



N°001  
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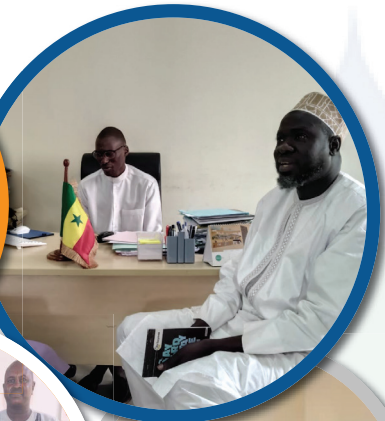
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*Season's Greetings*

As 2024 draws to a close and we embark on 2025, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our esteemed partners for their unwavering support and collaboration, which have contributed to remarkable achievements.

May this new year bring health, peace, happiness, and renewed hope as we continue to strengthen our partnership and commitment to building a more resilient future in the face of climate change.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025

*The General Director*



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AFRICAN CENTER OF METEOROLOGICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT



## Background and rationale

The ACMAD e-Newsletter is a regularly distributed e-mail that informs subscribers about the latest news and updates on ACMAD's products and services, as well as recent activities and policy initiatives. It is a valuable tool for maintaining links with users, partners and interested organizations, promote ACMAD's services and raise awareness of our initiatives.

### Newsletter features

The e-newsletter will have a clear monthly message, with precise objectives, visuals and designs, and a call-to-action segment, particularly on current issues in the field of climate change.

The features are shown below:

- i. ACMAD's updates on recent activities, initiatives, programs, and more.
- ii. News about weather and climate-related issues at global, regional, and local levels.
- iii. Interviews with the Director General, management, and other personnel at the center.
- iv. User Community Success Stories highlighting the positive impact of ACMAD's products and services.
- v. "Feedback from the community of users."

### Frequency

The newsletter will be published monthly, highlighting the previous month's activities and programs.

## ACMAD'S NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL TAKES OFFICE



Appointed in August 2024 by ACMAD's Board of Governors, the new General Manager, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, officially assumed his duties on December 17 at the center, where the entire staff gathered to welcome him and wish him success in his mission. Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, who previously served as the Director of the Senegal Meteorological Service (ANACIM) since 2019, will now lead the African Center of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) for a four-year term. Dr. Ndiaye's vision for ACMAD is to establish it as a center of excellence, leveraging cutting-edge climate science technologies, including artificial intelligence, for seamless climate predictions ranging from a few hours to several decades. His approach emphasizes strong collaboration to adapt climate information for informed decision-making across all temporal and spatial scales.



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ClimSA

AFRICAN UNION CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME

## Message from ACMAD's new Director General



It was a great pleasure to return to Niamey after about 15 years and to see with joy the new infrastructure in the city. I found a very enthusiastic and warm team at [ACMAD](#), and I was even treated to a welcome dinner (free) the night before. Two meetings with the staff gave me an idea of the current state of the institution and the challenges ahead in terms of institutional, infrastructural, human, and material resources.

During my first week, I visited the Senegalese Embassy in Niger. I was warmly received by Mr. Baldé (business officer) and his very open and welcoming team, who briefed me on the country, the Senegalese community, and even Senegalese restaurants. Mr. Baldé and Colonel Traoré were very accommodating. I then visited my colleague and brother, Mr. Lawan, Director of Meteorology, who introduced me to His Excellency, the Minister of Transport and Equipment. My meeting with Colonel Major Salissou Mahaman Salissou allowed me to appreciate the warm Nigerien hospitality and the principles of collaboration with this country, which are straightforward and aligned with the country's priorities. Shortly after, I was invited to the end of the year celebration of the women of civil aviation, where I met the Director General of ANAC.

I also received a delegation from [the Liptako-Gourma Authority \(covering Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso\)](#), led by my colleague [Dr. Yaka Pascal](#), as part of the implementation of the "Regional Program on Climate Security in the Western Sahel." We discussed the impact of climate variability on security issues. I found the idea very original and hope to collaborate further in this regard.

In the second week, I began working with a focus on potential collaborators. First, I had a discussion with [the Pan-African Farmers' Organization \(PAFO\)](#), which invited me to a seminar in Uganda that includes the signing of an MoU. I held a working session with the Regional Director of UN-Habitat, Dr. Oumar Sylla, a long-time friend, where we laid the groundwork for collaboration between our two institutions on climate and habitat issues. I also visited Dr. Issoufou BAOUA, the Acting Director General of the AGRHYMET Regional Center, to introduce myself. I met someone very open to strengthening our collaboration, aiming for more synergy in our actions to be more effective and quicker in serving populations in the context of significant climate variability.

This end-of-year period is not very conducive to meeting UN agencies and accredited embassies in Niger, but I managed to have some exchanges via WhatsApp (ICPAC, SADC-CS, OACPS, etc.).

Next month also promises to be busy, starting with the PAFO invitation in Uganda, followed by the American Meteorological Society (AMS) conference in New Orleans at the invitation of NOAA. The program includes an audience with the NOAA Administrator and the Director of the US Weather Service, Dr. Wassila Thiaw, as well as the celebration of the 80th birthday of my former professor, Mark Cane. The month ended with the celebration of the retirement of our security officer, Mr. Agali Mohamed. We wish him the best, and special thanks to the women who prepared the celebration so well.

We continue to work towards achieving the center's strategic vision, the payment of member states' arrears, the ratification of the ACMAD charter, and our collaboration with Pan-African organizations and regional climate centers.

