GMet Newsletter

Minister Engages WMO/ECOWAS/AGRHYMET Mission on Climate and Meteorological Collaboration

The Minister for Communication, Digital Technology and Innovations, Samuel Nartey George (MP), has reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to strengthening collaboration on climate services and meteorological systems during a courtesy call by a high-level delegation from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), ECOWAS Commission, AGRHYMET Regional Climate Center, and the Ghana Meteorological Agency.

The Minister described the mission as timely, reaffirming Ghana's readiness to deepen partnerships, build capacity, and enhance climate monitoring through digital innovation. He also noted the establishment of a Climate Change Secretariat to coordinate national efforts in addressing climate challenges.

Leading the mission, Dr. Dayo Guiguigbaza-Kossigan highlighted Ghana's strategic role in regional climate coordination, while the delegation commended the Minister for his leadership in advancing Ghana's digital transformation agenda.

The five-day mission (April 13–17, 2026) focuses on technical consultations, capacity assessment, and the development of joint programmes and agreements to strengthen meteorological and hydrological services across the region.

The members of the delegation included Mr. Bernard Edward Gomez, WMO Representative for North, Central and West Africa; Dr. Raoul Kouame, Programme Officer at the Climate Change and Climate Services Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission;

The rest were Dr. Abdou Ali, Head of the Climate, Water and Meteorology Department at AGRHYMET; Prof. Mansur Bako Matazu, Technical Assistant; and Dr. Alhassane Agoli, Head of the Scientific Evaluation Unit and Coordinator of FERP Component 1 at AGRHYMET, Niamey, Niger.

Also present were the Director-General of GMet Dr. Eric Asuman and the Director for General Administration at the Ministry, Mr. Alfred Nortey.

GMet Engages Parliament on Proposed Authority Bill

The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) has continued its stakeholder engagement on the proposed bill to transition the Agency into a fully-fledged authority, as part of efforts to strengthen meteorological and climate service delivery in Ghana.

The two-day engagement, held at Aqua Safari Resort Ada, brought together representatives from the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), led by its Deputy Director-General, the Chairman and members of Parliament's Select Committee on Information and Communications. The meeting follows initial deliberations the previous day and, on Day Two, focuses on key technical, legal, and operational aspects of the proposed legislation.

Legal practitioners from Atuguba and Associates and Ahiaforh and Associates, who supported the drafting of the bill, guided participants through its provisions.

Key highlights of the discussions included the transition of GMet into an authority with regulatory oversight, expansion of its mandate into climate services, and the introduction of licensing and enforcement mechanisms. The bill also proposes the establishment of a sustainable funding framework and alignment with international standards under the World Meteorological Organisation.

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TA major focus of day two deliberations was the proposed funding model. Representatives from the aviation sector raised concerns about the potential impact of certain charges, particularly on airspace competitiveness, and called for a more data-driven, balanced approach. In response, GMet underscored the need for sustainable financing to support critical infrastructure, service delivery, and compliance with international obligations.

Participants also discussed governance arrangements, including an expanded board structure and strengthened accountability measures to enhance transparency and efficiency in the management of the proposed authority.

The engagement provided a platform for constructive dialogue, with participants emphasising the importance of collaboration in refining the bill to ensure it meets national priorities while supporting industry growth.

The consultative process is expected to continue as GMet works with relevant stakeholders to finalise the proposed legislation for consideration.

GMet Warns Aviation Stakeholders of Convective Cloud Risks Ahead of Major Rainy Season

Aviation stakeholders have been urged to take proactive measures against the risks posed by convective cloud development as the major rainy season approaches, following a stakeholder engagement organized by the Accra International Airport Meteorological Office of the Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet).

The engagement, held on April 7, 2026, formed part of activities marking Meteorological Awareness Month (MAM) 2026 and brought together airline operators, air traffic service providers, and airport authorities to discuss the implications of the 2026 Major Rainy Season Forecast for Southern Ghana on aviation operations.

