A special Edition of AfMS Newsletter devoted to the AfMS Conference April 20-23, 2026

AfMS Newsletter #3

Conf. Website: https://event.fourwaves.com/afms-ifms-emi

The First Joint Conference of AFMS-IFMS-EMI

THE SIX REGIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNION

North (7 countries): Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic and Tunisia

South (10 countries): Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe

West (15 countries): Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo

East (14 countries): Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda

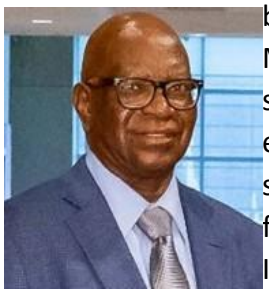
Central (9 countries): Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and São Tomé-and-Príncipe

Diaspora (~ 170 million people): "People of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent and the building of the African Union", Definition of the African Union.

We also include friends of Africa in this group called Diaspora because like the Diaspora, they are also prepared to assist in

CONTENTS

Message from Dr. Buruhani S. Nyenzi
Chairman of the AfMS Board

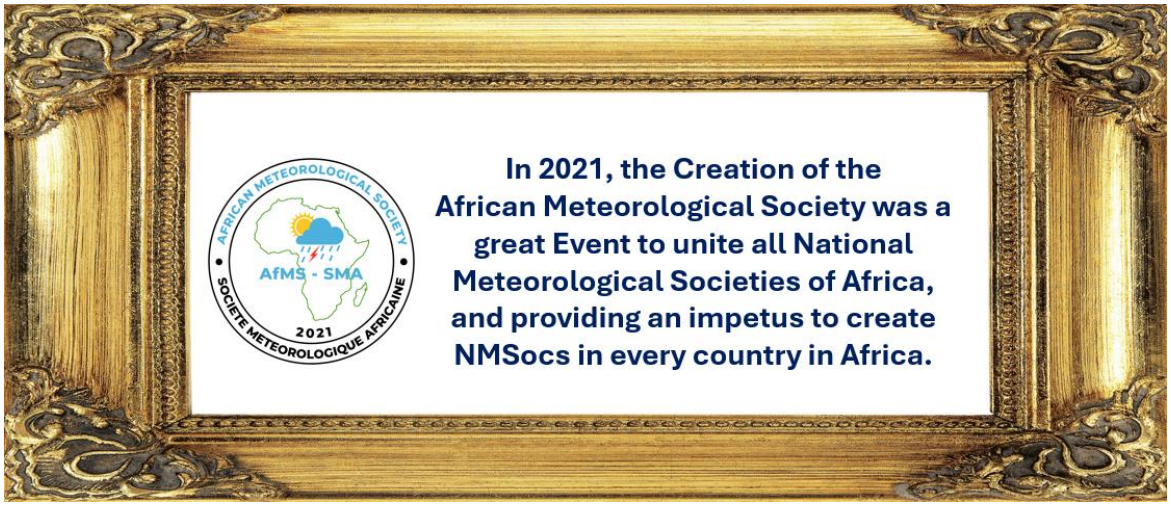


The African Meteorological Society (**AfMS**) was established about four years ago with the purpose of bringing together the African meteorological experts through establishing National Meteorological Societies (**NMSoc**), which could bring together retired, active, and student meteorologists in the African countries with the purpose of strengthening experts in areas such as climate change, early warning and other environmental studies. This process is also aimed at bringing on board experts from other related fields who are interested in meteorological applications. With the support of the International Forum of Meteorological Societies (**IFMS**) it was possible to bring together about ten existing National Meteorological Societies to form the AfMS four years ago.

The process of developing AfMS has not been easy because very few countries in Africa have an NMSoc. In several countries, lack of funds has been the main problem, while in others, there are not many experts. However, since the AfMS was established with the support of the African Diaspora, those working abroad, especially in the USA and other Friends of Africa experts (D-FOA), some good progress has been made. These include the following issues:

1. Created the AfMS Board and established its office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
2. Established Committees to work on different issues.
3. Two newsletters have been published, while this one is now the third one.
4. Through African and the D-FOA experts, we are developing teaching materials for Schools and Colleges.
5. In November 2023, there was a formal inauguration of AfMS, which was a well-attended event.

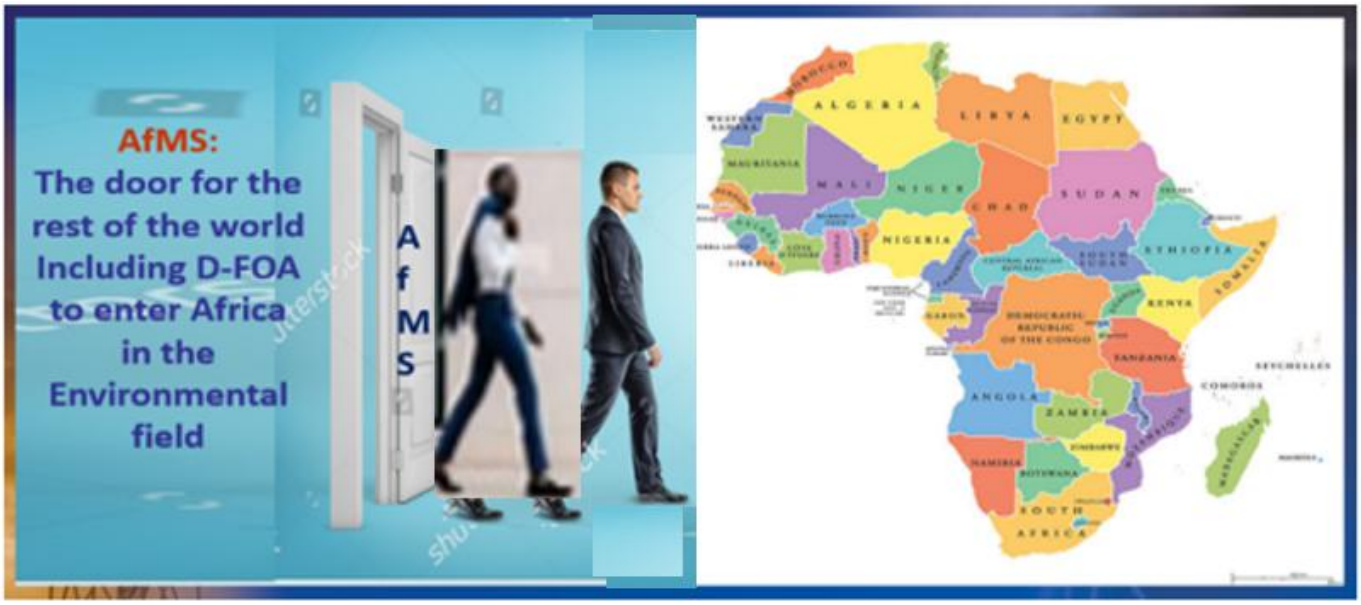
Currently, we are working on organizing the First AfMS Scientific Conference to be held in Addis Ababa on 20 -23 April 2026. It is our hope that interested participants will make every possible effort to attend this inaugural AfMS international Conference. We welcome experts from all over the world to come and share their knowledge at this important gathering. I would also like to encourage other African countries to establish their own National Meteorological Societies to strengthen AfMS.



Message from Mr. Fetene Teshome – the Director General of the Ethiopian Meteorological Institute
President of WMO Regional Association 1, Africa.
The Host Organization

I wish to welcome all participants to the First Scientific Conference of the African Meteorological Society. As we all know, Ethiopia has been proud to host the African Meteorological Society (AfMS) here in Addis Ababa since 2022. Ethiopia also hosts the Ethiopian Meteorological Society (EtMS), whose headquarters are situated at EMI. EMI has signed an MoU for Collaboration with EtMS and is working hand in hand to advance the science of meteorology and hydrology for the benefit of the country's economic development. One example of collaboration is the joint organization with AfMS, EtMS, and IFMS of this important Conference, for which EMI has provided its facilities at the new, magnificent headquarters. We are also considering providing office space for both AfMS and EtMS in the new building to ensure the smooth operation of their activities.

Again, I wish to welcome participants and invite you to visit various historical sites located in the Addis Ababa area during your stay. Thank you.



D-FOA - Diaspora and Friends of Africa

Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia, Conference Convenor

Africa is suffering disproportionately because of Climate Change and deficiencies in **its knowledge base, infrastructure, and critical systems** (especially those required for Weather Forecasting, and "Early Warning Systems for All (EWS4All)" also mandated by the United Nations). These systems need adequate infrastructure, such as Output of various Weather Forecasting models, Automated Weather Systems (AWSs), Radars, Lightning detection, etc.

