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Satellite and Weather Information for Disaster Resilience in Africa



ClimDev-Africa



A project led & implemented by the African Center of Meteorological Applications for Development

# Satellite and Weather Information for Disaster Resilience in Africa (SAWIDRA) project

*“A Contribution to Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Resilience”*

SECOND SAWIDRA PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING (PSC2)  
MINUTES

DON FAD N° ML-0047      Projet N°: G-Z1-C00-ZZZ-010

Document N° ACMAD / SAWIDRA / RCP2 / DOC-6

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**Venue: Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia**  
**Date : 30 October 2018**



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## I- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The European Commission approved in 2013 the African, Caribbean and Pacific- European Union (ACP-EU) Programme on Disaster Risk Reduction. The programme, entitled “Building Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regions, Countries and Communities” aims to provide the analytical basis and accelerate the effective implementation of an African comprehensive disaster risk reduction and risk management (DRR and DRM) framework. The result area number three of this ACP-EU Programme is implemented by the African Development Bank (AfDB) through the ClimDev Special Fund (CDSF).

The Satellite and Weather Information for Disaster Resilience in Africa (SAWIDRA) responds to the result area number three of this ACP-EU Programme. The specific objective of SAWIDRA is “to improve core capacities of the specialized national and regional climate centers (RCC), to meet the needs of DRR agencies and socio-economic sectors for effective use of weather and climate services and community-focused and real-time early warning systems (EWS)”.

SAWIDRA project has five sub-projects with one being a continental-wide project and the other four being regional projects for West, Central, Southern and East African regions.

The SAWIDRA continental project is implemented by the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD). A key output of this project is the establishment of a network of reception stations to acquire real-time polar orbiting satellite data and assimilate the data into the ACMAD NWP model.

The second Project Steering Committee meeting of SAWIDRA-Continental project was held on 30th October 2018 at Getfam Hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, after its sixteen months of implementation.

## II- OPENING AND WELCOME REMARKS

The Director of Ethiopian National Meteorological Agency and Chairman of the ACMAD Governing Board, M. Fetene Teshome TOLA, welcomed the participants, the International Institutions and partners and recalled the important role of ACMAD in the coordination of continental wide climate services. He thanked ACMAD for choosing Addis Ababa as the venue for the second SAWIDRA Steering Committee meeting and stated that welcoming guests is part of the Ethiopian Culture and traditions.

The Acting Director General of ACMAD, Dr Benjamin Lamptey, thanked the Government of Addis Ababa for accepting to host this event in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He also thanked the AfDB, the Chairman of the ACMAD Board of Governors, the partners for their support and the participants for their interest and support toward ACMAD activities. He recalled that weather and climate services are evolving in response to a combination of a growing knowledge base, the need to engage the user at the design stage to ensure the service is relevant, reaching the right users, obtaining feedback, among others. He indicated the importance of weather and climate information and stated the need to plan how the current service will be sustained after the project. He also presented the objectives and expected outcomes of the second SAWIDRA-Continental Steering Committee.



The Representative of the African Union Commission (AUC), Mr. Gatkuoth Kai, thanked the participants for accepting to attend the meeting and thanked the government and people of Ethiopia for accepting to host this event in Addis Ababa where the Head Quarters of the African Union Commission is hosted. He underlined the role of the African Union Commission in the implementation of the DRR programme. He expressed the willingness of AUC to work with the SAWIDRA/ACMAD project and stated that early warning information will help in taking decisions. He also thanked the organizing committee for the excellent facilities provided for the meeting at Getfam Hotel in Addis Ababa.

The representative of the African Union Commission, Mr. Gatkuoth Kaico-chaired the SAWIDRA-Continental Steering Committee meeting with the ACMAD Board Chairman. After the welcoming address, the ACMAD Board Chairman declared the meeting opened.

The Steering Committee members that were present are:

- ✓ The representative of the African Union Commission;
- ✓ The Chairman of the ACMAD Board of Governors;
- ✓ The Vice-Chairman of the ACMAD Board of Governors;
- ✓ The representative of SADC CSC;
- ✓ The representative of RCC West Africa, AGRHYMET;
- ✓ The representative of NBA.

The representatives of the following Institutions were also presents:

- ✓ The African Development Bank (AfDB);
- ✓ The Angola Instituto Nacional de Hidrometeorologia e Geofisica;
- ✓ The Ethiopian National Meteorological Services Agency;
- ✓ The Malawi Department of Climate Change and Meteorological Services;
- ✓ The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET);
- ✓ The Burundi National Meteorological Service;
- ✓ The Congo National Directorate of Meteorology;
- ✓ The Cote d'Ivoire National Directorate of Meteorology;
- ✓ The Niger National Directorate of Meteorological;
- ✓ ACMAD Scientific Advisory Committee (SACOM).

See attached in Annex 1 the list of participants for details.



### III- PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The chairman presented the draft agenda to the committee and it was adopted without comments. Agenda in Annex 2.

### IV- OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The Acting Director General of ACMAD, Dr. Benjamin Lamptey stated that the objectives of the meeting is to give oversight of the project, to examine the status of progress, to approve the 2019 annual work plans and budgets, to make recommendations and offer orientation in the direction the project should move.