**PhD Ousmane NDIAYE**  
**Director General**  
**of the African Centre of Meteorological**  
**Applications for Development**  
**(ACMAD)**

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ClimSA



## The Director General's Visit to the Senegalese Embassy

As part of his first official visits to members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Niger, the new Director General of ACMAD, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, visited the Senegalese Embassy in Niger on December 21st 2024. He was warmly received by Mr. Samba Baldé, business officer of the Senegalese Embassy, as the post of ambassador remains vacant for the time being.

The Senegalese community in Niger was delighted to welcome a distinguished son of Senegal, now serving as ACMAD's Director General. Following the formal introductions, the meeting centered on understanding the activities of the Senegalese Embassy in Niger. In turn, Dr. Ndiaye presented an overview of ACMAD's mission and activities.

Dr. Ndiaye was given a tour of the embassy and was briefed on the situation of Senegalese nationals residing in Niger, a neighboring and friendly country to Senegal. The visit concluded with informal exchanges with the embassy staff and a memorable photo session to mark the occasion.



## Visit of the Director General to the Ministry of Transport of Niger

The Minister of Transport and Equipment, Colonel Major Salissou Mahaman Salissou, Commander of the National Order of Niger, received the new Director General of ACMAD, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, during a courtesy visit.

Dr. Ndiaye was accompanied by Mr. Ka-

tiellou Gaptia Lawane, Director of Meteorology of Niger and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of ACMAD. The visit served as an opportunity for fruitful discussions on strengthening collaboration between ACMAD and Niger, while also gaining a deeper understanding of the principles of cooperation. These principles are straightforward and closely aligned with Niger's national priorities.



## The Director General Visit to the AGRHYMET Center

Despite a busy schedule on the final day of 2024, the Director General of ACMAD, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, made time to pay a courtesy visit to one of ACMAD's closest partners, the Acting Director General of the AGRHYMET Center, Mr. Issoufou Baoua.

The discussions centered on fostering synergies, establishing a framework for mutually beneficial collaboration, and optimizing opportunities to implement impactful actions for the benefit of the population. Both leaders agreed to reconvene in the New Year for an extended meeting with their respective experts to further advance these objectives.



## Visits of the Director General to ACMAD's New Site

On December 31, 2024, the final day of the year, the Director General of ACMAD, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, visited the 2.025-hectare site allocated to ACMAD by the government of Niger.

The long-term vision of ACMAD's leadership is to secure partnerships to develop technical infrastructure on this new site while preserving the current site as an administrative hub. This initiative reflects the organization's commitment to expanding its capacity and enhancing its operational efficiency.



## Provisional calendar of regional seasonal climate outlook fora

- GACOF: January 20-21, 2025;
- SARCOF: January 20 to 31, 2025;
- PRESAGG: February 17 to 21, 2025;
- PRESAC: February 24 to 28, 2025;

## Global warming: 2024, a year of historic records

On 10 January 2025, the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) confirmed that 2024 was the warmest year on record, based on six international datasets. The last ten years are also the warmest on record constates.

**Source :** <https://wmo.int/fr/media/news/lomm-confirme-que-2024-est-lannee-la-plus-chaude-jamais-enregistree-avec-une-temperature-superieure>

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## ACMAD at COP29: Strengthening Climate Resilience through Collaboration



The ACMAD delegation had the privilege of participating in a series of side events and bilateral meetings with key partners, including the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the African Union Commission, ClimSA, the European Union, and the Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership (REAP).

These exchanges provided a valuable platform to showcase major initiatives underway at ACMAD to promote climate services and enhance the integration of climate policies across Africa.

One of the highlights of COP29 was ACMAD's organization and facilitation of a side event under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The event focused on multi-hazard early warning systems and climate financing, in collaboration with the Global Water Partnership and ICPAC.

The event underscored Africa's remarkable progress in advancing climate resilience. Innovative tools, such as the Drought Monitoring Tool, essential for tracking drought conditions on the continent, were presented. Discussions also explored practical solutions for increasing climate financing, enhancing early warning systems, and building trust with users by demonstrating the tangible benefits of these systems in saving lives and reducing vulnerabilities.

### Engagement with the WMO

Another key moment was the audience granted by the WMO Deputy Secretary-General to the ACMAD delegation, led by its new Director General, Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye.

These discussions emphasized the importance of collaboration, capacity building, and innovation in strengthening Africa's resilience to climate change. Through these engagements, ACMAD reaffirmed its commitment to fostering partnerships and delivering impactful climate services across the continent.



### A LOOK BACK AT SOME KEY EVENTS

#### Side Event at the African Pavilion at COP29 on the mainstreaming of Climate Information

ACMAD partnered with ClimSA to host a dynamic discussion on the integration of climate information into policies across Africa. The event emphasized the urgent need to make weather and climate information accessible and effectively integrated into socio-economic sectors

to enhance resilience.

The session also highlighted examples of best practices developed across the continent, showcasing successful approaches to strengthening climate-informed decision-making and fostering sustainable development.

#### Side Event at the ICPAC Pavilion on Drought Early Warning Systems

During a side event organized by ICPAC on drought early warning systems, we highlighted the critical link between the continental drought monitoring system and regional systems. We presented concrete examples, including early warnings issued for severe drought conditions in Southern Africa earlier this year.

#### November 20 at the Caribbean Pavilion

At the Caribbean Pavilion, ACMAD shared the outcomes of its capacity-building initiatives for national meteorological services. Among the key achievements, 42 experts from 19 countries and 11 AIMS students were trained through the ClimSA program on forecasting, monitoring, and producing advisory bulletins.

Read more : <https://acmad.org/index.php/cop29>

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