

**23rd Ordinary Session of the ACMAD Board of Governors
Location: ADDIS ABABA**

Dates: May 29-30, 2024

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**REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF ACMAD BOARD
OF GOVERNORS**

December 2023

Action required.

The Board is invited to consider and approve the report.



ACMAD VISION 2030

An African continent where all nations are benefiting from a **world-class operational continental meteorological Centre** to become *resilient to extreme events* and *empowered to support their sustainable development* with better meteorological services.

1. REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF ACMAD BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1.1 This report covers the period from January to December 2023. It provides a summary of the broad strategic areas in which ACMAD made progress, the activities of the ACMAD Board, matters which are required to be reported to the Board and other matters affecting the Centre.

1.2 This period saw progress during the fourth year of implementation of the 2020-2023 strategic plan supporting capacity building for NMHSs and stakeholders, quality services for early warning, climate resilience and adaptation, data exchange, research and innovation, modernization of governance and management of the Centre. Policy measures and anticipatory actions to combat climate change impacts and support sustainable development were informed by ACMAD's delivered climate services with the annual state of climate for Africa in 2023 as the flagship product.

1.3 The Chairperson hosted the 09th Extraordinary session of the ACMAD's Board of Governors online from January 10 to 11 2023. He welcomed the participants to the session with a goodwill message thanking member states and acknowledging the presence of partners supporting the continental meteorology programme at ACMAD. Eleven (11) board member countries attended the session. He highlighted the urgency for strengthening early warning in Africa. The chairman congratulated WMO, EUMETSAT and ICPAC for enlightening members on important collaborative endeavours with ACMAD supporting the implementation of the continental agenda 2063.

1.4 The chairperson attended the eighteenth session of the Regional Association I (RA I-18) from February 16 to 17 2023 preceded by the technical conference on the theme **Enhancing capacities of hydrometeorological services in Africa towards digital transformation**. He presented a keynote address on research priorities and capacity gaps in Africa. ACMAD, other regional centres and WMO Regional Training Centres and partnerships under WMO programmes were key enablers discussed.

1.5 The chairperson contributed to a series of ACMAD/ClimSA events from April 18 to 20, 2023 in Abidjan (Cote d'Ivoire) including the third steering committee, the User Interface on Climate Services for Disaster Risk Reduction with emphasis on resilient infrastructure design building and operation, the building of partnerships for early warning for all with the example of Cote d'Ivoire. The three events led to the approval of the ACMAD/ClimSA year 2 report and work plan including the budget for year 3. The chairman participated in the early warning for all and the user interface workshop with key presentations on NIMET's experience in the delivery of climate service to the infrastructure sector and evidence of damages and losses associated with extreme events documented in the recent history of Nigeria.

1.6 The Board Chairperson was selected to participate in the *U.S.-Africa Climate Innovation Week* Early Warning/Emergency Management Reverse Trade Mission (RTM) in the U.S. organized by the U.S. Trade Development Agency (USTDA). The 5-day event was held from October 30 to November 3, 2023, and included meetings with representatives of U.S. companies providing relevant technologies in New Orleans,

Louisiana and Washington, D.C. The event guided discussion towards the implementation of President Biden's global PREPARE action plan for resilience and adaptation to climate change. US technologies potentially transferrable to developing nations for early warning and emergency management were presented and discussed.

1.7 The Board Chairperson expresses his appreciation to all partners who are supporting the centre and highlights the expectations for better services based on feedback from the civil engineering community and disaster management as well as humanitarian actors. He thanked all partners for their contributions to the progress of ACMAD during 2023 and ACMAD staff for their professional support for the organization of this session.

END
