



INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Media Advisory

Date: 03 September 2022

Venue: Maputo, Mozambique

Southern Africa Ministerial Meeting on Integrated Early Warning and Early Action System

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

WHAT: Ministerial conference of the Southern Africa region on Integrated Early Warning and Early Action System.

WHEN: The conference will be held into two segments:
Experts meeting: *5-7 September 2022*
Ministerial meeting: *08 September 2022 (10:00 EAT)*

WHERE: Maputo, Mozambique (Joaquim Chissano International Conference Center).

WHO: The ministerial conference on Integrated Early Warning and Early Action System is jointly organized by the African Union Commission (AUC); the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), in collaboration with the Republic of Mozambique.

Objective:

The overall objective of the conference is aimed at converging on the priority requirements for the region to further accelerate the implementation of Sendai Framework Target G, to substantially increase availability of and access to early warning and risk information to people by 2030. The Conference will also take into consideration the gaps identified in the implementation of the Sendai Framework and recommendations as developed in the recent Third Multi Hazard Early Warning Conference (MHEWC-III) of 23-24 May 2022 in Bali, Indonesia.

The main objective of this Conference is to develop the Southern African region action plan on Early Warning System (EWS) in response to the call of the Secretary General of the United Nations to ensure that every person on earth is protected by EWSs, and in line with the 40th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 02-03 February 2022, endorsed the Africa Institutional and Operational Framework for Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action.

Expected outcome:



The main outcome from the Conference is the development of an Early Warning Systems (EWSs) Initiative and Action Plan for Southern African countries.

Background

During the 35th Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) Assembly, which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 5-6 February 2022, the AU Heads of State and Government adopted the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032) and the Integrated African Strategy on Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) (2021-2030). While the former provides a framework to guide, coordinate and support Africa's response to climate change, the Meteorology (Weather and Climate Services) Strategy serves as a continental strategic framework for integrated and coordinated mechanisms that provide strategic direction to Member States and other stakeholders in streamlining policies that address challenges and opportunities associated with the development and application of adequate weather, water and climate services at national, regional and continental levels. Among others, Pillar 3 of the Meteorology Strategy calls for action on improving early warning systems and climate risk management for the protection of life, property and the environment.

In addition, the 40th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 02-03 February 2022, adopted the Africa Institutional and Operational Framework for Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action. Consequently, the African Union further translated the Framework into Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action System (AMHEWAS) Programme, which aims to substantially reduce continental disaster losses by 2030 by ensuring availability and access to multi-hazard early warning and risk information to the African public by 2030. A coherent implementation of the initiative will significantly contribute to operationalization of effective multi-hazard early systems across the African continent.

Media representatives are invited to attend and cover the ministerial session of the conference on Thursday 08 September 2022 at 10:00am (EAT).

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For further information:

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