As a part of its efforts to create a Global Weather Enterprise (**GWE**), IFMS with three Council members two from Africa, initiated the establishment of the African Meteorological Society (**AfMS**). IFMS also plans to establish the Asian Meteorological Society and the South-East Pacific Societies. It is also working to establish National Meteorological Societies (NMSocs) in countries that do not have them. Since such societies unite active and retired professionals from public, private, and academic (**PPA)** sectors as volunteers to build capacity, we believe that every country can have an NMSoc with its activities tailored to its size. Since an NMSoc is such an important component of the GWE, every effort must be made to establish one. An article on this aspect has been included in the Newsletter.

Now coming to the main topic, the ***Conference of the African Meteorological Society AfMS) is planned to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on April 20-23, 2026.*** The purpose of this Conference is to discuss the major issues facing Africa and potential solutions. Presentations will be made by many African scholars, and those from the African Diaspora, and Friends of Africa (those who are not of African origin but are very interested in helping Africa develop capacity).

As you will see in this Newsletter, we have provided information about the Conference and its constituents. Please do not forget to participate in this historic first Conference of the AfMS.

In addition, we are urging all countries to have their National Meteorological Society because such organizations unite active and retired professionals from all three sectors, public, private, and academic, to build capacity in your country. We also urge the three societies (Egyptian, South African, and Mauritian) to join the African Meteorological Society family as soon as possible. There is power in having a society in every country, and all of them are well-knit societies called the African Meteorological Society.

Hope to meet you at the Conference!

Building Capacity in Africa by strengthening NMSocs and creating Collaboration

Uniting NMSocs of Africa to make the whole much bigger than its parts

www.africanmetsociety.org

The Progress Report of the African Met Society

The following is the Status of the AfMS and the status of related committees, which provide all types of services.

1. Exhibitor's Prospectus. We have also distributed information on general Sponsorship and Event Sponsorship. Please support this important mission with sponsorship.
2. We are producing the first AfMS Scientific Journal, which will be inaugurated at the Conference.
3. This third newsletter is dedicated to the Conference with some articles on various issues related to the development of the African Meteorological Society (**AfMS**: www.africanmetsociety.org), especially creating NMSoc .
4. After the Conference, we plan to launch a Webinar series on topics of interest to Africans. One of the topics will be Artificial Intelligence Applications in Meteorology. Please provide ideas on other topics of interest to you.
5. The latest member of the family of National Meteorological Societies in Africa has been created in Malawi - the Malawi Meteorological Society (MAMESO). We congratulate its Directors, the PR of Malawi, and all the professionals who helped create the MAMESO. We also urge all African countries without a National Meteorological Society (**NMSoc**) to establish one as soon as possible. There is no better way to bring together active and retired professionals from the Public, Private, and Academic sectors to build capacity in a country. An NMSoc is a great way to unite your country's professional resources. We urge the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Universities in each country to make it their objective. We have been told that normally, universities take the lead in creating an NMSoc. We will be giving another Webinar shortly (or perhaps at the conference) on how to create an NMSoc and tailor its functions as per the size of your country.
6. The Teacher Training Program, which includes the National Teams as well as Course Preparers, is progressing more slowly than expected. ***We urge all Team Leaders of this Program to work harder*** so that it can be introduced in Schools and Colleges, ensuring that youngsters keep the environment in mind. As soon as it has been successfully introduced in the Horn of Africa and East Africa, we will start working in other African countries and the rest of the world. Capacity building must start at a young age, i.e., in Schools and Colleges.
7. We are looking for volunteers to review the Learning Portal (https://ifms.org/afms-learning-portal/. Please offer your services. It is a very interesting portal and can meet the needs of many professionals. It points to other available resources, e.g., COMET at UCAR in the USA, as well as many others.
8. AfMS will start the certification process in late 2027 or 2028 to ensure the quality of professionals in Africa is at the same level as in any other continent.
9. **The election of the Board and Committees of AfMS will be in the middle of 2026. Please do plan to participate.**
10. The AfMS Committees play an important role in running AfMS operations. We urge that only those who have the time and are genuinely interested in strengthening meteorology and hydrology in Africa should apply.
11. Your contribution to the development of the AfMS would be greatly appreciated. We have given you AfMS. Now it is your duty to strengthen it to the best of your ability.
12. The AfMS Conference is scheduled for April 20-23, 2026 (Monday to Thursday). We have distributed the Conference Prospectus and the related documents

PAYING FOR AfMS 2026 CONFERENCE FEE

By **now. All attendees except those who plan to pay at the door of the Conference must have paid.**

1 To Pay Via VISA Or Master Card, use this link:

https://donate.bankofabyssinia.com/dashboard/africanMetrologicalSociety.php

2 For EFT/Telegraphic Transfer, use the account details below.

2.1 The Beneficiary's Name & Address:

Account Number: 208238825
Account Name: African Meteorological Society
P.O.BOX: 1090
TEL. 0911856083/0911883251/0911119263``
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

2.1.1 The Beneficiary's Bank

Bank of Abyssinia, Filwuha Branch
P.O.BOX: 12947
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
SWIFT: ABYSETAA
Ras Damtew Street Red Cross Building
TEL: + 251- 11 -5159966/5515580/0919206389
FAX: +251 -11 -5511575/5510409

2.1.2 The Beneficiary's Bank Correspondent Bank Citibank N.A.,

111 Wall Street, New York, N.Y. 10005
SWIFT: CITIUS33
TEL: +212 657 0425; FAX: +212 657 1157
ABA 022000868
ACCOUNT NO: 36122608 USD

2.2 For registrants without international cards, you can make your payment directly at the conference venue upon arrival.

You have to register now and email your invoice to coafms1@gmail.com for records.

Registration Fee

		Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Apr. 1-23, 2026	Regular	$400	$150	$100
	Students	$150	$50	$30
Feb. 1 to Mar 31, 2026	Regular	$375	$125	$75
	Students	$120	$40	$20
Until Jan 31, 2026	Regular	$350	$100	$50
	Students	$100	$30	$15

Tier 1 Countries: North American Countries, European Countries, Australia, New Zealand, Iceland, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, China, and the Gulf Countries (Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, and Oman).

Tier 2 Countries: All countries other than Tier 1 and Tier 3 countries.

Tier 3 Countries: All African Countries

1. Overall Conference Theme

"Advancing Meteorological Science for Climate Resilience and Sustainable Development in Africa"

2. Plenary Session Themes

Theme 1: Early Warning in the Era of Climate Change.

Theme 2: Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategies in Africa.

Theme 3: Strengthening Collaboration and Partnerships for Weather and Climate Services in Africa.

Theme 4: Capacity Building and Training Initiatives for Meteorological Professionals in Africa.

Theme 5: Innovative Approaches to Enhancing Weather Forecasting and Early Warning Systems.

Theme 6: The Concluding Plenary session will discuss the outcomes of the Conference and develop themes for future work.

3. Parallel or Breakout Sessions

Theme 1: Innovations in Weather Forecasting and Early Warning Systems.

Theme 2: Climate Modeling and Projections for Regional Planning and Policy Making.

Theme 3: Advancements in Satellite Remote Sensing for Weather and Climate Monitoring.

Theme 4: Community Engagement and Climate Information Services for Vulnerable Populations.

Theme 5: Addressing Air Quality and Health Impacts in African Cities.

Theme 6: Water Scarcity and Climate Change: Managing Resources in African Contexts.

Theme 7: Climate Change Impacts on African Agriculture: Strategies for Adaptation and Mitigation.

Theme 8: Climate Finance and Investment Opportunities in African Nations.

Theme 9: Application of AI in weather forecasting.

Theme 10: Enhancing Climate Resilience in African Coastal Communities.

Training Course at the Conference

Two Training Courses have been organized for April 20, 2026 (Monday). They will cover the following subjects.

3.1. Training from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, April 20, 2026 (Monday):

Air pollution in Africa- A menace to health, climate, and economic growth

Solomon Bililign, PhD, Professor of Physics and Applied Sciences and Technology

North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC, USA

Air pollution continues to claim the lives of millions of Africans and is now the second leading environmental risk factor. These risks will only increase given the rapid urbanization and economic growth occurring there. There is a need to understand the unique African emission sources that include fossil fuel combustion, biomass and trash burning, agriculture, dust, biogenic emissions, and continued widespread savanna and agricultural fires, and emissions from the increasing ownership of unregulated motor vehicles, leading to a pollution mix unique to these regions that remains poorly understood, and that will impact atmospheric composition and chemistry globally. This has received very little attention from African governments, as evidenced by the lack of investment in air pollution monitoring and technical training. International partnerships, working through multidisciplinary and multi-institutional collaborations, are the key to addressing this critical need for environmental information.

