

FOURTEENTH AFRICAN CONTINENTAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM (ACCOF-14):

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

THEME: "THE FUTURE OF WEATHER, CLIMATE AND WATER FOR EARLY WARNING AND EARLY ACTION ACROSS GENERATIONS"

**23 November 2023
ONLINE
From 08h00 to 10h30 GMT**

TARGET SEASON: December 2023 to March 2024 (DJFM) 2023-24

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The African Center for Meteorological Applications and Development (ACMAD), as a WMO Regional Climate Center (RCC) for Africa, organizes, as part of its functions and mandate, the fourteenth Forum on Climate Outlook for the African Continent (ACCOF-14) in collaboration with other RCCs in Africa.

This is within the framework of supporting continental climate services and strengthening the capacity of designated and developing WMO RCCs to regionalize the products of WMO Global Production Centers (GPCs). It also provides a platform for discussions and technical exchanges on the latest advances in climate science and technology, interregional interactions in Africa and between Africa and other WMO regional associations. ACCOF 14 will evaluate the past climate seasons of July-August and September (JAS) as well as August – September – October (ASO) 2023, and enable discussions on the current and future evolution of El Niño as well as the climate perspective for the season December 2023 to March 2024.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

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 the JAS and ASO 2023 climate season

- Discuss the current evolution of the El Niño Southern Oscillation and its impacts at the continental level and its influence with other drivers for the DJFM 2023/24 period across the continent and develop continental consensus climate forecasts for the DJFM 2023/24 season.
- Ensure consistency of forward-looking statements at sub-regional and continental levels
- Strengthen the interregional network of cross-border risk management centers
- Obtain user feedback on potential impacts of the DJFM 2023/24 season during the 2023/2024 rainfall seasons.

METHODOLOGY AND PARTICIPATION

The forum is organized into three main parts, namely, **Part 1: Performance of the past season over the RCCs 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 Producing Centres 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 Program, 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 JAS and ASO 2023 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 JAS and ASO 2023 outlook identified and user feedback on the impacts of DJFM 2023/24 outlook documented

MEETING FORMAT

The ACCOF is a collaborative effort between ACMAD, AUC and RCCs through the RCCs. The meeting will be conducted physically; however, a hybrid mode and facilities will be provided for virtual participation through a Zoom link.

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