



**MEETING OF THE
SUB-SECTORAL COMMITTEE OF METEOROLOGY**

29 - 30 AUGUST 2024

RECORD

1. PRELIMINARIES

1.1 Introductory Remarks by the SADC Secretariat

Ms Mapolao Mokoena, Director of Infrastructure at the SADC Secretariat, in her remarks, on behalf of the Executive Secretary, welcomed the Committee members to the meeting of the Meteorology Sub-sectoral Committee (SCOM) and further reminded the members of the SCOM on the purpose of the meeting and thanked the Government of Zimbabwe for hosting the meeting.

1.2 Opening Remarks by The Chairperson, Zimbabwe

Mrs Rebecca Manzou welcomed and thanked all the Directors who were in attendance physically and virtually in the meeting of the Sub-Sectoral Committee on Meteorology. She then opened the meeting after thanking the Secretariat for organizing the meeting of SCOM.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1 The Committee noted a complete list of participants in attendance attached as **Annex 1** to this record.

3. ADOPTION OF WORK PROGRAMME AND AGENDA

3.1 The Committee considered and adopted the programme and agenda (**SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/1A** and **SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/1B**) as presented by the Secretariat.

4. UPDATES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MINISTERIAL DECISIONS 2023

4.1 The Committee noted that, Ministers made several decisions during the virtual Joint Meeting of Committee of SADC Ministers Responsible for Transport, ICT, Information and Meteorology and SADC Infrastructure Ministers' Meeting held on 16 June 2023.

4.2 The Committee also noted that, the overall assessment of progress towards achievement of planned actions and milestones towards the SADC

Meteorological Ministers' Decisions 2023 as outlined in SADC Implementation Matrix [SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/2]. As of August 2024, implementation of the Ministerial Decisions stood at 12 (51%) decisions completed, 3 (12%) decisions that had reached more than 80% implementation, 3 (12%) decisions had reached more than 60% implementation, 1 (4%) decision had reached more than 50% implementation, while 5 (20%) decisions had less than 50% implementation.

- 4.3** The committee further noted that, more details on progress in the implementation of all Ministers decisions and the outstanding decisions which have less than 50% completion as of August 2024 and their set dates as provided in the Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of the Status on Implementation of Outstanding Decisions having less than 50% completion from the joint meeting of Ministers responsible for Transport and Meteorology in June 2023

DECISION SUBJECT	SPECIFIC DECISION	REASON	TARGETED TIMELINES
Decision 30: World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and Regional Institutions	Ministers directed Secretariat to engage with the World Meteorological Organization to ensure that the World Meteorological Organization Regional Institutions in the SADC region issue annual reports on progress;	The WMO office for Eastern and Southern Africa was without a WMO Representative for a while making it difficult to initiate engagements	31-Dec-2024
	Ministers directed Secretariat to convene an annual meeting with the World Meteorological Organization, African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology and the World Meteorological Organization Regional Institutions to ensure harmonisation of their activities.	The WMO office for Eastern and Southern Africa was without a WMO Representative for a while making it difficult to initiate engagements	31-Dec-2024
Decision 22: The Ministerial Conference on Early Warning and Early Action and the Early Warning for All Initiative (EW4ALL)	Ministers directed the SADC Climate Services Centre in collaboration with Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres to build capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services on the use of the SADC Regional Extreme Weather Alert System hosted by the SADC CSC developed on a similar platform to that of the	(i) The WMO office for Eastern and Southern Africa was without a WMO Representative for a while making it difficult to initiate engagements. (ii) The Common Alert Protocol system hosted at the SADC CSC and populated by	31-Mar-2025

DECISION SUBJECT	SPECIFIC DECISION	REASON	TARGETED TIMELINES
	European Meteo-Alarm System towards implementation of the World Meteorological Organization's Common Alert Protocol (CAP);	Member States was shut down by Secretariat IT unit due to cyber-attacks detected within the system which was compromising the Secretariat's online operations	
Decision 22: The Ministerial Conference on Early Warning and Early Action and the Early Warning for All Initiative (EW4ALL)	Directed the SADC Climate Services Centre in collaboration with Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to encourage and support National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to update national extreme weather alerts on the SADC Regional Extreme Weather Alert System portal for Member States hosted at the CSC	(i) The WMO office for Eastern and Southern Africa was without a WMO Representative for a while making it difficult to initiate engagements. (ii) The Common Alert Protocol system hosted and used by Member States was shut down by Secretariat IT unit due to cyber-attacks detected within the system which was compromising the Secretariat's online operations	31-Mar-2025
Decision 23: Functions of SADC-CSC as a Regional Climate Centre	Ministers directed the SADC Climate Services Centre to collaborate with Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) in South Africa and La Reunion (France) as well as NMHSs to enhance complementarity and ensure there is no duplication or overlap of mandates in relation to the issuing of warnings	(i) The WMO office for Eastern and Southern Africa was without a WMO Representative for a while making it difficult to initiate engagements.	31-Dec-2024

5. ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2023/2024

5.1 The Committee noted the following major achievements attained in the Meteorology Sector during the 2023/2024 Financial Year:

- (i) Term of References for the Regional Sectoral User Interface Platform (UIPs) were developed for priority sectors and the National User Interface Platform initialized during the Focus Country Event in Angola held from 25 to 28 March 2024;

- (ii) SADC CSC has operationalised the UIP Helpdesk and a Community of Practice and commenced online Lunch & Learn (L&L) sessions with climate services stakeholders in Nov 2023. As of July 2024, three (3) L&L sessions were conducted online;
- (ii) SARCOF 27, 28 and 29 were successfully convened, where about 60 climate experts from Member States were trained in producing seasonal forecasts using the Climate Forecasting Tool (CFT), Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) and PyCPT during Climate Expert Meeting (CEM) after which the SARCOF27, 28 and 29 Statements were produced:
- (iii) Member States have been trained in the following:
 - (a) Climate Expert Meeting (CEM) workshop preceding the SARCOFs;
 - (b) Trainings on ClimSA Station;
 - (c) Training Workshop on homogenisation of climate data;
 - (d) Workshop on harmonisation of Climate Data Management System in the SADC region and data rescue;
 - (e) Training Workshop on Foundational Seasonal forecasting; and
 - (f) Training workshop for the SADC Region on the Water, Energy , Food and Agriculture and Environment (WEFE) Nexus, Climate Variability, and Environmental Monitoring; and
- (iv) SADC CSC is producing new climate products. The products are available on CSC website (<http://csc.sadc.int/en/>) along with bulletins produced using the generated products.