This workshop, focusing on air quality science and management, will primarily cover the basic properties of atmospheric aerosols, sources of atmospheric gaseous pollutants, and properties and measurement techniques

for low-cost sensors. The main objectives will (1) address scientific gaps that require building technical and infrastructural capacity. (2) Develop effective cooperative networks through joint meetings and workshops, and sustainable, cost-effective data sharing structures to minimize redundancy of efforts and increase collaborations. (3) Communicate with the public/policy makers and conduct social science research to facilitate communication and understand governance barriers to effective action, and (4) Address the gaps in generating input data for regional-scale air quality models and their use in policy development by building technical and infrastructure capacity.

3.2. BIO OF PROF. SOLOMON BILILIGN

Dr. Solomon Bililign joined NCA&T in 1993. He did his undergraduate and MS work in Physics at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; his PhD at the University of Iowa; and a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Utah Department of Chemistry. His area of specialization includes Experimental and Theoretical Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics /and Chemical Physics. He built research capacity in chemical physics and atmospheric sciences at NCA&T with a combined federal grant of over 23 million. He served as the Department Chair (2001-2006). In 2010, he received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering. He has received the senior researcher award for NCAT in 2002 and 2017, the interdisciplinary research team award in 2012, the Alumni Fellow -University of Iowa College of Liberal Arts, and the teaching excellence award in 2006, 2015, and 2018. He was a Fulbright Scholar in Ethiopia in the 2024-25 academic year, and he is an adjunct professor at the Institute of Geophysics, Space Science and Astronomy (IGSSA) at Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, and an associate member of the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences.

His recent research has focused on both indoor and outdoor air quality and the health impacts in Africa, and he has organized and conducted several workshops on African Air quality in both the US and Africa. His work pioneered the characterization of the chemical and optical properties of African biomass emissions in the laboratory. He has published over 70 papers in high-impact peer-reviewed journals.

3.3. 1:00 PM to 4 PM on April 20, 2026 (Monday):

From Classifiers to Digital Twins: Utilizing AI for Disaster Response.

AI-Driven Decision Support:

Transforming Satellite Data into Actionable Insights for Disaster Monitoring

Dr. Arif Albayrak, UMBC/NASA/GSFC

Advancements in deep learning (DL) and satellite data are revolutionizing disaster monitoring by enabling faster and more accurate hazard detection. This talk provides a concise overview of DL methods used in disaster analysis and demonstrates their impact through two key use cases. The first focuses on flood prediction using Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) data, where DL models improve flood mapping and forecasting by enhancing water extent detection to support real-time decision-making. The second examines wildfire tracking using a human-in-the-loop machine learning framework that integrates SAR and optical satellite imagery to classify fire fronts and burned areas with high precision. These examples highlight how AI converts raw satellite data into actionable insights, providing decision-support tools that enhance situational awareness and disaster response.

Also, I will lead the workshop with the attached information:

Finally, I have a very heavy schedule till 15th of February. Right after this date, I will start to work on the presentations for both.

3.4. BIO OF DR. ARIF ALBAYRAH

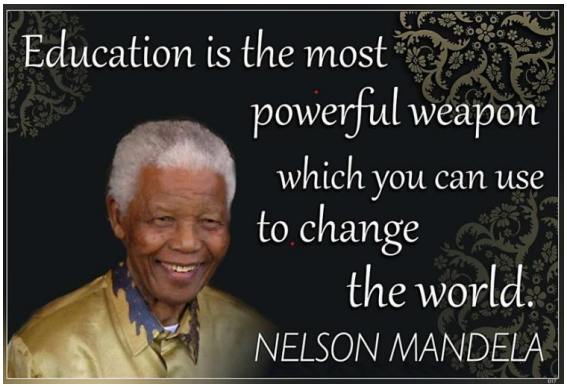
Arif Albayrak is a Senior Research Engineer at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) through Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research (GESTAR II). His current work location is the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Biospheric Sciences Laboratory. He is also a member of the NASA Earth Science Disaster Group.

Arif Albayrak has a multidisciplinary background in engineering, applied mathematics, and computer science, with over 20 years of professional experience. He specializes in machine learning (ML) algorithms with an emphasis on estimation, classification, and extraction of information patterns from satellite-based sensor data. Some of his recent work includes modeling generative and deep networks for image processing. Prior to the Biospheric Sciences Laboratory, Mr. Albayrak worked as a Scientist/Developer at NASA Goddard Earth Sciences Data and Information Services Center (GES DISC). While he was in GES-DISC, he was the lead developer for the Open-Source Reader Library, a multi-sensor, multi-platform satellite data fusion environment for earth science data (swath and gridded). His research interests include knowledge graphs, natural language processing, and semantic image segmentation using deep learning algorithms.

3.5. LINK TO REGISTER FOR TRAINING

The following link will allow you to register for either course or both.

https://forms.gle/MiRdU9MKqi8ejNtC8



Under Training

Trained Students

OVERALL PROGRAM OF THE CONFERENCE

April 20, 2026 (Monday)				
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Participants**	**Remarks**
9:00	12:00	Training Course 1 – Dr. Solomon Bililign		With 15 minutes break
12.00	13:00	Lunch Break		
13:00	16:00	Training Course 2 - Dr. Arif Albayrak		With 15 minutes break
9:00	10:15	Meeting of AfMS Board. Any WMO staff can also participate.		
10:30	12:00	General Body Meeting of Member NMSocs		
13:00	14:30	Meeting of Committee Chairs		
9:00	17:00	Setting up Exhibits		
18:00	20:00	Ice Breaker (Meet and Greet)		
April 21, 2026 (Tuesday)				
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Participants**	**Remarks**
8:30	10:00	Conference Inauguration		
10:00	10:15	Health Break		
10:15	11:45	Plenary Session 1		
11:45	12:45	Parallel Session 1, and 2		
12.45	13:45	Lunch Break		
13:45	15:15	Plenary Session 2		
15:15	15:30	Health Break		
15:30	16:30	Parallel Session 3 and 4		
16:30	18:30	Exhibition Visit Time		
April 22, 2026 (Wednesday)				
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Participants**	**Remarks**
8:30	10:00	Plenary Session 3		
10:00	11:30	Health Break and Exhibit Visit Time		
11:30	12:30	Parallel Session 5 & 6		
12:30	13:30	Lunch		
13:30	15:15	Plenary Session 4		
15:15	15:30	Health Break		
15:30	16:30	Parallel session 7 & 8		
18:30	21:30	Awards Banquette		
April 23, 2026 (Thursday)				
Start	**End**	**Session**	**Participants**	**Remarks**
8:30	10:00	Plenary Session 5		
10:00	10:30	Health Break		
10:30	11:30	Parallel session 9 & 10		
12:30	13:30	Lunch		
13:30	14:30	Exhibition Visit Time & Health Break		
14:30	17:00	Concluding Plenary Session 6		

NOTE: Although some slots have been reserved for visiting booths, attendees can visit any booth at any time.

INFORMATION NOTE FOR ATTENDEES OF THE FIRST AFRICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

This section of the document provides overall information for attendees, including key visa information for entering Ethiopia.

2. VISA

Visitors entering the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia are generally required to have a valid passport for 6 months and a visa, except for the citizens of Kenya and Djibouti. All participants are encouraged to contact the nearest Ethiopian Embassy/Consulate or Representative of the Ethiopian mission in their respective countries to get their visa before traveling to Ethiopia.

3. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN AIRPORT AND HOTEL

Shuttle services will be provided by hotels recommended for this conference. You should contact the hotel you have chosen to arrange your airport transfer. Otherwise, participants can also make their own arrangements. There are yellow taxis at the airport. For in-city transport, blue and yellow taxis are the most convenient option in Addis Ababa.

4. TIME ZONE

Ethiopian Standard Time is 3 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+3). Ethiopia is in the East Africa Time Zone.

5. CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Ethiopian currency is Birr (ETB). Information on the day-to-day exchange rates can be found at http://www.combanketh.et. The latest exchange rate is that 1 USD is about 150 ETB as of 1 October 2025. Foreign currency can be exchanged at the Airport and at all local banks. Hotels and stores also accept major currencies at reasonable exchange rates. Please do not use any other means for exchanging your money.

6. ELECTRICITY

The electric current in Ethiopia is 220-volt AC at 50 Hz throughout the country. Power plugs and sockets (outlets) of type C, type E, type F, and type L are used. Participants with electric appliances should carry a plug-in adapter kit.

7. CLIMATE

In April, Ethiopia has a warm month, with a minimum temperature of 17 °C (63 °F), a maximum of 29.6 °C (85 °F), and a daily average of 23.3 °C (74 °F). In the capital, Addis Ababa, the average temperature is 18.8 °C (65.8°F). Occasionally, in the morning and evening, it can feel cold.

