial Matters and Members' Commitment

The Task Force made the following recommendations:

Rec. 7: The draft Constitution will be referred to the Legal Counsels of WMO and AU for further review and be presented at the next Bureau Meeting and Second AMCOMET Session for consideration and adoption.

Rec. 8: WMO in collaboration with the AUC, to engage a consultant or a team of experts to draft the Rules of Procedure for AMCOMET.

7. Second AMCOMET SESSION 2012

- 7.1 The AUC representative informed the meeting that the Second AMCOMET Session has been included in the AU Calendar of meetings and is due to be held in April 2012 back-to-back with the 3rd Ministerial session on Disaster Risk Reduction, and in accordance with the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration that it would be held every two years. The meeting was further informed that AUC is committed to supporting the AMCOMET Process and that some funds have been set aside for the organization of the sessions in particular to support the attendance of experts.
- 7.2 WMO indicated that it could have some challenges with this time line in terms of the resources for the meeting and that further discussions would be held with the AUC in order to converge on a suitable date.

The Task Force made the following recommendation:

Rec. 8: AMCOMET through its Chair, WMO, AUC, and Chair of DRR Ministerial Conference to consult on venue and date of the next AMCOMET Session.

8. Draft Outline for African Strategy on Meteorology

8.1 The meeting discussed the draft outline of the African Strategy on Meteorology; the following are highlights of the discussion:

8.1.1 Situational Analysis – status of National Meteorological Services (NMS)

8.1.2 Scope of the Strategy – Goals, Outcomes

8.1.3 Guiding Principles and the Values of the Strategy

8.1.4 Components of the Strategy and Links to existing strategies and initiatives

The Task Force made the following recommendations:

Rec. 9: WMO, in collaboration with the AUC, to hire a consultant(s) to draft the African Strategy on Meteorology.

Rec. 10: WMO Secretariat and AUC to fully support and facilitate consultations with necessary stakeholders, especially African member countries, in the drafting of the strategy

Rec.11: To change the title of the strategy to <African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services >, as a component of WMO's Global Framework for Climate Services strategy for Africa

Rec.12: The AMCOMET Task Force requested WMO, in consultation with the AUC and other partners, to implement the above recommendations.

8.2 The AUC representative briefed the meeting on relevant AU Summit decisions on the report of the Ministers responsible for meteorology in Africa (AMCOMET), including decisions on the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) and climate change.

9. Discussions

9.1 The Task Force Meeting had general discussion on the report and recommendations. It was noted that AMCOMET process requires the support of all Members in Africa. The National Meteorological Services play important role in contributing to national and regional development programmes. AMCOMET would be the high-level platform for development of the Meteorological Services.

9.2 The meeting underlined the importance of ensuring that Meteorological and Climate services and products need to be received by the vulnerable communities. This would assist such communities, (farmers, fishermen, etc) to plan their activities for safety concerns. AMCOMET should address this issue.

10. Adoption of Report

10.1 The meeting adopted the report and the recommendation contained therein.

11. Closure of Meeting

11.1 The Chairman thanked the Members of the Task Force for their active participation. He noted that the meeting had made several recommendations and looked forward to the support of WMO and AUC in their implementation. He reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to AMCOMET process. He declared the meeting closed.