Presenting the seasonal forecast, Senior Meteorologist Mr. Joshua Asamoah highlighted the increasing threat posed by convective cloud systems, particularly during afternoon hours, warning that these conditions are likely to trigger severe turbulence, wind shear, and lightning strikes.

"Deep convective clouds expected during the peak of the season will significantly impact flight operations, especially in the afternoons, increasing the risk of turbulence, reduced visibility, and operational disruptions," he noted.

He explained that heavy rainfall associated with these systems could reduce visibility and cloud ceilings below operational minima, potentially leading to flight diversions, holding patterns, and missed approaches, particularly at Accra International Airport.

Mr. Asamoah further indicated that thunderstorm outflows may generate sudden crosswinds capable of affecting take-off and landing stability, while intense downpours could result in runway contamination and increased hydroplaning risks.

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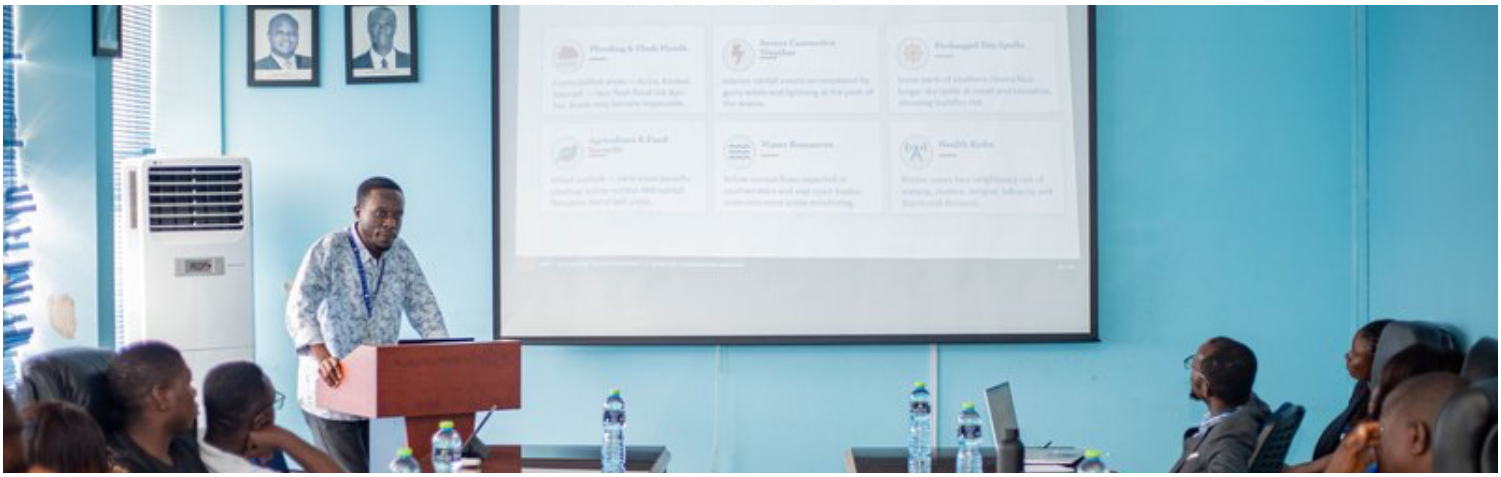

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He also cautioned that flash flooding in key operational areas such as Accra, Kumasi, and Takoradi could disrupt ground operations, including aircraft handling, fueling, and passenger movement, ultimately contributing to delays and increased operational costs for airlines.
To mitigate these risks, he encouraged aviation stakeholders to integrate GMet's seasonal, sub-seasonal, and daily forecasts into flight planning and dispatch operations, while emphasizing the need for enhanced coordination between pilots, air traffic control, and meteorological services.

The engagement also featured a presentation by the Manager of the Accra International Airport Meteorological Office, Mr. Raphael Osei Boakye, who provided participants with an overview of the office's operations and its critical role in supporting aviation safety.