6 METEOROLOGY PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Meteorology Sector Unit

- 6.1.1 The Committee noted that the position of the Senior Programme Officer-Meteorology which was vacant since April 2022 has been filled as of August 2024. As from 01 August 2024, Mrs Surekha Ramessur has been appointed as the Senior Programme Officer – Meteorology.
- 6.1.2 The Committee also noted that, the Secretariat has launched the process to recruit an external consultant to assist in the review of the Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology.

6.2 Data Exchange and Data Sharing in the SADC Region

- 6.2.1 The Committee noted that, the SADC Climate Services Centre in collaboration the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) organized a Data Exchange, Data Rescue and Data Sharing workshop in Luanda, Angola from 10th to 11th May 2023.
- 6.2.2 The Committee also noted that, the main aim of the workshop was to raise awareness on the 'data-sharing rationale for climate services' and to highlight the

benefits of data-sharing. The workshop further aimed at initiating the development of a joint declaration by NMHSs directors of the SADC region to make meteorological data available for RCC operations.

6.2.3 The Committee further noted that, during the workshop, WMO experts shared the various initiatives of WMO geared towards enhancement of station networks for least developed countries through the SOFF and GBON programmes. Recommendations of the workshop drafted for Directors of Meteorological Services to consider [SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/3].

6.2.4 The Committee noted that, WMO convened another workshop on Enhancing Data-sharing in the Southern African Region through remote sessions via Zoom, in afternoons of 16-18 July 2024. During the Workshop participants agreed on the way forward for the Southern African Region to enhance data sharing by National and Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) from Member States with SADC CSC. The next steps [SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/4] tailored for action by the entities including: the NMHSs of the SADC Member States; the SADC Secretariat (SADC CSC); the WMO Secretariat were presented.

RECOMMENDATION 1:

Data Exchange and Sharing in the SADC Region

6.2.5 The Committee recommended that the SADC Climate Services Centre:

- (i) organize meetings with the Directors of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services or their appointed representatives to discuss meteorological and climate data sharing modalities and platforms between the Climate Services Centre and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services;
- (ii) develop the meteorological and climate data sharing platforms;
- (iii) ensure safety and security of the data shared by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services; and
- (iv) ensure collaboration between the World Meteorological Organization regional bodies such as the Regional Telecommunication Hub (RTH) and the Climate Services Centre.

6.2.6 The Committee recommended that Member States approve and implement the WMO workshop recommendations from the Angola Focus Country meeting [SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/3] and the proposed Key Next Steps derived during the virtually organized WMO Data Exchange workshop [SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/4].

6.3 Mainstreaming Climate Information into policy

6.3.1 The Committee recalled that, SADC continues implementing the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications (ClimSA) project. One of the key outputs of this project, focuses on the mainstreaming of climate information into policies with the aim to enhance climate-informed decision-making and ensure

that climate services are effectively integrated into policy processes at both regional and national levels.

- 6.3.2 The Committee also recalled that, the Meteorological Chapter of the STAP II for the Implementation of the RIDMP for the period 2023-2027, approved in April 2023, highlights the importance of mainstreaming of climate information into SADC policies.
- 6.3.4 The Committee noted that, a draft document on Mainstreaming of Climate Information Guidelines has been developed. The document sets out guidelines that are designed to guide practitioners to ensure that issues related to climate change and climate resilience are considered and that climate information and/or climate services are integrated and addressed systematically from the initial assessment and planning stage of policy/strategy/plan development. The document also provides suggestions on implementation and monitoring of mainstreaming of climate information and/or climate services, and the evaluation of mainstreaming at the end of the Policy/strategy/plan lifecycle [**SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/5**].
- 6.3.5 The Committee also noted that the Mainstreaming of Climate Information Guidelines Document has been internally reviewed by the SADC Secretariat.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

Mainstreaming Climate Information into policy

- 6.3.6 The Committee recommended Member States to assist in the review process of the document and send their input to the Secretariat through the Climate Service Centre by 30th September 2024.

6.4 SADC-CSC as a WMO Regional Climate Centre

- 6.4.1 The Committee recalled that, the SADC Climate Services Centre (CSC), as a specialized centre of excellence for the SADC Region, continues to provide regional weather and climate services through the NMHSs, in support of multi-sectoral socio-economic development.
- 6.4.2 The Committee noted that, under the guidance of the WMO and with the support of the ClimSA Project, significant progress has been achieved to propose and designate the SADC CSC as the WMO Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for the SADC region.
- 6.4.3 The Committee also noted that, an implementation plan [**SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/6**] has been developed by WMO through RIMES to aid the SADC CSC in meeting the prerequisites of WMO's RCC, progressing to the RCC demonstration phase and ultimately achieving designation as a WMO-approved RCC.
- 6.4.4 The Committee further noted that, the Botswana Department of Meteorological Services has fully supported the SADC-CSC initiative to enter the demonstration phase.

- 6.4.5 The Committee noted that, the application documents demonstration phase for establishing the SADC CSC as the RCC for the SADC region has been submitted which includes a letter of intent to Regional Association I (RAI) and the support letter from the Permanent Representative with WMO of Botswana.

RECOMMENDATION 4:**SADC-CSC as a WMO Regional Climate Centre**

- 6.4.6 The Committee recommended that, Member States continue to support the subsequent steps in the designation of the SADC Climate Services Centre as World Meteorological Organization designated Regional Climate Centre.

- 6.4.7 The Committee recommended that, the SADC Climate Services Centre:

- (i) continues to collaborate with World Meteorological Organisation Secretariat towards the designation of the SADC Climate Services Centre as a single multifunctional WMO Regional Climate Centre for the SADC region; and
- (ii) sustains generation of the Mandatory and Highly Recommended functions of an RCC.

