COP31 – Antalya, Türkiye, 9–20 November 2026

Side Event Application –AUC, ICPAC, UNDRR, AICS and CIMA Research Foundation

Part A – Side Event Request Form

Name of requesting organisation	African Union Commission (AMHEWAS), Government of Mozambique, UNDRR and CIMA Research Foundation), AICS
Contact person	Lusajo Ambukege (AUC) and Jully Ouma
Address	Roosevelt Street, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Telephone	+260977874597
E-mail	AmbukegeL@AfricanUnion.org
Title of the side event	High- level side event on the Financing Early Warnings for Early Action: Scaling AMHEWAS from Forecasts to Climate Resilient Investment in Africa
Preferred date / time	Saturday 14 November 2026/ 11:00 to 12:30 hours
Equipment and services	Projector for PowerPoint: Yes (live platform demonstration).
Catering costs covered by	
Signed by	Lusajo Mwakalesi Ambukege
Side event organisers	African Union Commission (AMHEWAS), ICPAC, Government of Mozambique, UNDRR, AICS and CIMA Research Foundation)

Part B – Side Event Concept Note

Nature of the event: Technical meeting with high-level opening (interactive solution dialogue with live demonstration)

Title of event: High- level side event on the Financing Early Warnings for Early Action: Scaling AMHEWAS from Forecasts to Climate Resilient Investment in Africa

Venue: Africa Pavilion, Antalya, Türkiye

Date and time: Saturday 14 November 2026/ 11:00 to 12:30 hours

Organisers

Lead Partner: DRR Unit, AMHEWAS Programme

Contributing partners: African Union Commission – Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) Programme, AICS and CIMA Research Foundation

Background and Context

Africa is facing a rapidly evolving landscape of climate and disaster risk. The frequency, intensity and complexity of climate- and weather-related hazards are increasing, while rapid urbanisation, environmental degradation, food insecurity, fragile livelihoods and infrastructure deficits are amplifying their impacts. Floods, droughts, tropical cyclones, heatwaves and other hazards increasingly generate cascading and transboundary impacts across countries and regions. The economic and social costs of disasters are particularly severe for vulnerable communities and countries with limited fiscal space to absorb shocks. In

this context, early warning and early action are among the most effective approaches for reducing disaster losses and protecting development investments.

However, the value of early warning is realised only when forecasts are transformed into actionable risk information, decisions are taken in advance, and adequate financing is available to implement those decisions. Therefore, The African Union Commission established the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) Programme as a continental response to this challenge. AMHEWAS provides a framework for strengthening the availability, accessibility and use of multi-hazard early warning and disaster risk information, while enhancing coordination and anticipatory action, particularly for risks that transcend national boundaries. AMHEWAS therefore provides an important opportunity to connect continental forecasting and risk intelligence with national decision-making, anticipatory action and climate-resilient investment.

The proposed side event will demonstrate how this can be achieved in practice through the integration of climate intelligence—including El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) analytics—into the AMHEWAS Situation Room. The demonstration will show how global and regional climate outlooks can be translated into actionable country-level risk intelligence, enabling institutions to identify potential impacts, establish appropriate triggers and initiate early action. The side event will provide a practical African contribution to the implementation agenda of COP31, while building momentum towards COP32 in Addis Ababa, by demonstrating how continental early warning infrastructure can support climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, food security, resilience investment and anticipatory action.

Overall Goal

The overall goal of the side event is to demonstrate how investments in Early Warnings for Early Action can significantly contribute to Scaling AMHEWAS from Forecasts to Climate Resilient in Africa.

Objectives of the Event

- **Demonstrate the operational value of AMHEWAS**: Showcase AMHEWAS as an African-led continental mechanism that connects hazard monitoring, forecasting, risk intelligence, early warning and early action across national, regional and continental levels.
- **Strengthen the case for financing early action**: Demonstrate why financing arrangements need to be linked to early warning triggers and anticipatory action protocols so that resources are available before a disaster occurs, rather than mobilised only after impacts have materialised.
- **Promote national and regional ownership**: Identify practical mechanisms for scaling AMHEWAS through Regional Economic Communities (RECs), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs), sectoral ministries and other national institutions.
- **Mobilise strategic partnerships**: Bring together governments, regional institutions, climate and disaster risk financing partners, development partners, technical institutions and the private sector to identify opportunities for investment in early warning, anticipatory action and climate resilience.

Alignment with COP31 Priorities

The event advances Day 1 priorities on climate-resilient food systems and early warning for health and agriculture, and supports Day 10 (Peace, Security and Climate Resilience) priorities on early warning, anticipatory action and implementation of AU frameworks. It embodies the Pavilion's principles of Implementation over Events (an operational partnership, not a discussion), Partnership over Institutional Visibility (AUC, CGIAR, RECs and national agencies), and Evidence over Advocacy (operational forecasts and

documented country uptake), while contributing concrete language on anticipatory action to the Antalya Africa Pavilion Communiqué and the COP32 agenda.

The event will contribute to the implementation-oriented priorities of COP31 by demonstrating how climate information and early warning can be translated into practical resilience outcomes.

It will particularly contribute to discussions concerning:

- climate-resilient food systems;
- adaptation and resilience;
- early warning and anticipatory action;
- climate and disaster risk financing;
- health and climate risks;
- peace, security and climate resilience;
- protection of vulnerable populations;
- implementation of existing climate and disaster risk commitments.

The event will also reinforce the importance of implementing Africa's continental frameworks and commitments on disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and early warning. Importantly, the event will position **AMHEWAS as an implementation mechanism**, rather than simply a policy initiative, demonstrating how continental infrastructure can support national action and investment.

Draft Programme (90 minutes, interactive)

Moderator: [AUC or REC senior representative]

Segment	**Focus**	**Indicative time**
Video	**Showcasing high impact events**	**4 min**
1. Opening remarks	– AUC Director- SEBE – Government of the Republic of Mozambique- President of INGD – ICPAC- Director General – AICS DG – UNDRR (4 minutes each)	20 min
2. From Forecasts to Action	**Session 1: Technical discussion: Scaling up AMHEWAS to integrate innovative technologies in early warnings and early actions** – ACMAD, Ousmane Director General – UNDRR, t.b.c. – CIMA, Mr. Roberto Rudari, Director, – ITU, Ms. Vanessa Grey – Google **Session 2: Scaling up partnership and collaboration for AMHEWAS (fragility and humanitarian, mobility, city, civil society)** – AUC urban – REAP – WFP Country Office- Mozambique	60 min

	– South Sudan Banak – UNAU – GFDRR	
High level commitments	Concrete commitments and next steps	5 min
Closing remarks		5 min

Key Messages

- Africa is not waiting: an African-led, operational El Niño early warning to early action capability is already being implemented through the AUC–IWMI partnership
- Impact-based forecasts must be matched by institutions, triggers and finance; the AMHEWAS Situation Room integration shows how
- COP31 should anchor anticipatory action in the Antalya Communiqué as a bridge to an implementation-focused, Africa-hosted COP32

The technical discussion could revolve around four questions

1. Are Africa's forecasts reaching the decisions that matter?
2. What does a truly end-to-end MHEWS look like?
3. How can early warning become an investment proposition?
4. What would it take to finance AMHEWAS on a scale?

Links to Background Documentation

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Contact event organisers: Lusajo Mwakalesi Ambukege on behalf of organisers (AmbukegeL@AfricanUnion.org)