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Our ref.: 17.263/S/ECA

Annex: 1

Mr K.Y. Amoako
Executive Secretary of the
Economic Commission for Africa
P.O. Box 3001
ADDIS ABABA
Ethiopia

GENEVA, 31 May 1999

Dear Mr Amoako,

I wish to thank you for sending me signed copies of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ECA and WMO. The changes you have proposed are acceptable to WMO. I am therefore pleased to forward to you a final signed copy for your record.

The MOU marks an important development and is another indication of the growing collaboration between ECA and WMO for the benefit of Africa. I look forward to the further strengthening of our collaboration, especially in the areas of interest to both ECA and WMO.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G.O.P. Obasi', written over a horizontal line.

(G.O.P. Obasi)
Secretary-General

The ECA and the WMO

Noting Resolution 621 of the ECA Conference of Ministers ECA/CM XXII (April 1987) adopting the ACMAD Constitution and, in particular, its Article 11 specifying the assistance ECA and WMO Secretariats should provide to the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) in the implementation of its activities,

Noting also Resolution 755 of ECA/CM XXVIII (May 1993) requesting the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Secretary-General of WMO to consider the possibility of the two organizations co-sponsoring the Centre,

Noting further Resolution 13 of the forty-fifth WMO Executive Council (June 1993):

- (a) requesting the Secretary-General to strengthen WMO's assistance to the Centre in the mobilisation of financial, scientific and technical resources necessary for its effective operation;
- (b) authorizing the Secretary-General to continue working closely with the Executive Secretary of ECA to implement as appropriate Resolution 13 and the relevant parts of ECA/CM XXVIII Resolution 755.

Aware of Resolution 800 of ECA/CM May 1995 requesting the two organizations to:

- (a) actively promote the strategy and plan of action adopted by the March 1995 Joint-ECA/WMO International Conference on Water Resources Policy and Assessment in the context of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development in Africa;
- (b) mobilize the necessary support for its implementation.

Aware also of Resolution 19 (Cg-XII) of the twelfth World Meteorological Congress (May-June 1995), Strategy and Action Plan for Monitoring and Assessing Water Resources of Africa,

Recognizing the potential and scope to strengthen the collaboration between ECA and WMO to enhance the contribution of the national Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Africa to the socio-economic development of Africa in the context of (i) the establishment of the African Economic Community, (ii) the programmes of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), (iii) the combating of natural disasters, (iv) the implementation of Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, (v) the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, (vi) the United Nations Convention on Desertification, and (vii) the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity,

Recognizing further that meteorological, climatological, water resources and hydrological data and information are essential to provide proper response to the impact of weather, climate and water on the socio-economic activities and that this information can be obtained by strengthening the African Meteorological and Hydrological Institutions and through enhancing their programmes and working relations with the user communities,

Considering that the ACMAD Programme will benefit the African countries through the establishment of relevant facilities and the provision of regular meteorological including climate

- (a) providing meteorological and hydrological input to early warning systems on weather and climate induced natural disasters;
- (b) assessment and alleviation of the effects of drought, desertification, floods, tropical cyclones, etc.;
- (c) the management of climate-related socio-economic activities such as agricultural production, promotion of the use of renewable energy and improvement of water resources assessment and management;
- (d) the conservation of environment for sustainable development, and;
- (e) capacity building for sustainable development.

Considering also that proper water resources assessment, development and management will assist the African countries in achieving:

- (a) food self-sufficiency, food security and provision of safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities;
- (b) combating and mitigating the effects of natural disasters including drought, desertification, tropical cyclones and floods;
- (c) reducing water stress and water scarcity.

