



SARCOF-17 ANNOUNCEMENT

THEME: **Advancing Adaptation to Impacts of Climate Variability through Application of Climate Information and Prediction Services for Sustainable Development**

Place: **Harare, Zimbabwe**

DATE: **28 –30 August 2013**

INTRODUCTION

Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), through the Climate Services Centre, is organizing the Seventeenth Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF-17), in Harare, Zimbabwe, 28-30 August 2013. SARCOF-17 is a collaborative effort between the SADC Climate Services Centre, SADC DRR Unit, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and other partners. SARCOF-17 is preceded by a 9-day Climate Experts Capacity Building Workshop of SADC National Meteorological/Hydrological Services (NMHSs) only, for the purposes of developing the 2013/14 seasonal climate forecast.

Proper interpretation of seasonal climate forecasts and their application across various socio-economic decision-making processes still remains a challenge in the region. It is, therefore, necessary that there is widespread stakeholder participation in the SARCOF process. This is a major priority of the process as it provides mutually beneficial interface between the practitioners of climate information and prediction services and partners that need to apply the products across a wide spectrum of socio-economic sectors. The SARCOF process is continuing to transform into an effective and reliable source of climate information and prediction services in order to fully exploit their potential for enhancing multi-sectoral, social and economic development.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of SARCOF-17 is to develop a consensus climate outlook for period October 2013 to March 2014 which is the upcoming rainfall season for the SADC Member

States. The forum will also discuss the potential impacts of the consensus seasonal climate outlook on other socio-economic sectors including disaster risk management, food security, health, water resources and hydropower management, among others. The forum will also review the October 2012 to March 2013 rainy season for the SADC region.

PARTICIPANTS

Participants to SARCOF-17 will include climate prediction experts from the national Meteorological/Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the SADC region and climate scientists from universities, research institutions, as well as regional and international organizations engaged in climate modeling, prediction and applications for the region. Various regional and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and development partners are also expected to attend. Due to inadequacy of the necessary resources, the SADC Climate Services Centre will not be in a position to fund those wishing to attend SARCOF-17.

HOW TO ATTEND

Those wishing to attend can express their intention to do so through completing the attached request-for-participation form and **submitting it to the Zimbabwe Meteorological Services not later than 23 August 2013.**

CO-OPERATING INSTITUTIONS

Co-operating institutions include all SADC National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, the African Development Bank (AfDB), the IGAD Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC); African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD); International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations / International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR) World Meteorological Organization (WMO); Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), ; Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA); European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF); National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA); the United Kingdom Meteorological Office (UKMET); and others.

WORKING LANGUAGE

English will be the working language for the Forum.



REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION

SEVENTEENTH SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FORUM
(SARCOF-17)
28-30 AUGUST 2013

*To be completed and sent to:
The Coordinator, SADC Climate Services Centre,
P/Bag 0095 Gaborone, Botswana.*

Completed form to arrive before 23 August 2013.

Tel: +267-395183/3413; Fax: +267-3972848 E-mail:; llephole@sadc.int; jphiri@sadc.int; "elliott bungare" <ebungare@gmail.com>; "schirambaguwa" schirambaguwa@gmail.com> fnsadisa@sadc.int ; bgaranganga@sadc.int

Please indicate area of interest: (tick in the box)

Climate scientist/expert

User of climate information

FAMILY NAME: _____

FIRST AND OTHER NAMES: _____

INSTITUTION: _____

POSITION: _____

PROFESSION: _____

FULL ADDRESS: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

There are limited slots for presentations relevant to the theme. Those intending to make a 10-minute presentation should send an abstract. The organizing committee will inform you if there is a slot for your presentation.

If you intend to make a presentation please indicate below.

TITLE PAPER: _____

In order for us to make transport arrangements indicate your itinerary by 23 August 2013.

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Date and place of the meeting:

◆ **Dates:** 28-30 August 2013

Location: Rainbow Tower Hotel, Harare, Zimbabwe

2. Entry Formalities:

◆ Entry visas can be obtained from the Zimbabwe Diplomatic Missions or Consulates in the participants' countries.

3. Currency

There is official use of multiple hard currencies such as United States Dollar, British Pound. There is no restriction on the amount of foreign currency that may be imported into Zimbabwe. However, re-exportation of currency will require declaration of the amount initially imported at the time and at the port of entry into Zimbabwe. ***Most banks in Zimbabwe have foreign exchange services. Banking hours are from 8:30 - 15:30hrs, Monday to Friday, 8:30-11:30hrs Saturday.***

4. Arrival and transport arrangements

Transport from and to Harare International Airport may be arranged if a travel schedule is provided well in advance. Provide the travel plan by **not later than 25 August 2013.**

5. Accommodation

We have arranged block booking at **Rainbow Hotel, Harare, Zimbabwe** at a special rate for **Bed and Breakfast** for participants to SARCOF-17. (Tel:+263-4-772633/9; Fax: +263-4-774668 /263-4-758648; email: sithandiwema@rainbowtowers.co.zw

6. Harare Climate

SARCOF-17 will be held during the transition period from the cool to hot season condition. As such weather in Harare is generally characterized by periods of dry, mild conditions. The long-term rainfall and temperature data for August are indicated below:

Element	Typical values
Rainfall	Highest 24 hour rainfall: 12 mm Highest monthly rainfall: 19 mm Mean monthly rainfall: 2 mm Lowest monthly rainfall: 0 mm
Temperature	Mean maximum temperature: 22.7 °C Mean minimum temperature: 8.7 °C Average of highest maximum temperature: 28.9 °C Absolute highest maximum temperature: 32.4 °C Average of lowest minimum temperature: 4.4 °C Absolute lowest minimum temperature: 1.9 °C
Relative Humidity	Average at 08:00 (local time) 52 % Average at 14:00 (local time) 34% Average at 20:00 (local time) 35%

Contact address

Any questions regarding the arrangements should be directed to:

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