**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

**AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON METEOROLOGY**

**FOR AVIATION (ACMA-2018)**

(DAKAR, SENEGAL, 28-30 NOVEMBER 2018)

**RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATEMENT**

**RECOMMENDATION 1**

In the context of the **African aviation landscape**, the conference *recommended* that:

* Members of WMO Regional Association I (RA I) (Africa) and their aeronautical meteorological service providers must remain cognisant of the projected growth of aviation in the region over the next decade and beyond and the associated requirements of aviation users for high quality meteorological information and data.
* The potential impacts of climate change and variability on aviation operations must be well-communicated by aeronautical meteorological service providers to end-users, including downscaling to the local level impacts wherever appropriate.
* The core guiding principles of robust quality management and good governance be sustained, including adherence to aeronautical meteorological personnel competency and qualification standards, and supported by appropriate training and guidance.
* Fair, equitable and transparent cost recovery must continue to underpin the provision of meteorological service for international air navigation.
* In the interest of maintaining safe, efficient and economic aviation operations in Africa, it is imperative that Members of WMO RA I eliminate deficiencies and capitalize on opportunities in aeronautical meteorological service provision, taking appropriate advantage of regional, sub-regional and/or national collaborations that yield enhanced service delivery and cost efficiency.
* In order to secure financial sustainability of national meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) as service providers of aeronautical meteorological services, Members of WMO RA I must enhance their advocacy role with their parent Ministries and demonstrate their value to the aviation community.

**RECOMMENDATION 2**

In the context of the **global air traffic management (ATM) concept and foreseen meteorological (MET) service changes**, the conference *recommended* that:

* Aviation operations in Africa over the next decade and beyond will demand significant performance improvement in meteorological service and a transition from a product-centric approach to a data-/information-centric approach. This performance improvement will, to a great extent, be achieved through sustained investment in scientific, technological advancement, observational infrastructure, skilled human resources and visionary leadership.
* Innovation showcases and research and development projects are often reliable ways to demonstrate to aviation users the existing and foreseen state-of-the-art meteorological capabilities, thereby helping to expedite research-to-operations and science-to-services. Such activities and partnerships with Academia should therefore be encouraged wherever practicable.
* Public-private engagement in the supply of meteorological service for international air navigation should be encouraged amongst Members of WMO RA I wherever mutual, derived benefits are to be realized in coordination with the national meteorological and hydrological service (NMHS) and in compliance with policies and regulations of relevant national authorities.

**RECOMMENDATION 3**

In the context of the **sub-regional meteorological (MET) challenges and risks**, the conference *recommended* that:

* Members of WMO RA I with well-developed aeronautical meteorological services be encouraged to assist those Members of WMO RA I with less well-developed aeronautical meteorological services, especially in the context of quality management systems, aeronautical meteorological personnel competency and qualification, and cost recovery, through the further implementation of twinning/mentoring arrangements and other appropriate capacity development efforts wherever feasible.
* Members of WMO RA I must recognize the drivers for and the consequences of the challenges and risks posed by increased regionalization and globalization and the increased prominence of the private sector in aeronautical meteorological service provision.
* Communication, coordination, strengthening of sub-/regional centres and collaboration in preparing for and responding to these challenges will be essential in supporting those Members of WMO RA I most in need to build their capacities, in line with the principles of ‘no country left behind’ and therefore help ensure the future successful delivery of aeronautical meteorological service provision in Africa.

**RECOMMENDATION 4**

In the context of the **sub-regional meteorological (MET) opportunities and priorities**, the conference *recommended* that:

* Opportunities should be taken at a national, sub-regional and regional level to expand collaboration within and across Members of WMO RA I, in particular in the context of the sharing of basic meteorological data and shared access to infrastructure supporting the delivery of aeronautical meteorological services.
* Members of WMO RA I with aeronautical meteorological services must proactively engage with aviation users and civil aviation administrations to ensure that service delivery developments are appropriately prioritized and aligned with national and, where applicable, international requirements.
* Existing successful sub-regional/multi-national collaborations in aeronautical meteorological service provision in Africa (and in other WMO regions) can serve as best practice examples for consistent, harmonized regionalized service delivery and should be appropriately explored, if not already, by Members of WMO RA I.
* National meteorological and hydrological services (NMHSs) of Members of WMO RA I should continue their efforts towards the full implementation of quality management systems.
* Appropriate collaborative arrangements between ASECNA and NMHSs of Members of WMO RA I should be facilitated by WMO with a view to closing technical and non-technical gaps in the provision of meteorological service for international air navigation.

**RECOMMENDATION 5**

In the context of the **WMO Regional Association I priorities**, the conference *recommended* that:

* Members must place special attention on closing any prevailing gaps in the implementation of quality management systems, competency assessment and qualification of aeronautical meteorological personnel, and cost recovery of aeronautical meteorological services.
* Members must embrace change, overcome challenges and harness opportunities – now and into the future – to ensure that their aeronautical meteorological services proactively respond and remain flexible to the evolving needs of aviation.
* Members must encourage public-private engagement in aeronautical meteorological service provision wherever there are opportunities for mutual derived benefits in coordination with the national meteorological and hydrological service (NMHS) and in compliance with policies and regulations of relevant national authorities.

**STATEMENT**

The conference *stated* that:

* As aviation in Africa continues to grow year-on-year, the time for the Members of WMO RA I and the aeronautical meteorological community in general to respond to the evolving needs of aviation is now. Doing nothing is not an option.
* Responding the evolving needs of aviation will demand sustained investment in aeronautical meteorological services. Development partners will be key to success.
* WMO, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other international partners are instrumental in assisting the response, by Members/States, to change and to drive progress.

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