8. TRAVEL & FLIGHT TICKETS

The conference will be from 20 to 23 April 2026; thus, participants are expected to arrive in Addis Ababa before 20 April 2025 and leave after 23rd of April 2026.

9. CONTACT PERSONS

Workneh Degefu

Email: AfMS.Vicechair@gmail.com

Tel No: +251911790703

Tafesse Regassa

Email: regassa.gurmu8@gmail.com

Tel No: +251911856083

Henock Hailu

Email: henmsg@gmail.com

Tel. No. +251911771078

10. PROPOSED HOTELS

All participants must contact hotels directly to arrange, confirm, and guarantee their bookings.

i. Tiga Hotel

Address: AA Bole sub city, W 02, Ring Road, Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa
Walking to Conference venue (5 minutes)
Tel. no.: +2516188851/52/45, +251910902606(cell)
Website: http://www.tigahotel.com, www.marefiale.com
**This hotel is recommended because of its modest facilities*
Reservation can be made only by telephone at +251910902606(cell)

ii. Bon Royal Hotel

Address: AA Bole Sub City, W 02, Ring Road, Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa.
Walking to Conference venue (3 minutes)
Tel.no. : +251116171111, +251909550000(cell)
Email: gm@thbonroyalhotel.com, inf@thbonroyalhotel.com
Website: https://thbonroyalhotal.com
** This hotel is highly recommended because of its good facilities and being very close to the Conference venue.*

iii. Skylight Hotel

Address: Airport Road, Bole, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 1755
Walking to the conference venue (6 minutes)
Tel: +251116818181, Fax: +251116611474
Email: Mreservation@ethiopianskylighthotel.com
Website: www.ethiopianskylighthotel.com
**This hotel is highly recommended because of its excellent facilities for those who can afford the price.*

iv. Yofel Hotel

Address: AA Bole Sub City, W 02, Ring Road, Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa
Walking to the conference venue (5 minutes)
Tel.no: +251116166160, +251116685052
Email: info@yofelhotel.com. reservation@yofelhotel.com
Website: www.yofelhotel.com
**This hotel is recommended because of its modest facilities and proximity to the conference venue*

v. Sowirad Hotel

Address: AA Bole Sub City, W 02, Ring Road, Bole International Airport, Addis Ababa
Walking to the conference venue (3 minutes)
Tel.no: +251911429997
Email: sowiradhotel@gmail.com
Website: http://sowirad.hotels-addisababa.com
**This hotel is recommended because of its proximity to the conference venue.*

vi. Jupiter Hotel

Address: Africa Avenue, Bole, Addis Ababa, 110778
Walking Distance to the conference venue, 15 minutes

Tel. No: +2516616969
Email: info@jupiteinternationalhotel.com
Website: http://jupiterinternationalhotel.com

vii. Momona Hotel

Address: 83 Airport Road. Addis Ababa. Ethiopia-
Walking to the conference venue in 15 minutes
Tel.no: +251116672201
Email: reservations@momonahotel.com
Website: http://www.momonahotel.com

viii. Zemilo Hotel apartment

Address: AA, Bole Sub City, Wereda 03, Addis Ababa 1111
Walking to the conference venue in 15 minutes
Tel.no: +251927111133
Email: zemilomarketing@gmail.com
Website: http://www.zemilohotelapartment.com

11. Arrival and Departure Dates

Participants are encouraged to send their itinerary and hotel reservation details to the conference contact persons given in item 8.12 above.

12. Conference Language

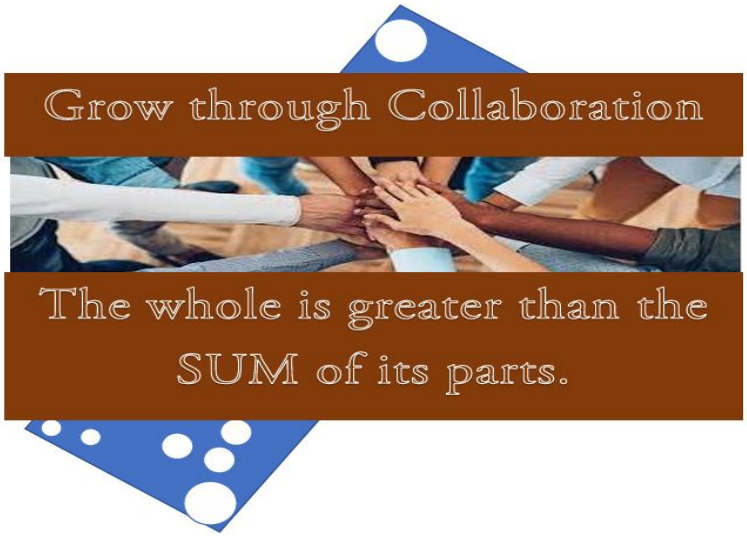
Simultaneous translation requires special equipment; the conference will be conducted in English only.

13. Send For Follow-Up Your Airline and Hotel Bookings

If any of the above recommended hotels' websites do not function, you can Google the name of the hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and book through the site of your choice.

We expect that you will make your own bookings. Participants unable to book hotels online can send their name, booking dates, and hotel choice to Workneh Degefu at afms.vicechair@gmail.com, with cc: regassa.gurmu8@gmail.com, who will book on their behalf.

After paying the registration fee using the Donate link, please notify Mr. Tafesse Regassa, Executive Director of AfMS, by email **regassa.gurmu8@gmail.com** with: cc **afms.vicechair@gmail.com** specifying who made this payment. AfMS will then issue a payment receipt to the payee.



INFORMATION FOR EXHIBITORS

1 Introduction

Participation by exhibitors is dependent upon compliance with all rules, regulations, and conditions stated herein. The African Meteorological Society is the official Organizer of the conference, and its designated officials are entrusted with organizing the Conference and representing it as Organizers.

2 Layout

The Organizer reserves the right to alter the general layout or limit the space allotted to each exhibitor or transfer it to another area if unforeseen circumstances warrant such action. Should any contingency prevent the exhibition from being held, neither the Organizer nor the venue owners will be held liable for any expenses incurred. The Organizer has the final decision as to the acceptability of exhibits. Exhibitors are not to share any space allotted to them with others without the Organizer's prior consent.

3 Booths

The Organizer and the venue owners will jointly mount and equip the exhibition booths with basic facilities to enable the display of exhibits. All exhibits are to be displayed by the exhibitor without blocking aisles, obstructing adjoining booths, or damaging the premises or equipment. Flammable materials are not to be used, and equipment displayed or demonstrated must be installed in strict accordance with safety measures.

Booth sizes of 3x3 mts and 3x2 mts will be available.

4 Content & Transportation

Exhibitors are to prepare and take full responsibility for the content of their exhibits. They will be responsible for shipping their materials to the Conference host country and making the necessary arrangements to transport them to the Conference venue. Exhibitors are advised not to bring heavy equipment in view of the following customs stringent regulations:

Customs office may require the following documents: Commercial invoice, Packing list, and Certificate of origin

5 Advice to Exhibitors

You are advised not to bring any equipment other than laptops to display your equipment on the monitor.

Otherwise, you may be required to deposit 325% of the commodity's price as a guarantee at the customs office. The process to get this money back may take some time.

6 Timetable

Access to the exhibition is authorized on presentation of a badge issued by the Organizer. Exhibitors' badges will not be mailed in advance and may be collected from the Exhibition Manager's desk. Exhibitors undertake to observe the timetable designated for completion of their display before the exhibition opening and at the close of the exhibition. It is the Exhibitor's responsibility to pack and remove all items of value before leaving their exhibit unattended; otherwise, the Organizer or the owners of the venue will not bear responsibility for any loss.

7 Promotional activities:

Promotional activities are allowed only within the exhibition surface and only as long as they do not interfere with the Conference's operations or disturb fellow exhibitors. Any advertising for third parties throughout the exhibition area and the Forum venue is strictly forbidden.

8 Restrictions

Sound, electrical, and other appliances must be used so that no noise obscures similar presentations by other exhibitors. The Organizer reserves the right to instruct exhibitors to regulate their activities with a view to avoiding undue disturbance to fellow exhibitors. The sale of exhibits or any goods at the exhibition is not allowed. Any material or goods distributed as part of the exhibition should be offered free of charge.

9 Damages

Exhibitors are entirely liable for damages to third parties' stands, properties, or health. To this extent, the Organizer, their respective staff and service providers, as well as owners of the Conference venue, are to be considered third parties. Exhibitors' liabilities are extended to their personnel and other people working under their control.

