

**AFRIMET**  
**5th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF THE WEST AFRICAN NHMSs**  
**(Boadilla del Monte, Spain - 22 to 24 October 2012)**

**DRAFT REPORT**

**I. Opening session**

The opening session of this Conference was chaired by the Spanish Secretary of State of the Environment, Mr Federico RAMOS DE ARMAS, accompanied by the Major of Boadilla del Monte, Mr Antonio GONZÁLEZ TEROL, the President of AEMET, Dr Daniel CANO VILLAVERDE and by WMO Secretary General, Mr Michel JARRAUD.

**II. Conduct of the meeting**

**Chairperson:** Mohamed Béchir ELJILI, PR of Mauritania.

**Rapporteurs:** Daouda KONATE, PR of Ivory Coast and Bernard GOMEZ, PR of Gambia.

The President of AEMET, Dr Cano thanked the participants for their attendance to this meeting and greeted the new Permanent Representatives attending AFRIMET meeting for the first time.

The main subjects for this meeting were:

- An analysis of the allocated and available funds for the continuation of projects
- A revision of the state of the ongoing projects and action plans:
  - MARINEMET Project
  - HEALTHMET Project
  - METAGRI Project
  - others
- The search for new partners and donors

The President of AEMET also underlined that in view of the economic crisis that Spain is experiencing, it was necessary to look for a new type of cooperation for the two coming years.

The Chairperson thanked Spain for the effort made in sustaining AFRIMET along these years. He outlined that the actions and projects allowed reduction of the adverse effects of climate change and disasters.

Taking into account the global economic situation in general and that of Spain in particular, the main fund-provider for the projects, he stated that it was necessary to think about a new way of partnership to allow the continuity of the projects.

He also sent his gratitude to WMO for its support to member states and also the framework of this Conference of Directors of West African NMHSs.

WMO Secretary General, Mr Michel JARRAUD, was very pleased at the occasion of this meeting which took place immediately after that of AMCOMET and a few days before the Extraordinary Meeting of WMO Congress. In his opinion, AFRIMET projects such as MARINEMET, HEALTHMET or METAGRI will contribute to the GFCS.

## **Session 1a: Review of SAL Action Plan**

### **III. Review of the Action Plan**

- Mr LOPEZ COTIN from AEMET stated the fruitful partnership and the consolidation of the Conference of Directors that has allowed the development of projects and created a way for cooperation among EUMETSAT, UK Met Office, ENM-Météo France and IRI (Columbia University) for professional training matters. He insisted on the flexibility of the planning taking into account the environment of economic crisis.
- Analysis of the financial status:

Mr LOPEZ COTIN presented the financial status of AFRIMET. There is a credit balance of around 550,000 EUR. The meeting had to redefine their priorities taking into account this quantity.

**Recommendation 1:** The Conference took note of the importance of the results achieved within the framework to this cooperation scheme thanks to AEMET funds and recommended that WMO acts as a facilitator for the search of more funding to ensure the continuation of the projects.

### **IV. Presentation of the following projects: MARINEMET, HEALTHMET, METAGRI, WEBSITE AFRIMET**

There was a presentation of the current state of the following four projects:

- HEALTHMET: this project is in pilot stage in two countries, and workshops have been organized in each of them.
- MARINEMET: this project is currently displayed in four countries and is entering its final stage. There has been a delay with the installation of equipments in certain countries. The Conference has asked for the speed up of the equipment installation and the end of the pilot stage of the project.



- METAGRI: this project is currently in its operational stage. The results obtained are numerous and there is full support from the communities involved.
- WEBSITE [www.afrimet.org](http://www.afrimet.org): website is operational. There has been developed a forum of discussion and also a newsletter service. A dynamic webpage is being developed for The Gambia, and there is the possibility to develop similar web pages for other countries. It would be advisable to count on training on webpage development.

The participants thanked Spain for its cooperation with the West African countries within the framework of the AFRIMET programme. The role of WMO was also appreciated.

The participants wished, in spite of the economic crisis, the consolidation of the Spanish cooperation and its continuation after outlining a new approach. Every member state should define its own strategic plan for resource mobilization.

Participants wished that WMO acted as facilitator in searching new sources of funding to help Spain.

Concerning the projects, the participants underlined the benefits for their respective countries.

The Conference took note with interest the current deployment state of MARINEMET, HEALTHMET and METAGRI in each country, as well as that of the AFRIMET WEBSITE. The Conference also highlighted the considerable socio-economic impact of the activities and the success in the implementation of the pilot projects. The Conference noted that some countries have expressed their desire to implement these projects in their territory.

**Recommendation 2:** The Conference recommends AEMET to take the actions needed towards the establishment of training teams to ensure the management and sustainability of the investments in equipment, technology transfer and operability.

**Recommendation 3:** Given the success of the pilot stage of MARINEMET project and its interest for economic activity, the Conference recommends its extension to other countries in the Gulf of Guinea, namely GUINEA-BISSAU, GUINEA, LIBERIA, SIERRA LEONA, TOGO, IVORY COAST, BENIN, NIGERIA and GHANA.