6.5 Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF)

- 6.5.1 The Committee recalled that, the SADC-CSC has played a crucial role for over 2 decades in convening the Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF) to generate regional seasonal forecasts and early warning products in partnership with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of the SADC Region.
- 6.5.2 The Committee noted that, over the years, the SARCOF process has successfully improved the capability of NMHSs to provide climate information and services to users for decision-making and planning for multi-sectoral socio-economic development at national level, that include preparedness to climate and weather induced disasters, thus it is vital to sustain the SARCOF process in the region.
- 6.5.3 The Committee also noted that, the SADC Secretariat convened the twenty-ninth Southern African Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-29) on 26-29 August 2024. The theme for the year was: - At the frontline of climate action towards improved climate services in the SADC Region, based on the WMO World Meteorological Day theme for 2024.
- 6.5.4 The Committee further noted that, as from SARCOF-28, the SADC-CSC with the collaboration of climate experts from Member States NMHSs has adopted the Objective Seasonal Forecasting (OSF) methodology which complements the consensus forecast. This has culminated in the operational use of the upgraded version of the Climate Forecasting Tool during the Climate Expert Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION 5:

Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF)

6.5.5 The Committee recommended that:

- (i) Member States to continue to promote the uptake and downscaling of the SARCOF forecasts and the seasonal early warning advisories for decision-making and multi-sectoral socio-economic development at national level;
- (ii) Member States make adequate budgetary allocations to support participation of Directors of NMHSs and National Experts in future SARCOF fora;
- (iii) Secretariat continues to mobilise resources to convene SARCOF physically as far as practicable;
- (iv) the Secretariat should ensure that the logistical arrangements for Member participation in these sessions are timely, to ensure seamless participation; and
- (v) Member States to consider alternative funding mechanisms to sustain the SARCOF programme.

6.6 Update on the Implementation of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application Programme (ClimSA)

6.6.1 The Committee recalled that, the Secretariat through the SADC-CSC is implementing the ClimSA programme in the SADC region with the collaboration of the World Meteorological Organisation, EU Joint Research Centre, European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) Secretariat.

6.6.2 The Committee also recalled that, the Programme has five (5) specific outputs namely:

- (i) Structured interaction between the user, researchers, and climate services providers in SADC region;
- (ii) Increased availability of climate services at Regional and National levels;
- (iii) Improved access of NMHS and RCCs to climate information;
- (iv) Enhanced capacity of ACP regions to generate and apply climate information and products relevant to their concerns; and
- (v) Strengthened capacities of decision-makers to use climate services in policy-making processes at regional and national levels.

6.6.3 The Committee further recalled that, implementation of the SADC ClimSA programme has been reported as being behind schedule. In this regard, the ClimSA Programme Steering Committee recommended, in its meeting in

September 2023, that all ClimSA programmes apply for no cost extensions. The Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) review by EU of the programmes, undertaken by EU in 2024, made the same recommendation.

6.6.4 The Committee noted that, following the request for a no cost extension from the European Union, the SADC ClimSA programme has been granted a second no-cost extension and the new completion date is October 2025.

6.6.5 The Committee also noted the progress/status [**SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/7**- of the implementation of the SADC-ClimSA program as of August 2024 summarised below:

- (i) Term of References for the Regional Sectoral UIPs were developed for priority sectors and The National User Interface Platform was initialised during the second Focus Country Event in Angola held from 25 to 28 March 2024 and tabled for approval in August 2024.
- (ii) SADC CSC has operationalised the UIP Helpdesk and a Community of Practice and commenced online Lunch & Learn sessions; these activities are targeted at climate services stakeholders to further co-production, improve engagement and improve uptake of SADC CSC's products and services, and enhance the SARCOF process.
- (iii) SARCOF 27, 28 and 29 were successfully convened in hybrid mode, where about 60 climate experts from Member States were trained in producing seasonal forecasts using the Climate Forecasting Tool (CFT), Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) and PyCPT during CEM, after which the SARCOF27, 28 and 29 statement were produced.
- (iv) SADC CSC is producing new climate products. The products are available on CSC's website together with bulletins produced using the generated products.
- (v) Procurement of second batch equipment (Data rescue equipment) is ongoing and as of August 2024 shipment to MS has started.
- (vi) Capacity building provided to Member States are:
 - a. Climate Expert Meeting (CEM) preceding the SARCOF;
 - b. Training on ClimSA Station;
 - c. Training Workshop on homogenisation of climate data;
 - d. Workshop on harmonisation of CDMS in the SADC region and data rescue;
 - e. Training Workshop on Foundational Seasonal forecasting; and
 - f. Training workshop for the SADC Region on the WEFEX NEXUS, Climate Variability, and Environmental Monitoring.

6.6.6 The Committee further noted the following planned activities of the SADC-ClimSA program for 2024/25 Financial Year:

- (i) Shipment of the data rescue equipment and equipment to support User Interface Platform in the Focus Country and Client Workstation for Climate Station and Early Warning System.
- (ii) Conduct training related to the procured equipment.
- (iii) Revamp SADC CSC website.
- (iv) Convene two SARCOF events.
- (v) Capacity building on climate service information to improve production and dissemination at regional and national level.
- (vi) Pursue demonstration phase implementation plan towards designation as a Regional Climate Centre (RCC) by the World Meteorological Organisation; and
- (vii) Continue implementation of the Objective Seasonal Forecasting and enhancement of SARCOF through stakeholders' engagement.

RECOMMENDATION 6:

Implementation of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application Programme (ClimSA)

6.6.7 The Committee urged Member States to:

- (i) collaborate with the Secretariat in the implementation of the Intra-ACP Climate Services and related Application (ClimSA) Programme; and
- (ii) fully utilise the equipment provided by the programme to enhance the capacities of their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to provide climate services at national level and support the regional climate services information system.

6.7 WMO/ICAO Quality Management System (QMS) in SADC National Meteorological Services

6.7.1 Ministers recalled that at the Ministerial Meeting in July 2021, Ministers urged Member States to:

- (i) comply with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)'s requirement for ISO 9001-2015 certification of aeronautical meteorological services.
- (ii) develop legal framework to facilitate diverse cost-recovery mechanisms and public-private engagement; and
- (iii) provide extra support to NMHS during COVID-19 pandemic considering the decline of resources from the aviation sector.

