

CONFERENCE SCIENTIFIQUE INTERNATIONALE SUR LE CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE • NIAMEY (NIGER)

NIAMEY DECLARATION OF THE 3rd CICC2024

At the end of the 3rd International Scientific Conference on Climate Change in West Africa and the Sahel, held from 09 to 11 September 2024 in Niamey, Republic of Niger

> For a holistic governance of the management of disaster risks caused by extreme climatic events in West Africa in the Sahel ??



WE, THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS:

- Recognize the extreme vulnerability of West Africa and the Sahel to extreme weather events and disaster risks, such as those recorded during the 2024 rainy season in many countries in the region;
- Highlight the urgent need to foster innovation and accelerate actions for a sustainable response to extreme climate events, building on scientific knowledge and information;
- Affirm the importance of strengthening scientific knowledge on climate, in order to produce climate services adapted for decision-making in the face of extreme weather events;
- Recognize the improvement in the quality of climate projections for our region;
- Note that, despite the persistent challenges related to the availability of data in quantity and quality, the information provided is useful for decision-making;
- Emphasize the need to scale-up adaptation and resilience solutions to accelerate the sustainable transformation of communities and ecosystems;
- Consider the dialogue among scientists and policy makers as a major element for the effective integration of climate change into development programmes and strategies;
- Reaffirm the importance of strengthening the food, environmental security, and that of humans and their property in the face of the adverse effects of extreme weather events;
- Encourage the commitment and active participation of Governments, civil society and various actors at all levels in addressing the impacts of extreme weather events;
- ✓ Note with concern the weakness of national climate and environmental funding, as well as the region's difficulties in accessing climate funds;
- Consider the recent evolution of the Global Framework for Climate Services, established in 2009 in Geneva at the 3rd World Climate Conference, to meet the growing need for user-friendly climate information and services;
- Are concerned by the conclusions of the IPCC reports (2021 and 2023) and UNCCD COP15, which warn of the worsening of climate impacts in our region, including the loss of agricultural productivity, desertification and the risks of conflicts linked to resource scarcity;
- Place our action within the framework of global agreements on climate and the environment, in particular the Paris Agreement.

Welcome:

- The institutionalization of the biennial holding of the International Scientific Conference on Climate Change;
- The advances in the establishment of national and regional institutional arrangements for climate risk management;
- The digitalization and harmonization efforts to facilitate the collection and access of data on the damage caused by extreme weather events, as well as the responses provided;
- The establishment of the "Loss and Damage" fund at COP28 under the aegis of the UNFCCC;
- The creation of the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region (CCRS); the adoption of the ECOWAS

Regional Climate Strategy (RSC) and the definition of a common vision for Agricultural Research in the region;

- The advances in the accreditation of the AGRHY-MET Regional Centre as a Regional Climate Centre for West Africa and the Sahel;
- The existence of research and development institutions at the regional and national levels, which are involved in climate science, adaptation, mitigation and resilience issues;
- The revision of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by all countries under the Paris Agreement and the finalization of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)

Reaffirm

- Our support to countries' efforts to set up institutional mechanisms for the management of disasters related to extreme weather events;
- Our commitment to developing regional cooperation to improve early warning systems, climate emergency management, and loss and damage assessment ;
- Our commitment to strengthening anticipatory climate policies and governance, as well as the integration of climate services into decision-making for a resilient development;

Call for:

- 1. Partners to support the regular and sustainable financing of the organization of the international scientific conference on climate change;
- 2. The creation of a Research Group on Environment and Climate in West Africa in the Sahel, following the example of the IPCC, in order to strengthen expertise, cooperation and partnership in our region;
- **3**. The development of regional and national programmes on climate services, adaptation and resilience;
- **4.** 4. Strengthening institutional coherence and coordination of climate intervention programming.

Recommandons

TO THE STATES

- Strengthen political commitment and governance of climate actions;
- Strengthen the consideration of scientific information on climate in decision-making;
- Accelere the implementation of institutional mechanisms for climate risk managementmechanisms;
 Establish sovereign and sustainable financing mechanisms for climate disaster risk reduction;
 Valorize the results of climate research in national policy-making and decision-making;
- Strengthen the digitalization of the collection of and access to data on climate impacts, includingdataon the damage caused by extreme weather events.

TO THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL PARTNERS:

- i) Support the implementation of regional platforms for climate services and the scaling up of resilience solutions;
- ii) Increase funding for scientific and technical capacity-building programmes;

TO REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- Act jointly to strengthen the effectiveness of their support to countries in the implementation of strategies to address extreme weather events;
- ii) Promote the valorization of climate research results in regional and national policy-making;

iii) Assist States in improving the quality of Climate Extreme forecasts for more anticipation in actions.