**Recommendation 4:** Given the success of the HEALTHMET project and its interest for the most vulnerable populations, the Conference recommends its extension to other countries in West Africa that are affected by climate-related diseases.

## **Session 1b: Follow-up of review of the Sal Action Plan 2012 and role of new partners.**

### **V. Initiatives for cooperation**

Mr Robert MASTERS, WMO underlined the role played by Spain in the framework of cooperation. He emphasized the role to be played by other partners in the implementation of projects. Projects must be components of the Global Framework for Climate Services. International organizations such as WHO, FAO and UNEP are to be treated as stakeholders and partners on the implementation of the GFCS.

There was discussion on how to reconcile AFRIMET activities and those of other donors. Joint efforts with other donors must be taken and their priorities must be identified. Mr Masters gave some indication of the potential funds available:

- Norwegian funds for METAGRI/MARINEMET.
- Greek funds for HEALTHMET
- Green funds in 2015 hosted by South Korea.
- Conversations must be initiated with European Union, African Union Commission and should lead to a strategic plan.
- China announced an initiative in RIO+20 to provide Automated Weather Stations to the countries.
- ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) for resource mobilization

The Conference also took note of the opportunities offered by the German project WASCAL.

**Recommendation 5:** The Conference noted the existence of several funding opportunities in the field of climate and weather. It recommends that WMO play a relevant role in mobilizing resources for the financing of projects.

### **VI. ECOWAS Weather Programme**

Mr Daouda KONATE, Permanent Representative of Ivory Coast and President of the Committee of Directors of the ECOWAS Member States presented the weather programme of ECOWAS, adopted during the last meeting of the aforementioned Committee celebrated in Abidjan, 11-13 July 2012. This programme is in its implementation stage and in search of funding.

The meeting of the Conference took note of this ECOWAS weather programme and of the preparation of the agreed version of the hydrometeorological data access charter for the ECOWAS



NMHSs by the technical committee formed by the directors of weather services, created during the 8<sup>th</sup> session of their meeting held in Dakar, Senegal, 7-9 May 2008.

**Recommendation 6:** The Conference recommended that AGRHYMET Regional Centre, in collaboration with the ECOWAS Committee and WMO, takes the necessary dispositions with the Member States to check the feasibility of that charter.

## VII. SDS WAS

The Responsible of the SDS WAS Regional Centre for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe, Mr TERRADELLAS, presented their actions within the framework of sand and dust forecasting and warning. In Africa, their area of main interest is the Sahel Region. He stated the possibility of having training modules on line through the webpage of the Centre.

## **Session 2a. Boadilla Action Plan 2013**

### VIII. AECID (Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation) Presentation.

Ms Maite MARTIN made a presentation about the activities of the activities of the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation. She underlined that AECID works especially with regional associations such as ECOWAS through its programmes. At the present, some countries have already been benefited by this kind of cooperation. The main action fields are health, environment and food security. The aid policy is linked to programmes leading to concrete results.

The Conference welcomed the presence of AECID in this meeting and remarked the need from the countries of a reinforcement of their capacities. ECOWAS must identify priorities co-ordinately with Member States to ask for aid funds.

**Recommendation 7:** The Conference recommended the President of the ECOWAS Committee of Directors of NMHSs to assure coordination among AECID, ECOWAS, WMO Office for North, Central and Western Africa and AEMET to identify priorities and resource mobilisation for the implementation of projects.

### IX. Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)

Mr Filipe LUCIO from WMO, made a presentation about the Global Framework for Climate Services. He stressed the importance of the three points to be discussed during the Extraordinary Meeting of WMO Congress, 29-31 October 2012, namely governance, funding and implementation.

The Conference noted with satisfaction the work done by the GFCS team. The Conference also emphasized that African States must speak with a single voice during the Extraordinary Meeting of the Congress.

#### **X. World Bank: Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR)**

The representative of the World Bank, Mr Daniel KULL, made a presentation about the funding opportunities from the World Bank within the framework of PPCR (Pilot Program Climate Resilience). He cited the objectives of this programme: disaster risk reduction and reinforcement of capacities of NMHSs, among others.

**Recommendation 8:** Taking into account the significant role that NMHSs play in social and economical activities, the meeting asked WMO to establish contact with the World Bank and other banks for development in order to promote climate and weather related issues in their national plans for development, accordingly to their fields of action.

#### **Session 2b. Boadilla Action Plan**

The Draft Plan for 2013 was presented to the Conference by Mr LÓPEZ COTÍN. After changes, the approved Action Plan 2013 is presented in Section 3:



### **Session 3. Approval of the Boadilla Action Plan**

The Conference passes the following Statement and the Boadilla del Monte Action Plan 2013 as well as two motions of thanks:

#### **THE STATEMENT**

We, the Directors of West African NMHSs, meeting in Boadilla del Monte, Spain 22-24 October 2012,

Recognizing the contribution of the Spanish Government to the modernization of the NMHSs in West Africa in support of sustainable development, to address weather and climate related challenges faced by Africa, and building capacity in the region

Recognizing the support of WMO to the process,

Recognizing the progress made in the implementation of the Sal Action Plan,

Recognizing the future contribution to the Global Framework for climate services.