10 Venue

The Ethiopian Meteorological Institute, Bole Office, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

11 Duration

20-23 April 2026 (20th for setting up booths)

12 Exhibition Stand

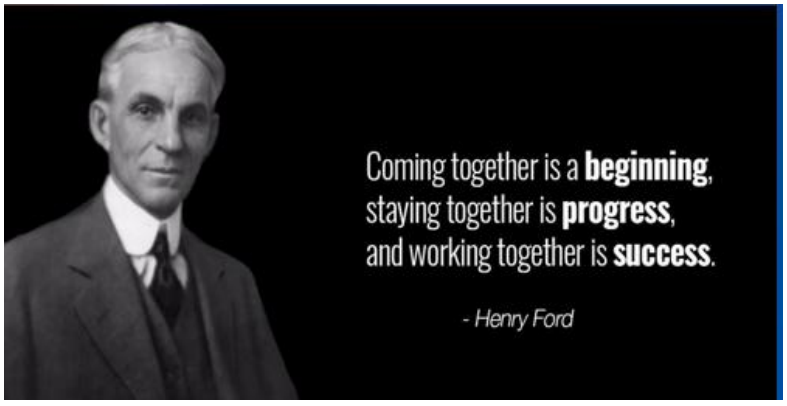
Erection of the Exhibition stands will be held on April **19th or 20th, 2026**

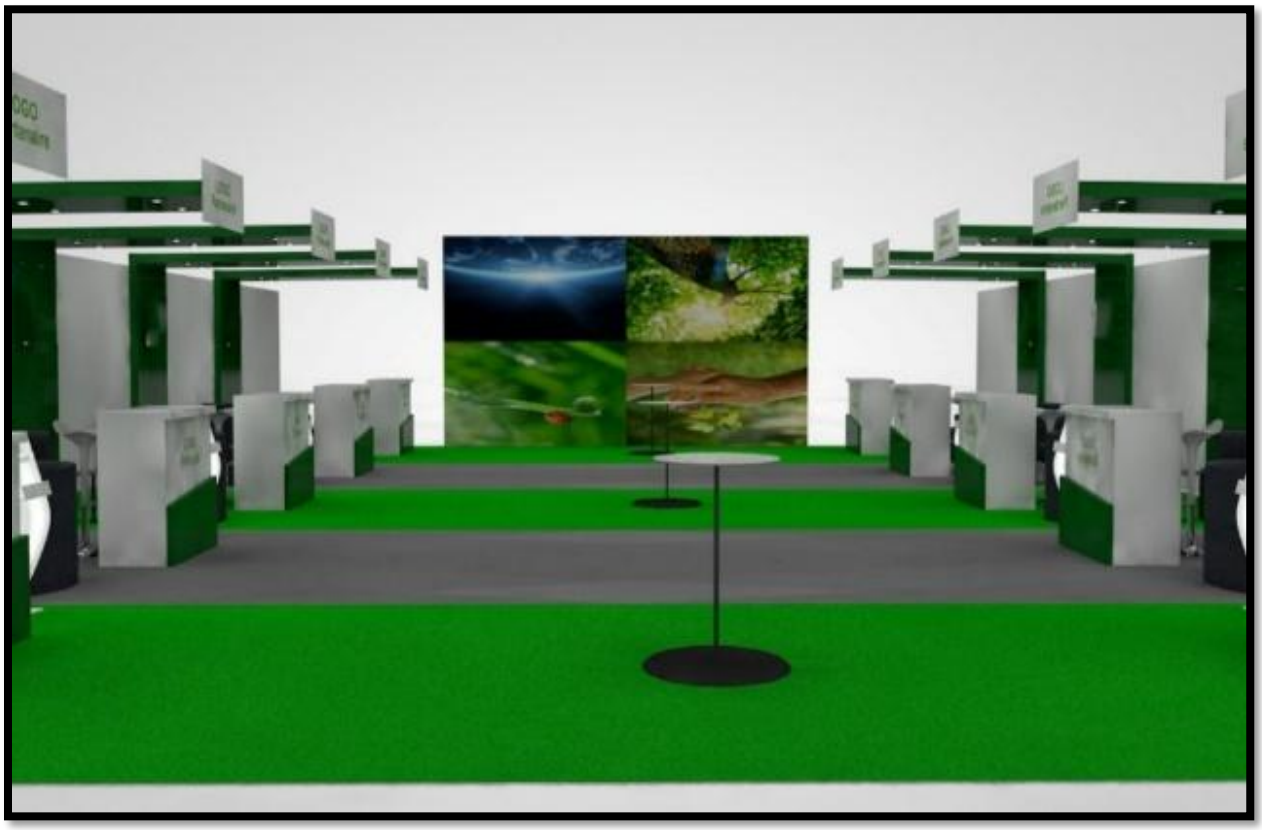
- Size of the Exhibition Stand is 3m x 3m, ten exhibition booths will be available for exhibitors
- Hours of operation are from 8.30 A.M. to 5.30 P.M.

13 Facilities available:

- Large smart Television screen at each exhibition booth is $75 per day.
- Two tables
- Two chairs
- One power outlet
- 1 waste bin
- Exhibitor Name

Booth Size	Cost after Jan. 1, 2026	Cost between Nov 1, to Dec. 31, 2025	Cost Before Nov. 1, 2025
3 m x 3 m	$1,400	$1,300	$1,100
3 m x 2 m	$1,100	$950	$850






Little DROPS of Water
Make A Mighty
Ocean
www.africanparadiseworld.com
HELP US SOLICIT ADS FROM INDUSTRY FOR
OUR SPECIAL NEWSLETTER

CREATE YOUR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

1 Introduction

It has always been very important to have a National Meteorological Society (**NMSoc**) in each country because such societies bring together active and retired professionals from the Public, Private, and Academic (PPA) Sectors, a crucial step in building capacity. In the era of Climate Change, it has become even more important that we all work together to address the issues facing us and protect our lives and property.

In this article, we discuss creating the most basic NMSoc and building upon it. The next article explains how to further develop your society.

It is important to realize that developing an NMSoc is possible regardless of your country's size. Andorra, with a population of around 80,000, established its NMSoc in 1997, and Iceland, with a population of 375,000, has had its NMSoc since the 1950s. Therefore, with the following means of connecting with the hydro-meteorological community available, an NMSoc which is a member of AfMS and IFMS can avail itself of all the following resources:

1. *You can participate in the activities of the International Forum Meteorological Societies (IFMS) and Regional Met Societies (e.g., AfMS, EMS, FLISMET, etc.)*
2. *Availability of new means of information communication – Zoom, Webex, MS Teams, Google Meet, etc. -has made it possible even to participate remotely.*
3. *Availability of various Webinars and courses from various organizations such as Global Campus, COMET, ECMWF, AMS, RMetS, etc.*
4. *Availability of Online Training Programs.*
5. *Implementation of New Ideas such as PPA Collaboration.*
6. *Promotion by IFMS and Regional Societies with the National Governments and realization on the part of NMHSs about the utility of NMSocs.*
7. *With so many common activities, from IFMS and your RMS, which can be shared, you can already have a Value Proposition to share these activities.*

8. *Add to that an occasional get-together for local presentations and lunches or dinners, recognitions, etc. That itself is a big incentive.*
9. *Just keeping track of activities available through IFMS and your RMS is itself a sufficient incentive to create an NMSoc in your country.*
10. *In the future, we will also provide preferential rates for attending the Conferences.*

2 Impetus to Create an NMSoc

Most new institutions are initiated from the ground up; they start small. Therefore, especially if you are a small country, you should start with the basic NMSoc. The basic NMSoc and its activities are defined in this document.

The following ingredients must jell together to start an NMSoc.

- *Strong Commitment from NMHS and local Universities, which are teaching Meteorology; they will be very important partners. Many NMSocs are started by universities, and then NMHS gets involved.*
- *It would be great if there were also Private Sector companies that participate. In affluent countries, private companies working in meteorology are good donors.*
- *From these sources, there will need to be a few key people with passion (and hopefully the endurance and persistence) to see the new entity emerge and become a fully recognized society with the potential to serve both its membership and the wider community.*
- *Getting the support of Institutional entities and identifying these key people and establishing an initial management structure, which will likely go on to form the founding committee, is clearly a key step.*
- *It is important to ensure that even though the universities and NMHSs start the NMSoc, its membership must include all important meteorology users, e.g., airports, power industry, tourism industry, etc., also become members.*

3 STEPS TO CREATE AN NMSoc

A Strong Leader (Engine) Required

- Initiative should start from the NMHS Director, some senior Professors & other senior people in the field in your country, the more the merrier.
- Let's call them "**Initiators"**.
- Look for an "**Engine"** – a dedicated person (*let's call him/her "***Lead***"*) with determination who does not get deterred because of issues, setbacks, etc., which you will certainly encounter.
- Lead must be a well-respected person and a:
  - ✓ *Good Planner*
  - ✓ *Good Manager of people and tasks*
  - ✓ *Capable of attracting approximately half a dozen people to assist*
  - ✓ *Good connections with the NMHS.*
- Find at least half a dozen people to assist – let's call them "**Promoters"**.
- The initiative should start from the NMHS Director or some senior Professor & other senior people in the field of hydrometeorology in your country; the more people get involved, the better it is.
- Let's call them **Initiators**.