6.7.2 Ministers further recalled that all the WMO/ICAO QMS ISO compliance deadlines have lapsed as follows:

- (i) WMO Qualification Standards (for aeronautical forecasters) - Dec 2016;

- (ii) Migration to internet-based service for reception of Global Forecast Products - July 2016;
- (iii) Migration to new QMS (ISO 9001:2015) - September 2018;
- (iv) Migration to digital aeronautical data/information - Nov 2018; and
- (v) Global and Regional Space Weather Products - 2018.

6.7.3 Ministers noted as per a survey conducted in 2022 by SADC-CSC, to date eight (8) SADC Member States are ISO 9001:2015 certified, namely: Angola, Botswana, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Seychelles and Zimbabwe. The remaining eight (8) Member States are at various stages of QMS certification.

6.7.4 Ministers also noted that some SADC Member States are still facing challenges on establishment of QMS for aeronautical meteorological services, Competency Assessment of meteorological personnel and cost recovery for the delivery of aviation meteorological services. The major challenge is that NMHSs are facing poor investment and weak cooperation with the respective National Civil Aviation Agencies (NCAAs) in ensuring quality aeronautical services.

6.7.5 Ministers further noted that there is an urgent need to facilitate dialogue between the NMHSs and National Civil Aviation Agency (NCAA), in order to develop national mechanisms to provide financial resources to NMHSs to operate as per the ISO Standards requirements.

RECOMMENDATION 7: WMO/ICAO Quality Management System (QMS) in SADC National Meteorological Services

6.7.6 The Committee urged Member States:

- (i) that have not yet adhered to the International Standards Organization 9001-2015 certification to take the necessary and urgent action in order to avoid their countries being flagged as a high safety risk zone;
- (ii) to allocate human and financial resources to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services to urgently implement the International Standards Organization 9001:2015 requirements to ensure their sustainability; and
- (iii) encourage Member States to consider the WMO Twinning arrangement among Member States and Voluntary Cooperating Programme (VCP) for Member States not yet International Standards Organization 9001:2015 certified and note the offer from South Africa to provide support to other Member States in this regard; and
- (iv) to convene the joint meetings between National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and National Civil Aviation Agencies at national level to agree on cost recovery mechanisms emanating from the provision of aeronautical meteorological services.

6.8 Meteosat Third Generation (MTG) for Africa and the African Meteorological Satellite Application Facility (AMSAF)

- 6.8.1 The Committee recalled that, the Abidjan Declaration on the Next Generation of Satellites Products for Weather and Climate Services in Africa was signed in September 2018 by the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET) President and the representatives of the Regional Economic Communities including SADC, under the auspices of the Minister for Transport of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, and which called upon the strengthening of African capacities to:
- (i) ensure a smooth transition from Meteosat Second Generation (MSG) to the Meteosat Third Generation (MTG), and secure access to exploitation of MTG satellite data and products in support of the Agenda 2063 of the African Union Commission (AUC), as well as a contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; and
 - (ii) and explore the feasibility of developing and establishing an African Meteorological Satellite Application Facility (AMSAF) leading to the generation of Africa-tailored satellite products on Weather and Climate Services answering to African requirements for socioeconomic development, in line with the African Space Policy and Strategy.
- 6.8.2 The Committee also recalled that the Abidjan declaration was presented to the 4th AMCOMET Session in 2019, and that sustainable access to and use of MTG and establishment of AMSAF are part of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) (2021-2030) that was approved by the 35th African Union Summit (Assembly/AU/Dec. 819(XXXV) – lit.125.) in January 2022.
- 6.8.3 The Committee further recalled that, the AUC and the AMCOMET met in Dar es Salaam, on the 12th September 2022 prior to '15th EUMETSAT User Forum in Africa' under the auspices of the Ministry for Works, Transportation and Communication of the United Republic of Tanzania, and in the High level Statement on Meteosat Third Generation (MTG) for Africa and the African Meteorological Satellite Application Facility (AMSAF) requested that European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) continue to provide Meteosat data free of charge to Africa in accordance with the WMO Unified Data Policy Resolution (Res.1) adopted in 2021, and to continue easing access and provide regular training to African users.
- 6.8.4 The Committee noted that, the first MTG satellite was launched on 13 December 2022. This satellite will provide unprecedented observation of weather and climate over Africa every 10 minutes for the next two decades. The MTG satellites data and AMSAF products will benefit weather and climate services in Africa including early warning of natural disaster amongst others.
- 6.8.5 The Committee also noted that, an MTG-AMSAF Preparatory Workshop was held in Brussels on 30-31 March 2023. The workshop gathered all stakeholders to consolidate the identification of activities to support the transition to MTG in

Africa, on establishing the AMSAF and contributing to Multi Hazard Early Warning Systems in Africa. The main outcomes of the workshop were:

- (i) The ECMWF would facilitate acquisition of NWP model input data to Africa;
- (ii) NMHSs to engage with EUMETSAT, ECMWF, SADC-CSC and the RSMC (South Africa) in defining the set of satellite and NWP products (and related tools) that could more specifically support Early Warning System for Severe Weather in Southern Africa; and
- (iii) NMHSs to engage through RA-I Dissemination Expert Group (RAIDEG) with other European Centres such as UKMO, Meteo-France, and ECMWF about product availability in Africa.

6.8.6. The Committee further noted that, EUMETCast-Terrestrial network complements the EUMETCast-Africa satellite-based system, as it will provide access to the full set of MTG data and products, via the National Research and Education Network (NREN). As of August 2024 two (2) NMHS in Southern Africa are being connected to the “EUMETCast-Terrestrial” network.

RECOMMENDATION-8:

Meteosat Third Generation (MTG) for Africa and the African Meteorological Satellite Application Facility (AMSAF)

6.8.7 The Committee recommended that the SADC Secretariat:

- (i) collaborates with the AU to facilitate the operationalisation of the PUMA Stations in all Member States which is provided through the ClimSA programme;
- (ii) engages with the AUC, EUMETSAT, ECMWF and the RSMC to customise products which support EWS in the SADC region;
- (iii) engage with the RSMC for Southern Africa for the operationalization of the AMSAF-Nowcasting for the region; and
- (iv) to closely collaborate with the Centre of Excellence (CoE) -Pretoria pertaining to the activities of the Meteorological Satellite Applications; as the CoE has existing and ongoing cooperation with EUMETSAT, for the implementation of the satellite applications in the continent.

