

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

Secrétariat

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Ref.: 21403/2021-2.3 MS/ETR

Our ref.: 21403/2021/MS/ETFD/FEL

17 September 2021

Annexes: 3 (available in English only)

Subject: Blended Training Course for Development of Competency in Weather Forecasting in Africa

Action required: For information and appropriate action, as necessary

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to its support of capacity development in National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Training Centre (RTC) in the South African Weather Service (SAWS) has designed, in collaboration with WMO, a blended training course for the development of competency in weather forecasting. The training course will enable current and potential forecasters to follow tested forecasting procedures for the aviation, public weather and marine sectors, in line with the required WMO competencies.

The online phase of the training course will run for a duration of seven months from February 2022 through August 2022. Candidates for the face-to-face segment, which will run for three months from September 2022 through November 2022, should successfully complete the online phase. Annex I and Annex II to this circular letter contain a brief description of the course, its format, expected learning outcomes and qualifications to be attained.

You are invited to submit applications of interested and qualified candidates for consideration. All applications will be reviewed by WMO in collaboration with SAWS. Selection for this course will be made on a competitive basis.

Interested candidates should first apply to SAWS by forwarding a duly completed application form (Annex III) with the relevant attachments to met.training@weathersa.co.za no later than **31 October 2021**. Selected candidates will be notified by SAWS, following which they may apply for the WMO Fellowship with the application form available at <https://community.wmo.int/fellowships-applications>. Complete applications should be forwarded with the admission letter to fel@wmo.int no later than **12 November 2021**.

I take this opportunity to assure you of my unalloyed commitment to capacity development related activities in support of competency development in NMHSs and thank you for your continued cooperation in this endeavour.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of Regional Association I

cc: Hydrological Advisers

The South African Weather Service (SAWS), South Africa

1	Host Member	South Africa
2	Host institution(s)	South African Weather Service (SAWS) WMO recognized Regional Training Centre, Pretoria
3	Website	https://rtc.weathersa.co.za/ http://moodle.weathersa.co.za/moodle/
4	Location(city) of Institution(s)	Pretoria, Gauteng, South Africa
5	Address of Institution	Eco Glades block 1b Eco Park Cnr Olievenhoutbosch and Ribbon Grass St Streets Centurion 0157
7	Course type	Online via Moodle and face to face at SAWS
8	Main course content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSG Satellite imagery and product interpretation • NWP interpretation • Producing aviation products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies • Producing marine products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies • Producing Public Weather Service products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies
9	Duration of study	7 months - online 3 months – face-to-face
10	Course start date	Beginning of February 2022 to end of November 2022
11	Target Region and Members	WMO Regional Association I Members
12	Basic Requirements	Relevant qualification in Meteorology related to BIP-M
13	Language	English
14	Number of awards	3 competency certificates stating relevant competencies
15	Institution Online application	Not mandatory
16	Admission from Institution	Mandatory
17	Application forms send to WMO	1. WMO FNF 2. Pre-admission letter from host institution
18	Applications close date	RTC South Africa: 31 October 2021 WMO: 12 November 2021
19	Contact info	Dr. Winifred Jordaan Head of the Regional Training Centre: South Africa Met.training@weathersa.co.za

The South African Weather Service (SAWS), South Africa

Course description

This blended forecasting course at the South African Weather Service is comprised of 2 distinct phases: 1) an online phase and 2) a face-to-face phase.

During the online phase, students will be taught relevant theory, data applications and techniques used in creating a weather forecast. The online phase provides the foundations and core knowledge required to successfully demonstrate forecast competencies during the face-to-face phase.

The face-to-face phase will allow students sufficient time to practice issuing operational forecast products demonstrating correct forecast procedures learned and using relevant significant weather case study data/simulations. The case studies be used by Learners to demonstrate aviation, marine and public weather forecaster competencies.

Course Format

This will be a blended course. The online phase will start early in February 2022 and will last for 7 months, until the end of August 2022. The face-to-face phase will last 3 months and will be starting early in September 2022 and will end in November 2022. The face-to-face classes will be delivered in the RTC classrooms at the South African Weather Service Head office in Centurion (near Pretoria) in South Africa. In the event of COVID-19 related restrictions during this period, the students will be given sufficient material to work from "home" and classes/interactions will take place on Microsoft Teams.

To progress to the face-to-face phase of training in Pretoria, students must show satisfactory attendance, progress and timely and satisfactory completion of online tasks/quizzes as per submission deadlines.

Expected Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, the students will have successfully achieved the following outcomes:

- MSG Satellite imagery and product interpretation;
- NWP interpretation;
- Producing aviation products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies;
- Producing marine products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies;
- Producing Public Weather Service products and services according the prescribed WMO competencies.