4 Deciding the Scope

- Meteorology involves several basic scientific disciplines, notably mathematics, as well as branches of physics such as fluid dynamics, thermal radiation, and thermodynamics.
- Furthermore, meteorology is allied to several other disciplines that also draw on a similar range of basic sciences, such as oceanography and hydrology.

- Meteorology, in turn, is often included in other broader disciplines such as geography and environmental sciences.
- Traditionally, climatology has been considered to be a branch of meteorology, although in recent years this interpretation has been less strictly observed.
- In establishing a new society, it will be helpful to reflect in its name the scope of the society's intended interests. For example, in addition to "Meteorological Societies", which may in fact be broader than strictly meteorological in scope, the IFMS has the following amongst its membership:
  - ✓ Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS)
  - ✓ Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (CMOS)
  - ✓ Geophysical Society of Finland (GSF)
  - ✓ Portuguese Association of Meteorology and Geophysics (PAMG)
  - ✓ Society of Hydrologists and Meteorologists - Nepal (SOHAM)
  - ✓ South African Society for Atmospheric Sciences (SASAS)
  - ✓ Canada and Australia have their societies, which include meteorology and oceanography.
  - ✓ Depending upon the number of professionals in your field, you can combine various organizations, such as Meteorology, Hydrology, Climatology, etc. However, once decided it is hard to undo that decision.

5 Activities of a small NMSoc

Now that you have taken the steps to create your NMSoc, you can start with the following basic activities:

- Make a Council consisting of as many people as appropriate for your society. The minimum is the President and the Vice President, and at least three additional members.
- You need to take care of the following areas:
  - ✓ Recruiting more members.
  - ✓ Recruiting volunteers.
  - ✓ Coordinating with the AfMS and its activities.
  - ✓ Keeping your NMSoc informed about the activities of AfMS.
  - ✓ Organizing meetings at an interval decided by the Council. This committee decides how many meetings you should have.
- Make some Committees, at least for the above activities. It is always important to have multiple members on each Committee.
- Create your website through which you can communicate with your members. Keeping it up to date is very important.
- Arrange a remote meeting every month, or at least every two months, using the remote meeting capabilities of Zoom, Google Meet, MS Teams, Webex, etc. This will keep members interested.
- When possible, arrange in-person meetings for making presentations, networking, and discussions.
- Keep abreast of the activities of AfMS and IFMS and participate whenever possible.

6 Membership

- *An inventory of organizations from which members can come is an important first step in gauging the future scope of society's membership.*
- *The organizations may be based within government, academia, or the private sector and even NGOs.*
- *Indeed, much of the value of a Meteorological Society will lie in its capacity to draw on all sectors and act as an effective mechanism for cooperation across a wide range of matters of national interest relating to weather, water, and climate.*

- *Many developing countries do not have much of a Private-Sector – but whatever private Sector companies involve them as much as possible.*
- *It will be critically important to obtain the backing of these organizations in establishing the society.*
- *Such support could include some seed funding, the realisation of which may require the submission of a formal proposal.*
- *To broaden the membership of the Society, consideration could be given to various categories of membership – Associate Members also those who do not have professional qualification in meteorology or related discipline but are very interested in meteorology.*
- *Having both, however, may lead to the need for managing two activity streams that target the needs and interests of the different membership categories.*

Further Development of your NMSoc and Additional Activities

1 Introduction

There are various steps your Society can take for further development of your NMSoc. For example, you can decide whether to ***incorporate*** your society or not. Although a small society can be run on a very small ***budget***, to make your society match the requirements of your country, you can also look at how to finance your Society. The following sections discuss the advantages of incorporating your society followed by how to finance it.

2 Incorporated or Unincorporated

- While there will be differences in governing regulations from country to country, an incorporated society is generally regarded as a registered legal entity, usually established for professional, recreational, cultural or charitable purposes, and not as a profit-making enterprise.
- It will have a minimum number of members and all surpluses (income minus expenditure) will be used to provide further support for the Society's activities.
- Incorporation makes a Society a legal entity that is independent of its individual members, thus making it easier for the organisation to enter contracts.
- Such a structure offers many benefits to suitable organisations.

3 Benefits of Incorporation

- Incorporation will allow a Society to:
  - *Continue its operation regardless of changes to membership*
  - *Accept gifts, bequests and grants*
  - *Buy and sell property*
  - *Enter enforceable contracts*
  - *Sue or be sued*

4 Invest and borrow money.

- An incorporated Society can be established for any legal purpose.
- Registration is usually inexpensive and it's relatively easy to establish and operate – surpluses will generally not be subject to taxes.
- However, surpluses must be applied to the objectives of the Society.
- There will typically be an annual financial reporting requirement to both the members and to the relevant local authority which may attract a professional fee.
- Incorporating a Society may not be compulsory in a jurisdiction. However, incorporation has advantages.
- If you do incorporate, there will be rules to follow.

5 Finances Required for the Society

For a society to develop to the next level, some finances are required for the following activities:

1) Operation of the Secretariat and some travel expenses of the Secretariat personnel,
2) Publication of the Newsletter & for larger societies an S&T Journal. Smaller NMSocs can use RMS for this. As an example, AfMS has started an S&T Journal in which you can publish your peer reviewed articles,
3) Travel expenses of one or more officers for participation in the in-person IFMS & RMS Meetings,
4) Conducting conferences, which normally make some money for the NMSoc especially if the participants can bear their travel expenses,
5) It is to be noted that most of the activities can be taken care of by volunteers – accounting, Website, production of publications in softcopy; etc.
6) The establishment of any organization from scratch will require some seed funding to support the work required to bring the structure into existence.
7) The potential sources of seed funds vary from country to country but could include direct donations from government, academic or corporate entities that can see benefit in supporting the society's establishment.
8) Such donations could be monetary or in-kind, with the latter including use of office space, staff time, meeting room access, and use of equipment, e.g. computing and communication facilities.
9) The securing of seed funds may require the development of a formal or informal proposal including a Value Proposition.

6 Activities of NMSoc Society

1) The establishment of any organization from scratch will require some seed funding to support the work required to bring the structure into existence.
2) Regularly updated website.
3) Newsletter to keep your members informed about the activities.
4) We have provided you with the following facilities which you should use to the best of your capabilities:
    a. AfMS Journal in which you can publish in an international level Journal, if you have a very large society with many members, you could have your own Journal, but we recommend that you publish in the AfMS Journal which is more prestigious Journal.
    b. Again, we recommend that you participate in the AfMS Conferences, however if you want to make it more country-oriented Conference, you can have your own Conference. Just be aware of issues involved in running a conference
5) You should use the educational capabilities provided by AfMS, especially the following:
    a. The Learning Portal which requires some updates.
    b. The "Train the trainer" program under which we are producing 11 courses and are asking country teams to find us the teachers from their countries to train and get the education department and the meteorology department to accept teaching of these courses in their schools and colleges.

7 Steps to Create a Society in a "Nutshell"

1. A few professionals supported by NHMS and some local Universities and the Private Sector, if it exists, decide the need for an NMSoc.
2. A core team is formulated and a leader is selected.
3. The Society Name & activities are decided and a constitution is prepared.

4. Some Meetings are held to finalize the Constitution and Register the newly created Society.
5. Bank Account is created.
6. The Council and Committees are created.
7. Based on activities Financing Committee makes a Budget & decides on sources of funding.
8. Funding sought and collected.
9. Become a member of the AfMS and IFMS.
10. The following most basic activities are conducted:
    a. Some online meetings and some in-person meetings to discuss issues specific to your country and your Region.
    b. Make your society members aware of all AfMS and IFMS activities and also common activities of the other regional societies such as EMS, FLISMET, etc.
11. In all the above activities, the existence of the activities of the AfMS and IFMS must be kept in mind because you can use the Journal to publish your articles in a pear-reviewed Journal, and also, you can participate in a high standard Conference than is possible in to conduct by any single African Met Society.
12. Prioritize activities and start carrying them out.