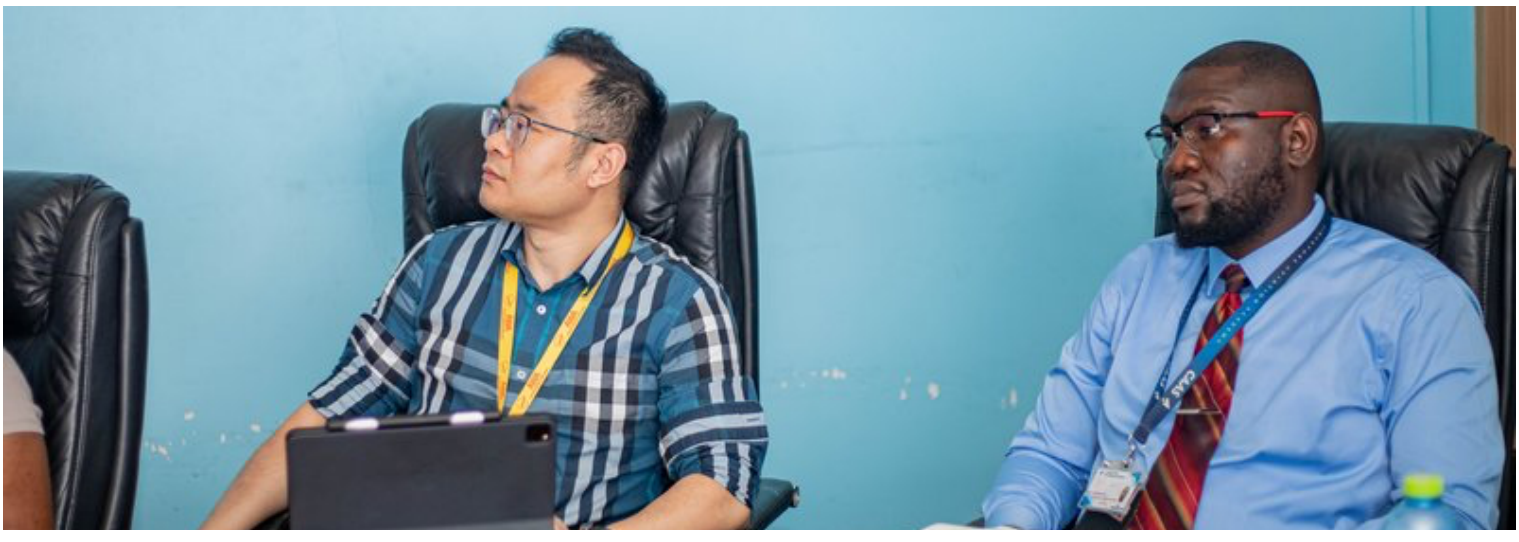
He outlined the range of services provided by the office, including real-time weather observations, aviation forecasts, and the issuance of critical advisories such as SIGMETs, which are essential for safe and efficient flight operations.

Mr. Boakye emphasized the importance of continuous collaboration between the Meteorological Office and aviation stakeholders, noting that timely feedback from users is key to improving the accuracy, relevance, and delivery of weather information.

The engagement concluded with an interactive session, where stakeholders shared operational challenges, provided feedback on existing services, and explored practical ways of strengthening collaboration to enhance aviation safety and efficiency.

The initiative aligns with international best practices outlined by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the World Meteorological Organization, which emphasize sustained engagement between meteorological service providers and users.

Officials of the Ghana Meteorological Agency reiterated their commitment to supporting the aviation industry with accurate, timely, and user-focused weather information, particularly as Ghana prepares for the peak of the rainy season.



GMet Hosts ECOWAS, AGRHYMET and WMO Delegation to Advance Regional Climate Center for West Africa and Sahel

On Tuesday, April 14, 2026, the Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) hosted a high-level delegation from ECOWAS, AGRHYMET Regional Center, and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as part of efforts to advance the operationalization of the Regional Climate Center (RCC) for West Africa and the Sahel.