Considering further the excellent level of co-operation and working relationship that presently exist between ECA and WMO as was evidenced in the joint Organization of the International Conference on Water Resources: Policy and Assessment (Addis Ababa, 20-25 March 1995) which adopted a strategy and plan of action for water resources assessment in Africa including follow-up action for its implementation,

Agree:

1. That WMO and ECA should take the leadership role to:

- (a) promote the Strategy and Plan of Action that emanated from the International Conference on Water Resources: Policy and Assessment;
- (b) assist African countries in their efforts to implement this strategy through activities such as organization of joint seminars/workshops and through fielding joint missions;
- (c) encourage the concerned subregional and regional intergovernmental development organizations to:
 - incorporate the strategy and plan of action in their programmes of assistance for water resources assessment and integrated water resources management in the African countries;
 - promote this strategy and plan of action for water resources assessment in Africa in the context of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development and provide the necessary financial support for its implementation;
- (d) mobilize the necessary support for its implementation.

2. That ECA should play a key role in:

- (a) the social and economic aspect of the ACMAD Programme, with emphasis on promotion of this Programme among various sectors of production, services and administration, with a view to stimulating the use of climate-related

- (b) supporting ACMAD as a Centre of Excellence for the application of meteorology, hydrology and related sciences towards the socio-economic development activities in Africa which will provide specific outreach services for the rejuvenation and restoration of the National Hydrological and Meteorological Services;

3. That WMO should play a key role in the scientific and technical part of the ACMAD Programme so that the overall goals of ACMAD are met and the long-term plans are implemented, in particular, those concerning:

- (a) resource mobilization for the implementation of relevant activities;
- (b) preparation of WMO/ECA sponsored meetings, conferences or workshops;
- (c) formulation and elaboration of project documents;
- (d) promoting the marketing and impact assessment of the ACMAD Programme in Africa.

4. To support, to the extent possible and through appropriate administration and financial arrangements, the activities of co-ordination, planning and evaluation, necessary for the implementation of this MOU and especially the resource mobilization initiatives and promotion mechanisms;

5. To liaise with the host country (Niger) of the ACMAD Centre and the ECA Member States through statutory meetings of the ACMAD Board of Governors and regular co-ordinating, planning and evaluation meetings on the ACMAD Programme between ECA, WMO and the Niger Government;

6. To further strengthen their co-operation and collaboration for the implementation of the ACMAD Programme, the Strategy and Plan of Action for Water Resources Assessment in Africa as was elaborated by the African Conference on Water Resources: Policy and Assessment, and all relevant recommendations of Agenda 21 and the African Strategies for its implementation, dealing with the application of meteorology and hydrology for sustainable development in Africa;

7. To ensure an adequate sensitisation of Member States, development partners, sponsoring institutions and foundations on the role played by meteorology, hydrology and water resources in the socio-economic development of Africa;

8. Jointly promote the implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management Policies and Strategies in Africa;

9. Jointly Design and Execute Training Programs in Drought Control and Mitigation at the policy-maker/Planners level in collaboration with sub-regional organizations such as CILSS, IGAD, SADC, ECOWAS, UMA with support from bilateral donor agencies and other relevant IGOs such as FAO, UNEP;

10. To consult and seek the collaboration of other relevant national, regional, and international agencies, institutions and organisations in the implementation of these programmes and other related activities;

11. To ensure/promote co-ordination of activities by all other organizations and agencies which contribute to the implementation of these programmes;

12. That the Director-General of ACMAD shall:

- (a) develop a strategy for mobilization of funds and for timely payment of contributions by member States.

- (b) prepare and execute ECA/WMO sponsored meetings, conferences or workshops within the framework of the ACMAD programme.
- (c) report to WMO and ECA on the activities of the ACMAD Centre on a half-yearly basis and on any other action requested by the Board of Governors.

13. That this Memorandum of Understanding shall be reviewed every four year by both parties and may be tabled for review at another time at the request of one of the two parties;

14. That the Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force upon signature by the two parties.



G.O.P. Obasi
Secretary-General

K.Y. Amoako
Executive Secretary



Geneva, 2 June 1999
For the World Meteorological Organization

Addis Ababa, 11 May 1999
For the Economic Commission for Africa