8 Every Country should have an NMSoc for the betterment of their country

- No matter what the size of your country or your professional community, you can have an NMSoc – for Networking between professionals
- Andorra with a population of around 80,000 has an NMSoc and so does Iceland since the 1950s with a current population of 375,000 people.
  - *Activities of International (IFMS) and Regional and/or Subregional Society (e.g. EMS, AfMS, FLISMET, etc.)*
  - *Availability of new means of information communication – Zoom, Webex, Google Meet, etc.*
  - *Availability of various Webinars and courses from various organizations such as Global Campus, COMET, ECMWF, AMS, RMetS, etc.*
  - *Availability of Online Training Programs.*
  - *Implementation of New Ideas such as PPA Collaboration.*
  - *Realization on the part of NMHSs about the utility of NMSocs.*
  - With so many common activities, from IFMS and your RMS which can be shared, you can already have a Value Proposition to share activities of your RMS and IFMS.
  - Add to that an occasional get-together for local presentations and lunches or dinners, recognitions, etc. That itself is a big incentive.
  - Just keeping track of activities available through IFMS and your RMS that itself is a sufficient
  - incentive to create an NMSoc in your country.
  - Your NMHS should encourage you to have one.

9 Myths (a widely held but false belief)

9.1 NMSocs will compete with NMS

Response: The sole purpose of the NMSoc is to unite the active and retired professionals from **Public, Private and Academic Sectors** for making progress in Hydro meteorology. Whereas, the NMSs are supposed to do this capacity building, but NMSocs can assist them not only with active but also retired persons from all three sectors. The three should work together to make progress in the country.

9.2 NMSocs are hard to sustain.

Response: They are easy to sustain if you start them with basic activities which fit the size of the NMSoc. The sole purpose of the NMSoc is to unite the active and retired professionals from Public, Private and Academic Sectors to make

progress in Hydro meteorology. Whereas, the NMSs are supposed to do this capacity building, but NMSocs can assist them not only with active but also retired persons from all three sectors. They should work together to make progress in the country. The NMSs must help their NMSoc to ensure their progress as allies.

9.3 Why should Government help NMSocs and no other societies.

Response: In today's world of Climate Change and the disasters caused by it, the survival of lives and protection of property has taken much higher priority than ever before. The cost of the lives, which are lost and properties destroyed because of Climate Change are much higher than the financial demands of these Societies. Therefore, it is in the interest of politicians and bureaucrats to assist them in any way required and that includes financially. It is important to have Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and the required infrastructure of quality for the benefit of each nation.

9.4 Finances required are difficult to arrange.

Response: Under the current mindset of politicians and bureaucrats, it is true. However, the existence of the IFMS and RMS (e.g. AfMS for Africa) should be helpful in changing this mindset. A major effort is required to prepare a uniform professional message for the need to NMSoc for financial support for saving lives and property.

9.5 Difficult to find Volunteers

Response: Volunteers are not difficult to come by. However, it takes a lot of effort to find the required number of dedicated **volunteers**. All those who apply need to be tested and those who are serious will show their value over a reasonable time. Only the serious ones should be retained, and the rest should be excused. The way to look for volunteers is to create an easy way of applying for volunteerism. For example, a google form link with proper questions can assist in looking for volunteers. We found more than 120 volunteers through using google forms for the AfMS.

9.6 Status of NMSOCs in Africa

Existing NMSocs:

(1) Cameroon	(2) Djibouti	(3) Egypt	(4) Ethiopia	(5) Ghana
(6) Kenya	(7) Madagascar	(8) Mauritius	(9) Niger	(10) South Africa

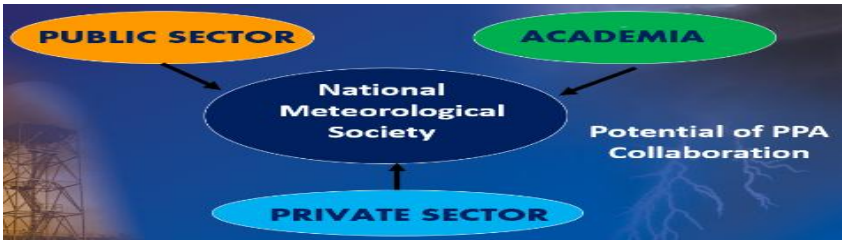
The countries shown in red have not yet become members of AfMS. They are advised to do so. There is a power in being together.

The following countries have shown interest but have not yet taken the steps to create their NMSoc.

(1) Benin	(2) Botswana	(3) Cote d'Ivoire	(4) Comoros	(5) Gambia
(6) Lesotho	(7) Malawi	(8) Republic of Central Africa	(9) Zimbabwe	

10 Conclusion

It is important to have an NMSoc in your country to develop the meteorology profession. With climate change, it has become even more important to have an NMSoc. This is the best way of creating capacity in your country. Therefore, you owe it to your profession, your country, and your continent to create an NMSoc. AfMS and IFMS are always there to help you.



If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together

AfMS Conference in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) on April 20-23, 2026

AfMS Conference: Plenary Sessions

Theme 1: Early Warning in the Era of Climate Change

Moderator: M1: Dr. Mario Marcello Miglietta, Research Director at the Institute of Atmospheric Sciences of Italian National Research Council. Currently, Guest Professor at University of Innsbruck (Austria) and Adjunct Professor at University of Padua (Italy).

SPEAKER S1-1: Prof. Charles Ichoku, Prof. in the Dept. of Geography and Environmental Systems and Director of the Goddard Earth Sciences Technology Centre at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). He is and outstanding scientist, the Chair of the AfMS' D-FOA Committee and a member of the Conference Management Committee.

TITLE: Atmospheric and climate consequences of widespread biomass burning in sub-Saharan Africa – An early warning

SPEAKER S1-2: Dr. Erin Dougherty is a scientist at NSF NCAR where she uses a combination of high-resolution atmospheric and hydrological models.

TITLE: Future Changes to Rainfall over Africa in a Convection-Permitting Model

SPEAKER S1-3 Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia, Immediate past President of IFMS and President of the Info-Electronics Systems Inc., Canada and India. He is a philanthropist and was a member of the National Round Table on Environment and Economy (NRTEE) which reported to the Prime Minister of Canada.

TITLE: Genesis of an Early Warning System with example of A4EU, Met-WebGIS, and Argos used in a World Bank Project in Tonga and elsewhere – a practical solution for EWS4All.

Theme 2: Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategies in Africa.

Moderator: M2: Dr. Zablon Shilenje serves as a Technical Coordinator, Services, at the WMO Regional Office for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

SPEAKER S2.1: Prof. Jimmy Adegoke, is an award-winning climate scientist and Emeritus Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) USA, where he served as Chair of the Department of Geosciences. He is currently an advisor and senior consultant at the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Title: Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategies in Africa

SPEAKER S2.2: Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye is leading the African Center of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD); prior to that, he served as head of the Senegalese meteorological department for 5 years. ACMAD is engaging with humanitarian organizations to provide climate and weather information services (CIS) to inform decisions and anticipate weather-related hazards.

TITLE: Role and relevance of Regional Climate Centers in responding to climate change threats

SPEAKER S2.3: Professor Tsegaye Tadesse is a research professor of applied climate and remote sensing in the School of Natural Resources (SNR) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is also a Geospatial coordinator of the National Drought Mitigation Center (**NDMC**).

TITLE: Climate Change Resilience and Adaptation Strategies in Africa: Integrating Proactive Risk Management and Innovation for Systemic Change

Theme 3: Strengthening Collaboration and Partnerships for Weather and Climate Services in Africa.

Moderator: M3: Dr. Buruhani Nyenzi is a distinguished climate and meteorology expert who has served in senior roles across national, regional, and international institutions

SPEAKER S3.1: Prof. Niyi Jonathan Bello is a Professor of Agricultural Climatology in the Department of Water Resources Management and Agricultural Meteorology, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria.

TITLE: Holistic approach to strengthening collaboration and partnerships for weather and climate services in Africa towards climate resilience and sustainable development

SPEAKER S3.2: Dr. Chris Shisanya is a renowned Professor of Agro-Climatology and environmental geography, known for his extensive leadership, research, and policy advisory roles in climate change, natural resource management, and sustainable development.

TITLE: Strengthening Early Warning Systems in Africa Through Multi-Sectoral Collaboration: Integrating Meteorological Services, Disaster Management, and Local Participation.

SPEAKER S3.3: Dr. Chris Castro is the Director of the Research Applications Laboratory (RAL) at the National Science Foundation-sponsored by NCAR (NSF-NCAR), located in Boulder, Colorado, USA.

TITLE: The Research Applications Laboratory at NSF NCAR: Dedicated to expanding the reach of actionable Earth System Science.

