



PRESS RELEASE

ACMAD HOST JOINT UN MISSION

NIAMEY, NIGER - July 30, 2024 - The African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) had the pleasure of hosting a joint mission composed of representatives from the UNDRR Regional Office for Africa, AICS Headquarters, AICS Niger, African Union Commission, the Sahel Resilience Project Team (UNDP), and the WMO Regional Office for Africa. The mission's goal was to understand ACMAD's needs and priorities and explore how the Centre can better support the integration of the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Action System (AMHEWAS) for disaster risk reduction in Niger.

The meeting commenced with a round table, introduced by the ACMAD Director General, who expressed his enthusiasm for collaborating with partners to strengthen the Early Warning System (EWS) in Niger. This will empower African Nations with a robust Early Warning and Action System. To achieve this goal, UNDRR has partnered with AUC, the CIMA Foundation, UNDP, and WMO-CREWS to explore strategies for supporting National Authorities in Africa, including Niger, in strengthening capacities and systems for Impact-Based Early Warning and establish synergy with the AMHEWAS Situation Rooms at the regional and continental levels.

“Our approach is to bring together meteorologists, hydrologists, and disaster risk reduction actors at the national level and connect them with regional and continental institutions for improved Disaster Risk management,” said **Dr. Marco Massabo, Risk Knowledge and Early Warning System Coordinator at UNDRR**. He added that the program has been successfully implemented in some African countries, such as Tanzania. However, considering that each country has its own context and realities, the idea was to leverage all available partnerships in Niger to support the implementation and operationalization of the system effectively.

Dr. André Kamga, the Director General of ACMAD, highlighted the Center’s activities within the framework of AMHEWAS and in line with ACMAD's mission. He emphasized two main action points where ACMAD operates at the national level: providing the advisories (4 to 5 days) of hazards with backed technical notes and building the capacity of national meteorological services through briefing-debriefing and training programs.

Furthermore, the discussion focused on the workflow between ACMAD, NMHSs, RCCs, and collaboration with humanitarian and development institutions. Additionally, gap analysis in impact-based forecasting and the operationalization of early warning for early action were discussed, with some case studies presented. ACMAD Senior Forecasters took the Team to a Facility Tour at the Continental Situation Room where a range of products provided to support AMHEWAS were presented and discussed. The deliberations were highly engaging, and partners expressed their desire to follow up with a roadmap for the program's implementation with all actors on board.



Press Contact:

Serge BAYALA, Wendlasida COMBERE.

sergeclimat@gmail.com, comberesandrine@gmail.com