

## FRAMEWORK

### for submitting action pledges to the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change

Name of organization: **World Meteorological Organization (WMO)**

Date: 15 September 2010

Background	
Title of Initiative/Programme/Project	<b>Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs)</b>
Overall objectives	<p>To assist all Parties, in particular developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make informed decisions on practical adaptation actions and measures to respond to climate change on a sound scientific, technical and socio-economic basis, taking into account current and future climate change and variability.</li> </ul>
NWP work areas to which the pledge is relevant	<p>Methods and tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting development and dissemination of methodologies and tools for impact and vulnerability assessments, such as rapid assessments and bottom-up approaches, including as they apply to sustainable development</li> </ul> <p>Adaptation planning and practices (across different levels):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the development and dissemination of methods and tools for assessment and improvement of adaptation planning, measures and actions, and integration with sustainable development</li> </ul>
Activities to be undertaken and key outputs	
Project purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To bring together national, regional and international climate experts, on an operational basis, to produce regional climate outlooks based on input from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), regional institutions, Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) and global producers of climate predictions.</li> <li>• To promote consistency in the access to and interpretation of climate information by bringing together countries having common climatological characteristics.</li> <li>• To promote inclusion of climate change aspects in RCOF agenda.</li> <li>• To guide the technical procedures in RCOF operations, and facilitate development and use of standardized methods.</li> <li>• To undertake capacity building of national experts in climate prediction, downscaling and tailoring of climate products.</li> </ul>
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RCOF process typically includes the following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meetings of the regional and international climate experts to develop a consensus for the regional</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>climate outlook, typically in a probabilistic form;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Forum proper, that involves both climate scientists and representatives from the user sectors, for identification of impacts and implications, and the formulation of response strategies;</li> <li>○ A training workshop on seasonal climate prediction to strengthen the capacity of the national and regional climate scientists;</li> <li>○ Special outreach sessions involving media experts, to develop effective communications strategies.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Publish guidelines on best practices in RCOF operations</li> <li>● Organize, co-sponsor and facilitate technical support to RCOF sessions around the world (at least once a year in each sub-region), including Greater Horn of Africa, Southern Africa, Western Africa, Central Africa, Asia, South Asia, Southeast of South America, Western Coast of South America, Caribbean, Central America, Pacific Islands and South-eastern Europe.</li> <li>● Promote development of new RCOFs as necessary (e.g., South-east Asia, Polar Regions).</li> <li>● Promote RCOF linkages with climate research community as well as user sectors.</li> <li>● Include climate change focused sessions within RCOFs.</li> </ul>
Expected results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Consensus-based regional climate outlooks</li> <li>● Enhanced regional cooperation and networking for climate services.</li> <li>● Demonstration of the mutual benefits of sharing of climate information and experience.</li> <li>● Close interaction between the providers and users of climate information and predictions and enhanced feedback from the users to climate experts.</li> <li>● Development of user targeted climate products.</li> <li>● Enhanced national capacities in operational climate monitoring and prediction.</li> </ul>
Indicators of achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Numbers of RCOF sessions</li> <li>● Number of countries participating in RCOFs</li> <li>● Number of trainees in RCOF related capacity building workshops</li> <li>● Publications of guidance documents</li> </ul>