

## CLIMATE SERVICES FOR MENINGITIS EPIDEMIC SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL IN NIGER

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WMO and WHO have been collaborating on climate and health with emphasis on understanding, monitoring and predicting climate sensitive epidemics. A 10 year research project on meningitis (MERIT) led to improvements of understanding of interactions between climate and meningitis epidemic in Africa. ACMAD in collaboration with the Ministry of health in Niger have demonstrated generation and use of meningitis vigilance product for surveillance, control and management of recent meningitis events in Niger. It is recommended that countries of the meningitis belt of Africa consider operationalization of collaboration between climate service providers and meningitis surveillance and control programmes to improve preparation and early response to meningitis epidemic in Africa.