The engagement brought together key stakeholders to strengthen collaboration and ensure that regional climate services are effectively aligned with national priorities. Discussions centered on improving meteorological data collection systems, identifying capacity gaps, and enhancing the delivery of climate information across the region.

Welcoming the delegation, the Director-General of GMet, Dr. Eric Asuman, expressed the agency's appreciation for the visit and reaffirmed GMet's commitment to working closely with regional and international partners toward the successful operationalization of the RCC.

Speaking during the meeting, Dr. Dayo Guiguigbaza-Kossigan, Director General of AGRHYMET, highlighted the center's extensive collaborations with institutions across Africa. He noted that AGRHYMET's work focuses on seasonal forecasting, climate monitoring, capacity building, and data services. He added that such engagements are important in formalizing partnerships with institutions like GMet to ensure that their services are fully aligned with national needs.

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The discussions also addressed an assessment of meteorological data collection systems, capacity gaps, and a presentation on AGRHYMET RCC meteorological data requirements, all aimed at strengthening cooperation and improving service delivery.

The meeting also included a presentation by the Deputy Director-General in charge of Operations at GMet, Dr. Ignatius Kweku Williams, who outlined the Agency's products and services, with emphasis on its operational capabilities and role in climate information delivery.

The delegation included Mr. Bernard Edward Gomez, WMO Representative for North, Central, and West Africa; Dr. Raoul Kouame of the ECOWAS Commission; Dr. Abdou Ali, Head of the Climate, Water and Meteorology Department at AGRHYMET; Prof. Mansur Bako Matazu, Technical Assistant; and Dr. Alhassane Agoli, Head of the Scientific Evaluation Unit and Coordinator of FERP Component 1 at AGRHYMET in Niamey, Niger.

As part of the visit, the delegation toured the agency, visiting the new GMet CAFO operational building and other offices to familiarize themselves with its facilities and operations.

The visit marks a significant step in regional cooperation on climate services, reinforcing the shared commitment of GMet, ECOWAS, AGRHYMET, and WMO to building a more coordinated and effective climate information system for West Africa and the Sahel.

GMet and AGRHYMET Sign MOU to Strengthen Regional Climate Services Collaboration

The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) and the AGRHYMET Regional Center have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalise and strengthen collaboration in climate services across West Africa and the Sahel.

The agreement, signed on Friday, April 17, 2026, forms part of the high-level visit by a joint delegation from AGRHYMET, ECOWAS, and the World Meteorological Organization to GMet, as earlier engagements continue to yield concrete outcomes.

The MOU establishes a framework for enhanced cooperation through the regular exchange of meteorological, hydrological, and climatic data, as well as capacity development and joint research initiatives. It is also expected to support the effective functioning of the AGRHYMET Regional Climate Centre for West Africa and the Sahel (RCC-WAS).

Key objectives of the agreement include improving the production and dissemination of climate-related information and forecasts, and strengthening the technical capacities of national services in areas such as meteorology, climate science, hydrology, food security, natural resource management, and disaster risk reduction and management.

Speaking on behalf of the delegation, the Director General of AGRHYMET, Dr. Dayo Guiguigbaza-Kossigan, expressed appreciation to the leadership and staff of GMet for their warm reception. He noted that the visit revealed significant expertise within the Agency and strong potential for collaboration.

He emphasised that both institutions have substantial work to undertake together, particularly in capacity building and climate services, and assured that AGRHYMET would work diligently to implement all commitments outlined in the MOU. He also extended gratitude to the sector minister for supporting the engagement and expressed optimism about sustaining ongoing discussions.

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The Deputy Director-General in charge of Support Services at GMet, Mrs. Vivian Abla Kally, described the agreement as timely and essential to achieving the Agency's mandate. She noted that the objectives captured in the MOU, particularly in relation to capacity building, are critical and assured that GMet would ensure full implementation of the commitments, while also pursuing further collaborative opportunities.

