

SIXTEENTH AFRICAN CONTINENTAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM (ACCOF-16):

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 RECENT EVOLUTION AND REGIONAL IMPACT OF EL NIÑO: LESSONS LEARNED”

08 April 2024

Online

From 09h00 to 11h00 (GMT+1)

TARGET SEASON: April to July (AMJJ) 2024

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

The African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), the WMO Regional Climate Center (RCC) for Africa, organizes, as part of its functions and mandate, the Sixteenth Forum on Climate Outlook for the African Continent (ACCOF-16) in collaboration with other RCCs in Africa. **The meeting will be held Online on April 8, from 09:00 to 11:00 GMT+1.**

The ACCOF 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 provides a platform for discussions and technical exchanges on the latest advances in climate science and technology. It also promotes interregional interactions in Africa and between Africa and other WMO regional associations. This sixteenth session of the ACCOF will evaluate the past climate seasons of December-January-February (DJF) 2023 / 2024 and January-February-March (JFM) 2024, and will enable discussions on the El Niño transition as well as the climate perspective for the season of April to June 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 DJF 2023/2024 and JFM 2024 climate season

- Discuss the current evolution of the main climate drivers including the transiting El Niño Southern Oscillation, their potential impacts across Africa for the April-July 2024 period and develop continental consensus climate forecasts for the AMJJ 2024 season.
- Ensure consistency of forward-looking statements at sub-regional and continental levels.
- Strengthen the interregional network of cross-border risk management centres
- Obtain user feedback on potential impacts of the AMJJ 2024 rainfall season.

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 the additional stakeholders providing feedback and supporting the 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 DJF 2023/2024 and JFM 2024 seasonal forecasts reviewed and verified.
- Verification and outlook products integrated and harmonized between continental and sub-regional levels.
- Climate Outlook Statement for the upcoming season prepared and published.
- User feedback on the impacts of DJF 2023/2024 and JFM 2024 period documented
- Sectors potential hazards, risk events and impacts/consequences for AMJJ 2024 outlook identified.

MEETING FORMAT

The ACCOF is a collaborative effort between ACMAD, AUC and RECs through the RCCs. The meeting will be conducted online.

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