6.8.8 The Committee recommended that Member States:

- (i) define a set of products (and related tools) that are needed from Meteosat Third Generation to support Early Warning Services in the region;
- (ii) engage with their NREN (see <https://ubuntunet.net/>) to seek possibility to connect to EUMETCast-Terrestrial;
- (iii) implement the Multi-Hazard Early Warning for All Africa Action Plan; and
- (iv) be encouraged to develop national early warning implementation plans.

6.9 African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET).

6.9.1 The Committee recalled that, the AMCOMET is a high-level initiative of WMO, AUC and Member States on climate and weather strategies. The AMCOMET increases political support and recognition of the national meteorological services' contribution to socioeconomic development and poverty eradication in the Continent.

6.9.2 The Committee also recalled that, at the meeting in July 2021, Ministers urged Member States to:

- (i) expedite the ratification process of the constitution and contribute to the AMCOMET Trust Fund; and
- (ii) support NMHSs to replace their Meteorological instruments, equipment and plants in line with the Minamata Convention on Mercury (Treaty of 2013 that came into force on 16 August 2017).

6.9.3 The Committee noted the active participation of Tanzania but also the low-level participation of Members to the 5th African Union Specialised Technical Committee (STC-5) in November 2023 which made it difficult to influence the political decisions with regards to Meteorology.

6.9.4 The Committee also noted STC-5:

- (i) adopted the AMCOMET report and requested AUC to establish and operationalize a monitoring mechanism of the national capacity to produce weather, climate services and early warnings in Africa with the support from WMO and the AMCOMET Secretariat and present a biennial review report in the meeting.
- (ii) requested Members, as well as partners, to increase their investments in hydrometeorological infrastructure, data collection and service provision to improve "advanced" functional capacities of the NMHS in support of decision-making in the various socioeconomic development sectors such as agriculture, health, infrastructure, energy, etc.

6.9.5 The Committee noted the outcomes of the Sixth AMCOMET that took place on 15-16 May 2024 online. The implementation plan, monitoring and evaluation and resource mobilization plan of the African Integrated Strategy on Meteorology were approved. The following decisions were taken:

Decision 1: The Session recognises the importance of ratifying the AMCOMET Constitution and providing financial support to show the commitment of Member States to the AMCOMET process. The Session commends those who have ratified the AMCOMET Constitution and/or paid their contribution.

The Session requests Member States to investigate the ratification process in their respective states since, pursuant to Article 11 to Article 18 of the Vienna

Convention on the Law of Treaties, the ratification of the AMCOMET Constitution may not be necessary in some states, and encourages Member States to pay their contributions to the Trust Fund.

Decision 2: The Session notes with appreciation the collaboration between the AUC, the AMCOMET Secretariat, WMO and EUMETSAT in implementing the Abidjan Declaration and ensuring a smooth transition from MeteoSat Second Generation (MSG) to MeteoSat Third Generation (MTG) for Member States to continue accessing satellite data and other model data to produce tailored weather, water, and climate services including early warnings.

Noting the success of all of the African Union's previous projects related to the Preparation for Use of MSG in Africa (PUMA), under the EU-AU partnership, the Session **decides** to call on AUC and Partners to mobilise resources to fund activities of the MTG-AMSAF proposal that will support early warnings on the continent and the establishment of African Meteorological Satellite Application Facilities, as stated in the Dar es Salaam high level statement.

Decision 3: The Session notes with appreciation the adoption of the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology by the Heads of African States (Assembly/AU/Dec.819(XXXV)).

The Session further appreciates the participation of the AMCOMET Bureau in the Southern Africa Ministerial Conference on 'Early Warning Early Action' which took place on 5 through 8 September 2022 in Maputo, Mozambique and the support of the AMCOMET Secretariat in the organization of the event.

The Session **endorses** the recommendations and decisions of the Bureau meeting of 9 September 2022 held in Maputo, Mozambique.

The Session **requests** Member States to host side events during future COPs in their pavilion or in the African Union pavilion to raise the visibility of NMHSs and boost the support from Partners to implement the strategy.

Decision 4: The Session notes with appreciation the participation of the Chair, Bureau Member States and some Ministers in various continental and international events contributing to raising the visibility of AMCOMET and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services. The Session **encourages** Member States to attend meetings related to Hydromet issues, climate change, adaptation, disaster risk reduction and early warning systems, including COPs, to show the relevance of NMHSs.

Decision 5: The Session commends the AMCOMET Secretariat, AUC and WMO for the production of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and resource mobilization plans that will guide the work of AMCOMET.

The Session **endorses** the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and resource mobilization plans of the Integrated African Strategy of Meteorology and requests AUC to submit them to STC-ARDE and high AU policy organs for endorsement.

The Session requests Member States, AUC and WMO to facilitate the launch of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and resource mobilization plans of the Integrated African Strategy of Meteorology at any relevant event such as COPs.

The Session further requests the Secretariat to organize a Bureau meeting before the end of this year to re-establish task teams chaired by bureau Member States to facilitate the implementation of the Integrated African Strategy of Meteorology.

Decision 6: The Session notes with satisfaction the decisions of STC-ARDWE 4 and 5 approving the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology leading to its adoption by African Heads of State and the request to submit a biennial review of its implementation.

Decision 7: The Session requests AUC to develop a monitoring tool with the support of the Secretariat and facilitate the biennial review to be submitted and presented at the next STC and higher policy organs.

Decision 8: The Session requests Members to report on the progress of the implementation of the Strategy annually and contribute to the requested biennial review.

Decision 9: The Session further requests Member States, as well as partners, to increase their investments in human resources, hydrometeorological infrastructure, data collection and service provision to improve functional capacities of NMHSs in support of decision-making in the various socioeconomic development sectors such as agriculture, water, health, infrastructure, and energy.

Decision 10: The Session notes with satisfaction the activities of the Secretariat despite the limited number of staff and requests Member States to make more staff available (even working remotely) to support the activities of the Secretariat and the good implementation of the African Integrated Strategy on Meteorology.

Decision 11: The Session notes the low level of implementation of AMCOMET Decisions and requests Member States to expedite the implementation of all previous recommendations, decisions and declarations with the support of AUC, WMO and all relevant partners.

