

Organisation of African,
Caribbean and Pacific States
(OACPS)



Organisation des États
d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et du
Pacifique (OEACP)

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Brussels, 10 March, 2022

**THE SECOND OACPS INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED
APPLICATIONS (CLIMSA) PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE VIRTUAL
MEETING HOSTED IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM: 8-10 MARCH 2022**

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Preamble

The Programme Steering Committee (PSC) of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA) Programme held its second meeting, virtually from 8th to 10th March 2022.

List of Decisions and Recommendations

Decisions

Decision 1 - Election of the Bureau

The 2nd Meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA) Programme (2nd ClimSA PSC) meeting was held virtually hosted in Brussels. The 2nd PSC of ClimSA was chaired by the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States' (OACPS) Assistant Secretary General for Environment and Climate Action, MS Cristelle Pratt and seconded by representatives of the European Commission Directorate-General International Partnerships (DG INTPA), Mr Vincent Picard. The OACPS Technical Assistance (TA) team was Secretariat for the meeting.

Decision 2 – Adoption of the Agenda.

The 2nd ClimSA PSC agenda was adopted, without amendments.

Decision 3 – Approval of the actions taken from the decisions and recommendations of the 1st first Steering committee meeting

The 1st Meeting of the Programme Steering Committee of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA) Programme (1 ClimSA PSC), held on 29 and 30 June 2021. The progress report on implementation of the decisions and recommendations made at the meeting was approved.

Decision 4 - Approval of Technical and Financial Annual Progress Reports

In noting the ClimSA Programme's Technical and Financial Annual Reports the ClimSA PSC advised that further review would be needed, before providing out-of-session approval.

Decision 5 – Technical Implementing Partners' Work Plans 2022/2023

The ClimSA PSC approved the work plan presented by each implementing partner. It was noted that there was need for the OACPS TA to ensure that the automated, online M&E system at the Secretariat of the OACPS has an option of having a consolidated roadmap for providing monitoring of the implementation of each of the Technical Implementing Partners' (TIPs) action plans.

Decision 6 – Budget re-allocation within the budget line

The ClimSA PSC noted the low rate of budget consumption for most of the regional organisations in Year 3 (for some) or Year 2 (for others) as a consequence of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and belated regional grant's signature. The 2nd ClimSA PSC

meeting reaffirmed the the, 1st ClimSA PSC decision for implementing partners to explore opportunities to re-allocate budget lines where funds derived from savings from incidental expenditure or from other budget lines (as a result of online workshops and savings on travel) due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The ClimSA PSC recommended that each implementing partner discuss with their respective contracting authority, the necessary actions in order to ensure that they are in accordance with the contractual obligations, as stipulated in the General and Special Conditions for revising the budget allocation. The budget reallocations will be considered during the Mid-term Review (MTR) to be carried out in Q2, Q3 of 2022.

Decision 7 – Mid-term Review Mission (MTR)

The ClimSA PSC approved the proposal by the TA team to commence arrangements for undertaking the ClimSA Programme MTR in Q2-Q3 of 2022.

Decision 8 – Preparation of documentations for re-allocation of funds

Noted the need for re-allocation of funds between budget lines due to underspends such as travel, as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the belated regional grant's signature. It, **requested** that follow-up discussions with respective EU Delegations (EUDs), OACPS Regional Organisations and Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) to consider reallocation from incidentals to increase budgets for scholarships for Masters and Post-Graduate studies; procurement of equipment for the regional focus countries; and/or appointment of an additional focus country;

Urged Regional Organisations and RCCs to prepare necessary documentation in time for consideration alongside the MTR report and its recommendations;

RECOMMENDATIONS

The ClimSA PSC, at its second meeting recommended,

Recommendation 1.

Noted the slow rate of implementation of some regional grants over the last year and **recommended** that the relevant EUDs responsible for the monitoring of programme implementation and all the technical implementing partners take appropriate steps to accelerate implementation and overcome constraints, where appropriate;

Recommendation 2.

Noted the challenges being faced by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Climate Services Centre related to the budget allocation for recruiting staff, given it is a key requirement towards World Meteorological Organization (WMO) RCC compliance;

Noted that SADC initiated the process to acquire the c-station for the countries in its region on its own grant budget, instead that through the AUC grant that foresee covering all sub-Saharan African countries;

Called for a meeting between the African Union Commission (AUC), SADC, OACPS TA, JRC and EUMETSAT to harmonise and adjust the budgets to ensure alignment of the budget allocations to ClimSA Programme goals and objectives;

Recommendation 3.

Requested RCCs and ClimSA Technical Implementing Partners to include in future progress reports to the ClimSA PSC on the actions (services) that have been carried out / developed / provided to the specific end users and for specific uses/applications they have identified (including a detailed list of these users and applications);

Recommendation 4.

Noted the contract arrangements of the AUC regional contribution grant contract, which also covers the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS);

Noted issues arising in the recruitment process of the ECCAS Project Management Unit, which has delayed the implementation phase;

Welcomed the updates from the AUC and ECCAS of higher-level intervention to resolve the issue and **urged** both parties to expedite the matter in order to speed up implementation;

Recommendation 5.

Noted the progress made by some RCCs / regional organisations on their requests for a no-cost extension and **urged others** to consider starting the process as soon as possible;

Recommended that relevant EUDs in taking account of the constraints faced by all implementing partners due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, respond positively to requests for no-cost extensions to ensure smooth completion of the ClimSA Programme;

Recommendation 6.

Noted that each implementing partner has its own database with different information that may be relevant and of interest to other implementing partners. It **urged** the OACPS TA team to consider having under the OACPS Knowledge Management Platform one depository platform which would be accessible to all implementing partners;

Recommendation 7.

Noted the status of the installation and functioning of the climate station, especially in the Africa region. It **urged** the Joint Research Centre (JRC) to accelerate its efforts to extend the installation and operationalising of the tool in the Caribbean and Pacific regions;

Recommendation 8.

Noted the implementation progress against the Logical Framework (LF) Indicators remain at infancy levels of achievement and **recommended** all Technical Implementing Partners and RCCs to focus on stepping up implementation so as to lift the level of the

indicator's achievement in line with the LF, key results, objectives and goal of the ClimSA Programme as well as implementation of the communication and visibility strategy;

Recommendation 9.

Noted the draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the ClimSA Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which would address pertinent technical and operational issues that may emerge during the implementation of the ClimSA Programme. It **recommended** the PSC Secretariat in collaboration with implementing partners to finalise the ToR and submit it for consideration and approval at the next PSC meeting;

Recommendation 10.

Recommended the 3rd ClimSA PSC meeting be held in-person in October 2022, with the venue and date to be determined by the Bureau of the PSC and communicated to all PSC members in due course;

Recommendation 11.

Noted the draft Training Plan briefly presented during the 2nd ClimSA PSC would address pertinent needs in terms of capacity needs and **recommended** the TA team to organise a meeting with all the implementing partners, the RCCs as well as other relevant institutions to agree on the modus operandi of the implementation plan.