### V- PRESENTATION OF THE SAWIDRA PROJECT

The Acting Director General of ACMAD, Dr Benjamin Lamptey presented the SAWIDRA project and gave an overview of the project. He mentioned that SAWIDRA project is part of a bigger program, the ACP-EU programme, and it is about building disaster resilience to natural hazards south of the Sahara. He reflected in his presentation the objectives of the project and presented an overview of the four components of the project.

### VI- SAWIDRA PROGRESS REPORT

The project coordinator of SAWIDRA-ACMAD, M. Leon Guy Razafindrakoto, presented the skeleton outlines of the logical framework after the mid-term review (MTR). He gave details on the three outcomes and all performance indicators. The financial officer presented the rearranged budget after the MTR. The project coordinator presented and gave explanation of the status of progress. His report described all the components and the current state of achievements of the project. He highlighted the activities already done and the up coming ones.

### VII- PRESENTATION OF 2019 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

The project coordinator and the financial officer presented the 2019 annual work plan and budget. All the working documents were sent to the members of steering committee two weeks before the meeting. The 2019 annual work plan and budget were adopted after deliberations.

### VIII- RECOMMENDATIONS

After the presentations and discussions, the following were the recommendations:

N°	RECOMMENDATIONS	RESPONSIBLE	TIMEFRAME
1-	To set up a formal linkage between the SAWIDRA, and research related projects such as the SWIFT project and to build collaboration with Universities and research institutions in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction	ACMAD and other projects	December 2018

2-	To take advantage of continental platforms/meetings to organize side events for SAWIDRA, to monitor the implementation of the Steering Committee recommendations	ACMAD and AUC	Continuously
3-	ACMAD should leverage on the RCCs to advance the recommendations of the Steering Committee	ACMAD	Continuously
4-	To set up a committee for the monitoring of the equipment acquisition during the Douala meeting. This committee will meet quarterly. One of the venues should be Abidjan	ACMAD, AFDB, RCCs	November 2018
5-	To insert ACP logo in all SAWIDRA communications	ACMAD	Immediately
6-	To enhance the synergy among Regional Climate Centers in the implementation of activities, (e.g. process of equipment acquisitions)	ACMAD	Continuously
7-	No cost extension should be aligned with the overall programme timeframe (ACP-EU)	AfDB, ACMAD	Immediately
8-	Use of different outreach methods to improve the visibility of the SAWIDRA project	ACMAD	Continuously
9-	Steps should be taking to ensure there is a MoU between SANSa and SADC CSC as well as AGEOS and ECPAC in operating the RARS	ACMAD, AFDB, SADC RCC, SANSa	January 2019

## IX- CONCLUSION

The 2019 work plan and budget and all recommendations made were adopted. The date and venue of the next steering committee meeting was decided after some discussion. The third Steering Committee meeting will be held in October 2019 in Niamey, Niger. ACMAD will decide the date and inform the committee.

In conclusion, the representative of the African Development Bank stated that this meeting allowed to highlight the challenges of the project and he hopes that by December 2019, the equipment would have been acquired and the HPC installed and operational. The Bank representative repeated his commitment to give its support to the full implementation of the project.

The Chairman of the meeting thanked the members of the steering committee for attending this meeting and for their fruitful discussions and the obtained results. He stated that SAWIDRA project is

an added value to the visibility of ACMAD and ACMAD has the obligation to implement the recommendations made during this meeting.

The Director of the Ethiopian National Meteorological Agency and Chairman of the ACMAD Board of Governors closed the meeting by thanking once again the audience.

The Acting Director General of ACMAD

The Chairman of the Committee

**Dr Benjamin LAMPTEY**

**Mr. Gatkuoth KAI**



**Annex 1:**  
**List of participants.**







Deuxième réunion du Comité de Pilotage du Projet SAWIDRA/ACMAD

HOTEL GETFAM

ADDIS ABEBA, ETHIOPIE, 30 OCTOBRE 2018

LISTE DE PRESENCE DU MARDI 30 Octobre 2018

N°	NOMS PRENOMS	PAYS	INSTITUTION	FONCTION	ADRESSE	EMARGEMENT
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EUMETSAT



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**Annex 2:**

**Agenda.**

09:00	Welcome Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NMA Ethiopia</li> <li>- ACMAD</li> <li>- AfDB</li> <li>- AUC</li> </ul>
09:30	Introduction of Participants Designation of the Chair of the meeting	All
09:45	Adoption of agenda	Chair
10:00	Objectives of the Meeting	ACMAD
10:15	General presentation of SAWIDRA, Grant Agreement	AfDB
10:30	Coffee break and group photo	
10:45	Presentation of SAWIDRA project	ACMAD
11:00	SAWIDRA Progress Report: - Presentation of the mid-term review (revised logical framework, activities and budget re-arrangement)	ACMAD
11:30	Discussion	
12:00	Presentation of 2019 Annual Work Plan	ACMAD
12:15	Presentation of 2019 Budget	ACMAD
12:30	Discussion and Approval of 2019 Annual Work Plan and Budget	SC
13:15	Lunch	
14:45	Draft Recommendations and conclusion	Secretariat
15:45	Adoption of recommendations	
16:15	Coffee Break	
16:30	Date and Venue of Next Meeting	
16:45	Vote of Thanks	
17:00	End of meeting	