Decision 12: The Session takes note of the outcomes of the RA I Session specifically on topics related to the issuing of warnings and alerts.

In reiterating that NMHSs are the national authoritative voice for the issuance of warnings and alerts, such warnings and alerts could be issued by NMHSs to avoid conflicting information being delivered to governments and user communities.

The Session requests the Africa Multi-hazard Early Warnings and Action System (AMHEWAS) Situation Rooms to better coordinate with NMHSs

while sending early warnings and advisories to Member States and user communities.

- 6.9.6 The Committee observed that important agenda items such as: Status of Ratification of the AMCOMET Constitution; Status of Contribution to the AMCOMET Trust Fund; Status of Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and WMO/ICAO Quality Management System (QMS) in SADC National Meteorological Services have not been reported on. As such the Committee recommended that, going forward those items should also feature as standard agenda items for the SCOM.

RECOMMENDATION 9:

African Ministerial Conference on Meteorology (AMCOMET).

- 6.9.7 The Committee recommended that Member States:
- (i) implement AMCOMET-6 decisions and prepare to provide inputs on the biennial report which AUC has been requested to submit to STC-6;
 - (ii) expedite the ratification process of the constitution and contribute to the AMCOMET Trust Fund; noting with satisfaction the contribution of Mozambique and Botswana;
 - (iii) support NMHSs to replace their Meteorological instruments, equipment and plants in line with the Minamata Convention on Mercury (Treaty of 2013 that came into force on 16 August 2017);
 - (iv) participate at the COP-29, host AMCOMET event in their pavilion and raise awareness of the leading role of NMHSs in Climate Information System and early warnings systems for Adaptation and seek for the Climate funds;
 - (v) continue to support the transformation of NMHSs into semi-autonomous agencies with gender, youth, inclusivity policy and action plans; and
 - (vi) increase their investments in human resources, hydrometeorological infrastructure, data collection and service provision to improve functional capacities of NMHSs in support of decision-making in the various socioeconomic development sectors such as agriculture, water, health, infrastructure, and energy.
- 6.9.7 The Committee recommended that for the future Meteorology SCOM meetings, agenda items such as: Status of Ratification of the AMCOMET Constitution; Status of Contribution to the AMCOMET Trust Fund; Status of Implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury and WMO/ICAO Quality Management System (QMS) in SADC National Meteorological Services should also feature as standard agenda items for the SCOM.
- 6.9.8 The Committee recommended that the Secretariat
- (i) ensure that the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services remain the sole national authoritative voice on weather and climate alert and advisories;

recognizing the role of the RSMCs (Pretoria and La-Reunion). To minimise duplications and mixed messages to end users the Terms of References (ToRs) of established Early Warning institutions such as SHOC should be aligned and harmonised with the roles of the NMHSs and RSMCs,

6.10 Cooperation between SADC and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) including its Regional Institutions

SADC and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Cooperation

- 6.10.1 The Committee recalled that, during the Ministerial Meeting in July 2021, Ministers were invited to encourage Member States to:
- (i) collaborate with WMO and to participate in the planned WMO events, the Management and Committees of the WMO;
 - (ii) enhance service delivery of NMHSs to better serve society and socio-economic needs; and
 - (iii) undertake all the efforts to implement the resolutions of the Eighteenth WMO Congress (Cg-18) and WMO RA-I 18th Session.
- 6.10.2 The Committee also recalled that, the 18th Session of the Regional Association I (RAI-18, Africa), was held virtually in March 2021. It focused predominantly on the WMO Reforms and established a High-level Task Team to lead the Regional Concept for Regional Associations. In addition, the session established Committees on Services, Infrastructure and Research and on Capacity Development to align with the new WMO Governance Structure. The RA1 Management Group was also reconstituted to take on board these new subsidiary bodies. The Session further amended the Tropical Cyclone Committee of the South West Indian Ocean to reflect emerging issues.
- 6.10.3 The Committee further recalled that, 18th RA-I Session identified multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS), capacity development, operational hydrology, public private engagements, and gender mainstreaming among its priorities for the period from 2021–2023.
- 6.10.4 The Committee noted the Regional Association I (RA I-Africa) 19th (Phase I) Session, was held on 13th to 15th May 2024. The objectives of the Session were to reflect the commitment of NMHSs to address the unique challenges facing the continent. By focusing on strengthening the infrastructural observation network and climate services, promoting sustainable water management, enhancing weather and climate information services, investing in capacity development, improving early warning systems, and fostering regional cooperation.
- 6.10.5 The Committee also noted that, Botswana is in the process of resuscitating and operationalizing the regional calibration centre in collaboration with WMO to ultimately be ISO 17025:2017 certified.

RECOMMENDATION 10:**World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Institutions**

6.10.6 The Committee recommended that Member States:

- (i) collaborate with WMO and participate in the planned WMO events, the Management and Committees of the WMO;
- (ii) enhance service delivery of NMHSs to better serve society and socio-economic needs; and
- (iii) undertake all the efforts to implement the resolutions of the Eighteenth WMO Congress (Cg-18), WMO RA-I 18th Session and WMO RA1-19th (Phase I) Session.

6.10.7 The Committee recommended the Secretariat to:

- (i) engage with WMO to ensure the WMO Regional Institutions in the SADC region issue annual reports on progress; and
- (ii) encourage the involvement of WMO and NMHSs in the development and operationalisation of the situation rooms at the regional and subregional levels; and
- (iii) to provide the necessary support to the designated WMO Regional Institutions, to ensure the fulfilment of their official mandates for the benefit of the region.

6.11 Disaster Risk Reduction Activities in the Region**6.11.1 Disasters in the Region**

6.11.1.1 The Committee noted that, as a result of the combined impacts of drought and floods experienced during the 2023/24 rainfall season, six Member States, namely, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe declared state of national disaster owing to the compromised agriculture production, compromised food and nutrition security, as well as water scarcity and its implications for energy production and health.

