

World Meteorological Organization Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: DRA-AF/AMCOMET-2

GENEVA, 30 August 2012

Subject:

Invitation to the Second Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology,

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe 15-19 October 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to the First Conference of Ministers Responsible for Meteorology, which took place in Kenya in April 2010. The Nairobi Ministerial Declaration established the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) as a high-level mechanism for the development of meteorology and its applications in Africa. The Nairobi Declaration further requested that AMCOMET should meet regularly and at least every two years.

I am pleased to inform you that the African Union Commission (AUC) has confirmed that at the kind invitation of the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe, the Second Session of AMCOMET will be held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe on 15–19 October 2012. The organization of the conference is a partnership of the AUC, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Government of Zimbabwe. I am further pleased to inform you that all Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in Africa have been invited.

The Second Session of AMCOMET will have two segments:

- The Experts Segment (15-17 October), attended by technical experts, preferably the Heads/Directors of National Meteorological Services, of respective countries who will prepare a report for consideration by Ministers;
- The Ministerial Segment (18-19 October), attended by Ministers Responsible for Meteorology in African Countries.

The Second Session of AMCOMET will consider, among other documents, the AMCOMET Constitution, Rules of Procedures and the Draft African Strategy on Weather and Climate Services as mandated by the Nairobi Ministerial Declaration and the African Union Summit. The session will also debate on the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) in Africa. The detailed programme and documents will be sent to you shortly.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of Regional Association I (AFR-769)

cc: President of Regional Association I (for information)

A formal notification and invitation to the Conference will be sent to your Government through the Minister of Foreign Affairs. A copy of the invitation to your Minister Responsible for Meteorology is enclosed for your information.

I wish to request you to ensure, to the extent possible, the attendance of your Minister and would further like to suggest that you consider the possibility of inviting high-level officials and users of climate and weather information and services from other socio-economic sectors to participate in the conference.

Limited financial support for your attendance at the conference as a Permanent Representative with WMO will be considered upon request. Priority will be given to Permanent Representatives whose Ministers have accepted the invitation to participate.

I thank you for your continued support and look forward to an early response.

Yours faithfully,

(M. Jarraud) Secretary-General