Also speaking, the Deputy Director-General in charge of Operations, Dr. Ignatius Kweku Williams, reaffirmed GMet's commitment to the partnership. He stated that the Agency does not take the agreement lightly and will strive to meet expectations, positioning itself as a leading example within the region. He added that the MOU presents an important opportunity to further strengthen institutional capacity and expressed appreciation to the visiting delegation.

The Director-General of GMet, Dr. Eric Asuman, also conveyed his gratitude to the delegation, describing the partnership as a valuable opportunity for growth and regional impact. He reiterated GMet's ambition to become a significant player within the sub-region and a model institution for others, noting that collaboration remains central to contributing meaningfully to regional climate goals.

The signing of the MOU marks a significant milestone in advancing coordinated climate services in West Africa and the Sahel, reinforcing a shared commitment to building resilient systems through collaboration, knowledge exchange, and strengthened institutional capacity.

GMet Hosts High-Level Scientific Meeting to Advance AI-Driven Weather Forecasting in Ghana

The Ghana Meteorological Agency (GMet) is hosting a two-day high-level technical working meeting at its headquarters in Accra under the Cumulus Project, bringing together leading scientists, researchers and operational meteorologists to advance the use of artificial intelligence in weather forecasting.

The meeting, which commenced on April 21, 2026 forms part of efforts to strengthen sub-seasonal and seasonal forecasting across Africa, while fostering collaboration between academia and operational meteorological institutions to develop more precise and actionable weather information, particularly for agriculture.

Welcoming participants on behalf of the Director-General, the Deputy Director-General for Operations, Dr. Ignatius Kweku Williams, expressed appreciation to the international and academic partners for choosing GMet as host and reaffirmed the Agency's commitment to the project.

"We are pleased to host you and grateful for the opportunity to collaborate on this important initiative. We are ready to support this initiative and ensure that its outcomes translate into practical benefits for our

Delivering an overview of the project, Professor Leonard Amekudzi, Provost of the College of Science at KNUST and Lead of the Cumulus Project in Ghana, explained that the initiative represents a major step forward in applying artificial intelligence and machine learning to weather forecasting.

He noted that while previous projects such as SWIFT focused on nowcasting, the Cumulus Project is designed to improve sub-seasonal and seasonal forecasts, a critical gap, especially for agriculture.

"This project is about improving precision in forecasting. For sectors like agriculture, timing is everything, and AI gives us an opportunity to significantly enhance the quality of information we provide," he said.

Chetan Deva of the University of Leeds, who serves as a Co-Investigator and facilitator for the working meeting, emphasized the central role GMet is expected to play, stressing the importance of aligning scientific innovation with operational realities.

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"We want GMet at the core of this project. Our goal is to better understand your operational processes and ensure that what we develop fits seamlessly into your systems and meets your needs," he explained.

He added that sustainability remains a key focus, with efforts aimed at ensuring that tools developed under the project remain useful long after its initial phase.

Providing further technical and and strategic insight, Professor Richard Turner of the University of Cambridge highlighted that the Cumulus Project is part of a larger global programme under the Gates Foundation's Nimbus initiative, which is exploring multiple AI-driven approaches to improve forecasting.

He explained that the project aims not only to enhance forecasting accuracy but also to build local capacity for African scientists and institutions to independently develop and run AI-based weather models.

"Our goal is to develop systems that are not just accurate, but usable and sustainable, systems that institutions like GMet can adopt, adapt and operationalize," he noted.