6.11.1.2 The Committee also noted that, despite the drought experienced in the region, there was also significant cyclonic activity. Tropical Cyclone Alvaro made landfall in Madagascar on January 1st, affecting 33,000 people, displacing 17,000, and causing 19 deaths. Additionally, an estimated 3,000 hectares of rice fields and 7,000 houses were flooded. Tropical Cyclone Filipo made landfall in Mozambique on 12 March 2024, affecting 50,781 people and destroying 5,879 hectares of crops. Tropical Cyclone Gamane made landfall in Madagascar on 27 March, and affected 95,391 people, displacing 27,918. An estimated 20,583 houses and 2,236 hectares of rice fields were flooded. Tropical Cyclone Hidaya made landfall on May 4th in Mafia Island, Tanzania, causing damage to properties and flooding in the affected areas. Tropical Cyclone Belal caused significant damage in Mauritius in January 2024. Heavy rains and flooding were recorded due to the Tropical Cyclone evolving in the vicinity of the island and two people died in Mauritius. The government of Mauritius issued the highest alert level and

instructed all non-emergency workers to shelter in place. Over 100,000 people were affected, including 40,000 households that experienced power outages.

- 6.11.1.3 The Committee further noted that, in December 2023, Seychelles declared a national emergency due to the impacts of the torrential rains that caused flooding and death of three (3) people. A massive explosion at an explosives' depot in the industrial area of the island, caused devastating damages to infrastructure, including homes in the surrounding areas.
- 6.11.1.4 The Committee noted that, following the impacts of El Nino, His Excellency Mr João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola and Chairperson of SADC launched the Regional Humanitarian Appeal in Response to the El Nino Induced Drought and Floods during the Extra Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government that was held virtually on 20 May 2024. This Appeal was necessitated by the declaration of a state of national disaster by Madagascar, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It highlights that about 61 699 026 people were affected by the impacts of El Nino, and that the overall response requirements amounts to US\$ 5 003 643 409.
- 6.11.1.4 The Committee also noted that, during the launch of the Humanitarian Appeal, the region received US\$ 34 Million in pledged resources to support the El Nino response. Several partners have been supporting Member States affected by El Nino with different interventions. To track this, joint monitoring will be conducted by the Secretariat and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), to facilitate reporting to Member States.
- 6.11.1.5 The Committee further noted that, Namibia and Botswana also declared a state of drought emergency on 22 May 2024 and 20 June 2024 respectively, more Member States may still declare state of emergency. Therefore, the Secretariat will develop an addendum to the Humanitarian Appeal to reflect the humanitarian needs of Member States who only concluded their assessments on the impact of El Nino after 20 May 2024.
- 6.11.2 Operationalization of the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC)**
 - 6.11.2.1 The Committee recalled that, during their meeting held in March 2022, Council approved the establishment of SHOC in Nacala, Mozambique. Noting that the region continues to be affected by disasters, Council also approved a Comprehensive Budget and Staffing Structure for the interim operationalization of the SHOC amounting to US\$1,388,556 for a period of three years from 2022 to 2025. It also approved that the budget be funded from Member States contributions and that staff for the interim period be seconded by Member States. These interim operations of the SHOC will facilitate the coordination of disaster preparedness and response while the Secretariat develops the Intergovernmental Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the Establishment of the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Centre, which is a governance instrument for the SHOC.

- 6.11.2.2 The Committee noted that, to date, eleven (11) Member States have signed the MoA for the Establishment of the SHOC. According to Article 17 of the MoA, it shall enter into force thirty (30) days after signature by two-thirds of the Member States and shall remain open for signature. In this regard, the MoA entered into force on 28th April 2024, following the signature of the MoA by the Kingdom of Lesotho which marked the attainment of two-thirds majority of Member States who had signed the MoA. This means that the SHOC is now established as an autonomous, self-accounting organization of SADC.
- 6.11.2.3 The Committee also noted that, to fast-track the full operationalization of the SHOC, the Secretariat has developed a Roadmap for the Permanent Operationalization of SHOC. The Roadmap focuses on, among others, putting in place the Governance Structure for the SHOC, including putting in place the SHOC Board of Directors and the development of an organizational strategy that will outline the vision, mission as well as strategic direction of the SHOC.
- 6.11.2.4 The Committee further noted that, the methodology for the constitution of the Governing Board provided for in Article 9 (i) of the Memorandum of Agreement is a rotational representation of State Parties Board. This will mean that the first Governing Body for the SHOC will comprise of the following State Parties: Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini and Lesotho.
- 6.11.2.5 The Committee noted that, in line with the functions of the SHOC, the Governing Board shall require the following expertise:
- (i) One (1) Disaster Management Expert with expertise in the management disasters across the disaster management value chain and in particular immediate post disaster early response and recovery;
 - (ii) One (1) Finance expert to guide the Board on Financial matters;
 - (iii) One (1) Legal Expert to provide legal guidance and the ensure the correct interpretation of the Memorandum of Agreement and the Host Agreement for the SHOC;
 - (iv) One (1) Supply chain and Operations Expert to guide the Board on matters relating to logistics and SHOC operations; and
 - (v) One (1) Meteorological/Climate Change/Early Warning Expert to guide the Board and the SHOC on matters relating to disaster preparedness and early warning issues.
- 6.11.3 **Early Warning For All Initiative (EW4ALL)**
- 6.11.3.1 The Committee recalled that the SADC Secretariat co-convened the Southern Africa Ministerial Conference on Early Warning and Early Action jointly with the AUC and the WMO in September 2022, hosted by the Government of Mozambique. The Conference was part of an Africa-wide initiative to be hosted in all Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to enhance early warning and

early action. Southern Africa was prioritized to host the first conference due to the recurrent disasters that have afflicted the region over the past few years. It was organized as part of the Early Warnings for All initiative, which aims to ensure that everyone on Earth is protected from hazardous climate events through life-saving early warning systems by the end of 2027.

