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15 November 2021

**HOSTING BY SOUTH AFRICA OF THE REGIONAL ASSOCIATION (RA) I SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING: 16
– 19 NOVEMBER 2021: CENTURION: SOUTH AFRICA**

The Republic of South Africa, duly represented by the South African Weather Service (SAWS), will be hosting the First Meeting of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Regional Association (RA) I Services Committee from 16 to 19 November in Centurion, South Africa. This meeting will converge around 20 members of the Committee, including officials of the WMO Secretariat, in a hybrid format, enabling both contact and virtual attendance.

The primary mandate of the Committee is to oversee the implementation of the WMO services in the continent that are aimed at enhancing meteorology, covering areas of Aviation, Marine, Climate, Hydrology, Disaster Risk Reduction, Research, and is supported by the following Working Groups that have been established to support the work of the Committee:

- Working Group on Climate Services and Applications;
- Working Group on Hydrology and Water Resources;
- Working Group on Improved Weather Forecasting, Natural Disaster Risk Reduction, Service Delivery and Communication;
- Working Group on Compliance Issues in Aeronautical Meteorological Services and Cost Recovery;
- Working Group on Marine Meteorological Services and Cost Recovery.

The Committee is aligned with the WMO reform package as adopted during the 18th World Meteorological Congress in June 2019, which seeks to improve the Earth System seamless approach through the integration of meteorological observations and services.

South Africa was formally appointed by the WMO as the Chairperson of the Services Committee in July 2021, with two Co-Vice Chairpersons from Senegal and Kenya, to provide further leadership support.

In order to kick-start this responsibility and fulfil this enormous mandate, South Africa was officially requested during the Phase 2 of the 18th RA I Session held in August 2021 to convene a committee meeting before the end of 2021.

The country, through the South African Weather Service looks forward to taking the lead and provide the necessary leadership and guidance in ensuring the successful review of the committee's terms of reference;

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Board Members: Ms Nana Magomola (Chairperson), Dr Phillip Dexter (Deputy Chairperson), Adv Derick Block, Mr David Lefutso, Dr Mpheko Maila, Ms Kelebogile Moroka-Mosia, Ms Sally Mudly-Padayachie, Dr Thuli Khumalo (DFFE Rep), Mr Itani Phaduli, Ms Feziwe Renqe. Mr Ishaam Abader (CEO).
Company Secretary: Ms Thandi Zide

development of the committee workplan and its activities that would be implemented, monitored and reported during the 2023 WMO Congress session. It is envisaged that this meeting will pave the way for the continent to commence with projects and activities that will enhance meteorological services, especially in this era of climate change which requires smart services for community adaptation.

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