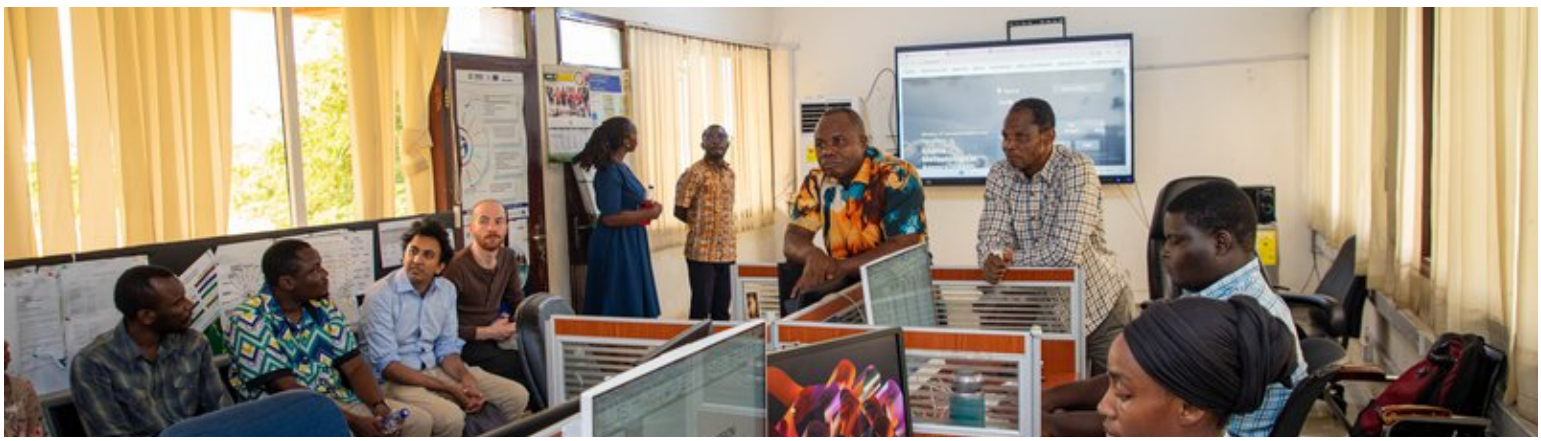
Professor Turner further disclosed that the project is working towards achieving measurable improvements in forecasting skill, particularly for key agricultural indicators such as rainfall onset, while also developing global AI models that can transform forecasting across the continent.

Other collaborating institutions on the project include the University of Cambridge, the Turing Institute, Universite Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD) and Agence Nationale de l'Aviation Civile et de la Météorologie (ANACIM) in Senegal, reflecting the broad international partnership driving the initiative.

A key feature of the discussions is the integration of scientific research with operational forecasting, ensuring that innovations are practical and directly applicable to national weather services.

The meeting is also exploring opportunities for capacity building, including training, computational support and long-term collaboration frameworks to sustain the initiative.

As discussions continue, the engagement underscores GMet's growing role in cutting-edge meteorological research and its commitment to leveraging technology to enhance weather and climate services in Ghana and across the region.



European State of the Climate 2025: record heatwaves from the Mediterranean to the Arctic, while glaciers shrink and snow cover declines

Rapid warming in Europe is reducing snow and ice cover, while dangerously high air temperatures, drought, heatwaves and record ocean temperatures are affecting regions from the Arctic to the Mediterranean. Europe, along with many other regions of the globe, is exposed to increasing impacts – from record heatwaves on land and at sea, to devastating wildfires, and continuing biodiversity loss – with consequences for societies and ecosystems across Europe.

The findings are released today within the European State of the Climate (ESOTC) 2025 report, produced by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), which implements the Copernicus Climate Change Service, and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The report brings together the work of around 100 scientific contributors and provides a comprehensive overview of key changes in climate indicators for the world's fastest warming continent, including cold environments, marine ecosystems, rivers and lakes, wildfire risk, and more. A wide range of graphics and visuals highlighting key findings from the data are being made available.

PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY

As part of efforts to ensure early preparedness against extreme weather conditions, GMet issues daily weather information to the general public. The weather information is issued three times daily (Morning, Afternoon, and Evening), in addition to these, the Agency also issues the mid-week forecast and weekend outlooks to guide institutions and individuals who depend on the weather for economic and social activities. Periodically, warnings and advisories are issued when unusual systems that will affect portions of the country or Specific places are observed.

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