Competencies attained and certificates issued

After successful completion of the online and face-to-face phases, the candidates will receive 3 competency certificates stating relevant competencies achieved in aviation, marine and public weather forecasting. There will be no certification issued after the online phase.

Target Audience

Officials, specialists and experts working in relevant fields at National Hydrological and Meteorological Services (NMHSs) or equivalent institutions that can work as a competent weather forecaster in their NMHS.

Instructors

The SAWS RTC staff are competent and experienced instructors with most staff having more than 10 years' training experience along with operational forecasting experience. The RTC staff are experienced with using blended learning techniques and all hold relevant outcomes-based training qualifications. Additional content experts will be brought in for specific portions/subjects of the course.

Working language

The course will be conducted in English for both the online and face-to-face phases. Thus, good skill in English reading, written and spoken (language comprehension) is essential to be successful in the course.

Online training requirements for the course

- A laptop or desktop computer with Microsoft Office or equivalent (Word processor, PowerPoint Presentation, Excel Worksheet etc) good memory capacity and storage (an external storage is advised) as well as internet connectivity. A laptop would be preferable as it can be used during the face-to-face phase as well, especially if COVID-related restrictions are enforced;
- With speaker and microphone capabilities and/or good headphone and microphone for online work and meetings;
- With a camera installed or an attachable camera with device(s) for online work and meetings;
- A good internet connection with good bandwidth;
- The course will be delivered via Microsoft Teams. It is essential to have Microsoft Teams installed, as the training staff will send out all of the meeting invitations;
- The MS Teams recommendations for video calling with screen sharing would be about 4 Mbps minimum. Recommended 6 - 8 Mbps upload/download speed;
- Scanner app for converting documents to PDF – Cam scanner, free download from app store.

Entry requirements and procedure for application

- Academic qualifications: Relevant qualification in Meteorology related to BIP-M;
- Good Skill in English reading, written and spoken (language comprehension);
- Good computer literacy for online training;
- All this needs to be verified by Proof of CV and qualifications;
- Forecaster work experience: Relevant work experience in weather forecasting will be an added advantage but is not essential;

The Applications thus must include:

- A letter of motivation in English limited to 200 words;
- A CV;
- Relevant certified qualifications;
- Nomination letter from relevant PR.

All applications will be handed according to protection of private information requirements.

Application for consideration to should be forwarded to:

SAWS

Dr Winifred Jordaan

Head of the Regional Training Centre: South Africa

Met.training@weathersa.co.za

Clearly marked as: Weather forecasting course for Africa 2022.

Copy to:

WMO

Dr Yinka Adebayo

Director of the Education and Training Office

FEL@wmo.int

Deadlines for application: **31 October 2021** (SAWS) and **12 November 2021** (WMO).

Only successful applications will be notified by email on **30 November 2021**.

South African Weather Service

APPLICATION FORM:

Note: Please read the Notes and Instructions on the last page before completing this application form.

Ref: Z1A07/2021-12 MS/ETR

A: PERSONAL

1. **Surname:** _____

2. **First Names:** _____

3. **Country:** _____

4. **Date of birth:** Year _____ Month _____ Day _____

5. **Passport Number:**

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6. **Gender:**

Male { }

Female { }

7. **Do you have a disability?** Yes { } No { }

If yes, please specify: _____

7. **Name of your present or past University** (if Applicable): _____

8. **Permanent home address in full:**

9. **Cell no:** _____

10. **e-mail:** _____

11. **Postal address for future correspondence**

Ref.: Z1A07/2021-1.2 MS/ETR

12. Contact number of work if applicable.

Name: _____
 Tel No. _____
 Dialing code _____
 Relationship _____

B: EDUCATION

1. Have you undertaken or are currently undertaking any post-secondary school studies? Yes { } No { }

If yes: please complete the following:

Diploma/Degree: _____

Year in which you started this diploma/degree _____

Present year of study _____

Subjects you will take or have taken in the final year.

2. If you have completed your BSc degree, please add the following:

Degree: _____

Final study year: _____

Name of University: _____

Main Subjects	year	%
Mathematics		
Physical Science		

PLEASE ATTACH YOUR FULL ACADEMIC RECORD TO DATE.

Notes and Instructions:

Please read these notes and instructions carefully before completing this application form. Be sure to read every section and that the information you provide is accurate.

1. Incomplete application forms will not be considered.
2. Closing dates for the application dates are published and will be strictly adhered to.
3. You must supply all the information requested, or explain why you cannot provide it
4. Attach certified copies of all results requested that is:
University results
5. A certified copy of the passport document must be included in the application.
6. Successful candidates will be contacted by phone or email. Make sure that your contact details are correct.