Recognizing that long term sustainability will only be achieved through active fundraising actions and resource mobilisation,

Recognizing the importance and advantages of mutual cooperation to accomplish the mission of the NMHSs,

**Decided :**

1. That the Conference of Directors of West African NMHSs shall play a key role in the RA I region and contribute actively to the events planned in 2012 and thereafter (African Ministerial Conference and GFCS dialogues).
2. To contribute to the development of the regional strategic plan.
3. To implement the Boadilla del Monte Action Plan using as a main source of financing the Trust Fund created in the WMO Secretariat by Spain and to look for additional funding resources and partners to complement the plan and its extension.
4. To continue promoting the cooperation in meteorology and hydrology within the region with the purpose of increasing multilateral cooperation taking advantage of the existing regional initiatives as appropriate.
5. To submit these conclusions to relevant Authorities in each participating country as well as to WMO.
6. To approve the Boadilla del Monte Action Plan as follows :



## PLAN D'ACTION DE BOADILLA 2013

Action Title	Action Components
<b>Line#01. Core Technical Capacity Building Activities</b>	
1.1. Regional Meteorological Telecommunication Network	
1.2 Satellite Products Usage Capacity Building	
1.3 Climate Change Monitoring and Reports Capacity Building	
1.4 Numerical Weather Prediction Capacity Building	
<b>Line#02. Applied Technical Capacity Building Activities</b>	
2.1 MARINEMET	<p>Dakar (RSMC) visits Las Palmas and Tenerife            Delivered PCs to Africa (with software and manuals)            Tide gauges and automatic weather stations installation            Tide gauges operational and maintenance training            To ensure the internet connection (Africa à Spain and Spain à Africa).            To ensure the e-mail to receive the boundary conditions of the deep sea water modelling            BREAKDOWN COST BY COUNTRY</p>
	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING: Specific in-situ courses (when the systems have been tested in-situ): Regional marine meteorology training (feedback is needed)            Deep sea water modelling à Senegal (RSMC)            Harbour application of ocean modelling à Senegal, Mauritania and Cape Verde            Remote sensing products à Senegal, The Gambia, Mauritania and Cape Verde            Stakeholders workshops (final users) à external support            Who will maintain the MARINEMET domain web site (www.afrimet.org/marinemet)? (AEMET until 2013)            Final MARIMET Report</p>

2.2 METAGRI	support evaluation meeting 2012
2.3 HEALTHMET	CHWGs consolidation Maritania CHWGs consolidation Burkina CHWG launch Niger CHWG launch Mali
<b>Line#03. Managerial Capacity Building Activities</b>	
3.1. EMERMET (Countries Emerging from Conflicts and Natural Disasters)	
3.2 Factibility Study of Regional Marine Meteorology Operational Service	MARINEMET OPS project consultant
3.3 Factibility Study of Agrometeorological Operational Service	CLOSED. METAGRI OPS on going.
3.4 Factibility Study for a Hidrometeorological Warning Subregional Virtual Desk (ALERMET)	
3.5 Report on AEMET feasibility to become an Advanced Meteorological Training Centre	
3.6 Fellowship program	
3.7 AFRIMET (website <a href="http://www.afrimet.org">www.afrimet.org</a> )	Maintenance and development Training on web page creation
3.8 Support for NMHS Strategic Plan consolidation	
3.9. French e-learning platform	
3.10. Others	
<b>Program Support</b>	
Conference of Directors	conference

## **MOTION OF THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN**

The participants in the 5th Meeting of the Conference of Directors of the West African National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (AFRIMET), held at Boadilla del Monte from 22 to 24 October 2012, would like to express their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the government and the people of Spain for the important efforts made during several years for the improvement of the West African National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.

Done at Boadilla del Monte, 24 October 2012

The meeting

## **MOTION OF THANKS TO THE STATE AGENCY OF METEOROLOGY OF SPAIN**

The participants in the 5th Meeting of the Conference of Directors of the West African National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (AFRIMET), held at Boadilla del Monte from 22 to 24 October 2012, would like to express their appreciation and sincere gratitude to Dr Daniel Cano, President of the State Agency of Meteorology (AEMET) and to all his collaborators, especially to Mr Luis Fernando (Pablo) López Cotín and to Ms Delia Gutiérrez Rubio, for the warm welcome reserved to the attendees and for all the facilities placed at their disposal for the proper conduct of the meeting.

Done at Boadilla del Monte, 24 October 2012

The meeting



## **SIXTH CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS AFRIMET**

Mauritania is proposed as the site that will host the sixth AFRIMET Conference in 2013.