- 6.11.3.2 The Committee also recalled that a multi-hazard Early Warning System is an integrated system which allows people to know that hazardous weather or extreme climate events are imminent, and informs how governments, communities and individuals can act to minimize impacts. An End-to-end multi-hazard Early Warning System made up of four pillars namely, disaster risk knowledge, monitoring, forecasting, warning, communication, and response. The Early Warning for All Initiative is premised on these pillars as the cornerstone. The Disaster risk knowledge and management pillar is led by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UDRR); the pillar on Detection, observation, monitoring, analysis, and forecasting led by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); the Warning dissemination and communication pillar is led by International Telecommunication Union (ITU) while the Preparedness and Response Capabilities pillar is led by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).
- 6.11.3.3 The Committee further recalled that, Ministers stressed the need for the region to ensure pro-activeness in dealing with the threat of natural disasters, other than being reactive when disasters strike. Ministers committed to the establishment of early warning systems at the national level, as well as, to support the operationalization of the SHOC and AMHEWAS. As a demonstration of their commitment, Ministers endorsed the key recommendations to enhance Early Warning Systems; and the Maputo Declaration on Early Warning Systems (EWS) Initiative.
- 6.11.3.4 The Committee noted that, to facilitate the implementation of the outcomes of the Ministerial Conference, the Secretariat developed a Roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference. Some of these Actions will be implemented through the following Projects:
- (i) **DRMSS Project:** The Secretariat through the Disaster Risk Reduction Unit is implementing the EU funded Disaster Risk Management Strengthening in SADC Project (DRMSS) from 2023 to 2026, valued at USD 4.6 Million. The overall objective of the DRMSS Project is to contribute to the reduction of the impacts of natural and manmade hazards, strengthen disaster risk management, and regional capacity for preparedness and response and contribute to increased resilience. As part of implementation of the outcomes from the Maputo Declaration on Early Warning Systems (EWS) Initiative, this project will facilitate the following:
- (a) Strengthening of regional multi-hazard early warning support mechanisms and integration of national early warning systems;

- (b) Operationalizing the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC); and
 - (c) Strengthening coordinated evidence generation to inform Disaster Risk Management decision making processes.
- (ii) RCRP Project: The Secretariat under the coordination of the DRR Unit in collaboration with the Directorates of Infrastructure and Food Agriculture and Natural Resources (FANR) is implementing the World Bank Funded Regional Climate Resilience Program for Eastern and Southern Africa Project. This project is aimed to improve the management of water-related climate impacts in Eastern and Southern Africa, and is funded to the value of USD 5 Million over a period of 5 years. Under the Early Warning for All agenda, the project will:
- (a) Conduct needs assessment of national early warning systems;
 - (b) equip and train Member States to facilitate linkages to regional (SHOC) and continental (AMHEWAS) early warning systems;
 - (c) Identify and consolidate early warning information materials and products for dissemination; and
 - (d) develop standardised data and information sharing formats and procedures at the national level including standard warning templates and protocols for climate risk identification systems to prioritise areas of social protection risk reduction interventions.

RECOMMENDATION 11:**Disaster risk Reduction Activities in the Region**

6.11.4 The Committee recommended that the SADC Climate Service Centre:

- (i) continues supporting humanitarian and emergency operations with timely hydro-meteorological weather hazard information and advisories for timely impact-based early warning information;
- (ii) issues scalable hydro-meteorological hazard information through SARCOF and monthly seasonal outlook updates;
- (iii) ensures seamless coordination and inter-operational linkages between the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action Systems (AMHEWAS), SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSS) and National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs);
- (iv) enhances the capacities of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in early warning information dissemination at regional and national levels; and

6.11.5 The Committee recommended that Member States

- (i) support the implementation of the DRMSS and the RCRP projects in line with the EW4ALL Initiative by:

- (a) facilitating the needs assessment of national early warning systems;
 - (b) Identifying and consolidating the early warning information materials and products for dissemination; and
- (ii) develop standardised data and information sharing formats and procedures at the national level including standard warning templates and protocols for climate risk identification systems to prioritise areas of social protection risk reduction interventions; and
 - (iii) ensure that pillar leads for the EW4ALL Initiative enhance collaboration in the implementation of activities and further facilitates reporting of their activities.

6.11 Meteorological Association of Southern Africa (MASA)

- 6.11.1 The Committee recalled that, the Extra-ordinary Meeting (EO) of the Sub-sectoral Committee of Meteorology was held on 01-02 February 2024 with the main aim of discussing the issues related to resuscitating and / or restructuring of the Meteorological Association of Southern Africa MASA [**SADC/SCOM-Met/2024/8**]
- 6.11.2 The Committee also recalled the EO-SCOM session Committee had recommended that the MASA Board considers the following:
- (i) possibility of passing a resolution to temporarily suspend the operations of the Association for a set period, during which, the Board will undertake the following:
 - (a) review the mandate of the association as enshrined in the MASA Constitution;
 - (b) determine various financing options for sustenance of the Association; and
 - (ii) presenting progress to the next meeting of the Meteorology SCOM for consideration for a possible recommendation to the meeting of the Committee of Ministers responsible for Transport and Meteorology, scheduled for September 2024.
- 6.11.3 The Committee further recalled the EO-SCOM session Committee had recommended that the SADC Secretariat to:
- (i) commence with a formation of technical working groups to fulfil the mandates of the Meteorology Chapter of the Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology of 1996;
 - (ii) develop terms of reference for all working groups in collaboration with Member States; and
 - (iii) guide the launching of the technical working groups.

RECOMMENDATION 12:

Meteorological Association of Southern Africa (MASA)

6.11.4 The Committee recommended that the MASA Board and MASA Members, in consultation with their respective governments, commence with the dissolution process of MASA in line with the MASA constitution and report progress at the next Meteorology SCOM meeting.

6.11.5 The Committee recommended that the SADC Secretariat:

(i) working with the Meteorology Technical Experts, formulates terms of reference for a minimum of four (4) expert teams / technical working groups in line with the SADC Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology proposed as follows:

- (a) Infrastructure and Observations Expert Team / Technical Group;
- (b) Weather and Forecasting Expert Team (Public Weather Service, Aviation, and Marine) / Technical Group;
- (c) Climate Monitoring, Modelling and Forecasting Expert Team / Technical Group; and
- (d) Climate Data and Information Systems Expert Team / Technical Group.

(ii) to convene an extra ordinary meeting of the Meteorology Sub Sectoral Committee in October 2024, to consider the proposals from the Meteorology Technical Experts on the recommended technical working groups and their terms of reference.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items discussed under AOB.

8. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date and venue for the next meeting will be agreed between the Chairperson of SADC and the SADC Secretariat and will thereafter be communicated to Member States.

Ms Rebecca Manzou

Director Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe
Chairperson of Meteorology Sub-Committee Meeting

Date:

Signature