

NINETH AFRICAN CONTINENTAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM (ACCOF-09):

A Mechanism to provide Continental Climate outlook Services and improve coordination on data, methods, tools, products and services for all Regional Economic Communities in Africa

**“CLIMATE SERVICES FOR EARLY WARNING AND EARLY ACTION”
05 October 2022 - 10h00 to 10h 50 (GMT+1)**

TARGET SEASON: October 2022 – January 2023

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The African Centre for Meteorological Applications and Development (ACMAD) as a WMO Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for Africa is organizing as part of its RCC Long range Forecasting and coordination functions the Ninth Africa Continental Climate Outlook Forum (ACCOF-09).

This initiative is to ensure that there is continental climate services and improved capacity amongst WMO designated and developing RCCs to regionalize products from WMO Global Producing Centres (GPCs). It also provides a platform for technical discussions and exchanges on latest advances in climate science and technology, interregional interactions within Africa and between Africa and other WMO Regional Associations, review and verification of the seasonal climate outlook for the most recent past season across the continent and ultimately produce a continental consensus climate outlook for the upcoming four months period.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The ACCOF aims at improving the contribution of RCCs to early warning and disaster preparedness, taking into account information on global climate drivers such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), Atlantic Dipole, Benguela Niño, Sub-tropical Indian Ocean Dipole (SIOD), North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) amongst others.

The specific objectives of the meeting are to:

- Review and verify forecasts for MJJA 2022 climate season
- Discuss drivers of OND 2022, NDJ 2022/23 and ONDJ 2022/23 climate across the continent and develop continental consensus climate forecast for the ONDJ 2022/23 season;
- Integrate and harmonize verification and outlook methods, tools and products between the continental and sub-regional levels

- Ensure consistency on the outlook statements at sub-regional and continental levels
- Strengthen inter-regional network of centres for trans-boundary risk management

METHODOLOGY AND PARTICIPATION

The forum is organized into three main parts, namely; Part 1: Performance of the past season over the RECs and the whole Continent. Part 2: Analysis of the current Status of global, continental and sub-regional climate. Part 3: Generation of the climate outlook statement for the upcoming season and interaction at the user interface.

Participants for the ACCOF will include climate experts and scientists from the designated Global and Regional Climate Centres. Experts from NMHSs are also encouraged to participate. Users from Agriculture, DRR, Water and Health form part of additional stakeholders providing feedback and supporting uptake of climate information for resilience and adaptation to climate change.:

Experts from AUC Departments including Agriculture, Rural Development and Blue Economy, WMO Climate Programme, UNECA Division for Natural Resources, Climate and Technology, and other International Centers such as ECMWF, JRC, NCEP and others are welcomed

EXPECTED KEY RESULTS

- Continental and Regional MJJA 2022 seasonal forecasts reviewed and verified
- Climate Outlook Statement for the upcoming season prepared and published
- Verification and outlook products integrated and harmonized between continental and sub-regional levels
- Sectors potential hazards, risk events and impacts/consequences for ONDJ 2022 outlook identified and user feedback on the use of MJJA 2022 outlook documented

MEETING FORMAT

The ACCOF is a collaborative effort between ACMAD, AUC and RECs through the RCCs. The meeting will be conducted in a hybrid mode and facilities are provided for virtual participation through the following Zoom link:

Africa Continental Climate Outlook Forum: 05 October 2022

The meeting will run for an estimated 1-hour from 1000 hours West African Time (9AM GMT).

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