Theme 4: Capacity Building and Training Initiatives for Meteorological Professionals in Africa

Moderator: M4: Prof. Zachariah Debo Adeyewa is Professor of Satellite Meteorology and Climate Change in the Department of Meteorology and Climate Science at the Federal University of Technology, Akure (Nigeria). He is a Board Member of the African Meteorological Society (AfMS), where he chairs the continental Education and Training Committee.

S4.1: Professor Emmanuel Wendsongré Ramdé is the Executive Director of the West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL). He is a mechanical engineer,

an energy and climate change specialist, and a project management, monitoring, and evaluation expert. He also holds a master's degree in business administration (MBA).

TITLE: Made-in-Africa Meteorology: Developing Skills, Sensors, and Climate Intelligence

S4.2: Prof. Solomon Bililign joined NCA&T in 1993. He did his postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Utah Department of Chemistry. His area of specialization includes Experimental and Theoretical Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics /and Chemical Physics. He built research capacity in chemical physics and atmospheric sciences at NCA&T with a combined federal grant of over 23 million.

TITLE: Air pollution in Africa- A menace to health, climate, and economic growth

S4.3: Dr. Kandis Boyd is a trailblazer, an advocate, and a renowned expert in Portfolio Management, Strategic Leadership, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math).

TITLE: Enhancing Awareness of Atmospheric and Environmental Science through Partnership.

Theme 5: Innovative Approaches to Enhancing Weather Forecasting and Early Warning Systems.

Moderator: M5: Dr. Zablon Owiti is a climate scientist and services expert with over 18 years of experience advancing climate adaptation, resilience, and sustainable development in Africa. He currently serves as the **Regional Climate Advisor for Eastern and Southern Africa at NORCAP**, where he provides strategic guidance on regional climate initiatives, resource mobilization, and multi-stakeholder collaboration to strengthen climate-resilient development.

S5.1 Dr. Giulia Panegrossi is Director of Research at the National Research Council of Italy - Institute of Atmospheric Sciences and Climate (CNR-ISAC). She graduated in Physics from Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, and earned her Ph.D. in Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA, through the NASA Earth System Science Fellowship Program.

TITLE: The EUMETSAT H SAF precipitation products: status, challenges, and applications to high-impact weather events over Africa

S5.2 Dr. Bachir Annane is an Associate Scientist at the University of Miami (CIMAS/HRD) with over two decades of expertise in numerical weather prediction, data assimilation, and hurricane research. He currently serves as a NASA Principal Investigator on data-impact studies evaluating the influence of CYGNSS data on tropical cyclones.

TITLE: The Impact of Satellite-Derived Ocean Surface Winds on Regional Tropical Cyclone Forecasting

S5.3 Prof. Babatunde Abiodun is a Professor of Climate Science, Director of the Nansen-Tutu Centre for Marine Environmental Research, and Chairholder of the South Africa National Research Chair in Ocean and Atmospheric Modelling at the University of Cape Town. His expertise lies in climate model development and applications.

TITLE: Integrating Multi-Hazard Forecasting to Strengthen Disaster Resilience in Africa

S5.4 Dr. Rustem Arif Albayrak Dr. Arif Albayrak is a Senior Research Engineer at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) through Goddard Earth Sciences Technology and Research (GESTAR II).

His current work location is the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Biospheric Sciences Laboratory. He is also a member of the NASA Earth Science Disaster Group.

TITLE: From Classifiers to Digital Twins: Utilizing AI for Disaster Response: AI-Driven Decision Support: Transforming Satellite Data into Actionable Insights for Disaster Monitoring

Theme 6: Discussion on the outcomes of all sessions & Action Items.

M6.1 Dr. Harinder Ahluwalia – see S1.3 for his Bio.

M6.2 Prof. Debo Adeyewa - see M4 for his short Bio.

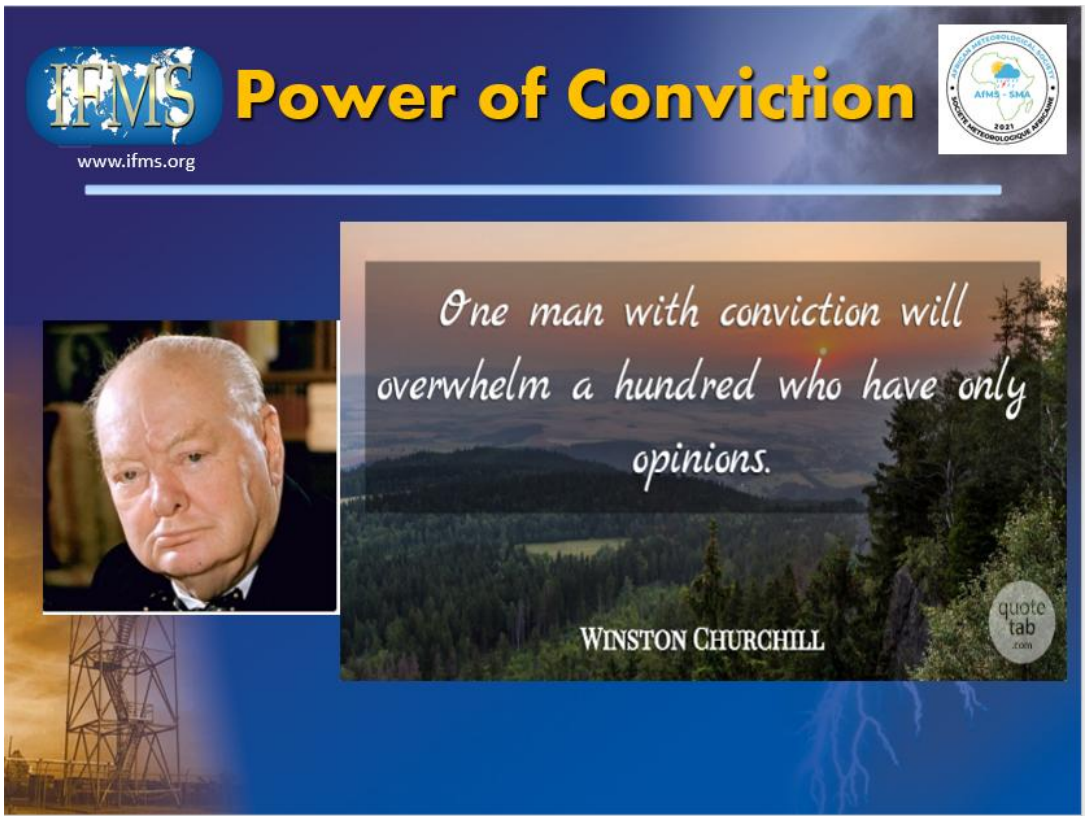
P6.1: Prof. Charles Ichoku – see S1.1 for his Bio.

P6.2: Prof. Belay Demoz is a Physics Professor at UMBC and a leader within the GESTAR-II NASA cooperative institutes. With a career span from NASA, Howard University, and UMBC, he specializes in atmospheric boundary layer processes, climate observation, and equity in climate policy.

P6.3: Dr. Buruhani Nyenzi - – see M3 for his Bio.

P6.4: Dr. Agnes Kijazi is the WMO Director, Regional Office for Africa. Before joining WMO, she was the first woman to be appointed as the Director General of the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) and Permanent Representative (PR) of Tanzania with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the position she held since February 2010 to November 2022. She has also been the third Vice-President of WMO.

P6.5 Prof. Jimmy Adegoke – see S2.1 for his Bio.



OBTAINING VISA FOR Ethiopia

1 Introduction

There are two ways to get Visa for Ethiopia: Visa on Arrival and eVisa.

We have described both ways in the following Sections.

1.1 VISA ON ARRIVAL

Travelers can obtain a visa on arrival at Bole International Airport by presenting:

a) A passport valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry,
b) Two passport-size photographs, and
c) The visa fee.

The application requires a fee, which varies by visa type. Apply for "Worksop/Conference Visa". The participants should arrive one day before and depart one day after the Conference, depending upon flight availability. The intention is that participants should not arrive much earlier than the beginning of the Conference and should not stay long after the end of the Conference. This applies to the Visa-on-arrival only.

For the visa on arrival, the request to Immigration and Citizen Services will be made once the list of participant requests are received at least a couple of weeks before the event. EMI will not handle requests on an individual basis.

Please send your visa on arrival request to:

Workneh Degefu, Conference Local Arrangements Committee Co-chair at afms.vicechair@gmail.com with cc to: ha@info-electronics.co, and bnyenzi@gmail.com, tiyukiyu@yahoo.com

1.2 Online e-Visa

Participants can also apply for the "online e-Visa" by visiting the e-Visa site **https:**//www.evisa.gov.et

The eVisa staff of Ethiopia is extremely picky and you must make sure that the following procedure is strictly followed, otherwise you will go into an infinite loop with them. On the very first page, you will be asked for a Reference Number. Please use the Company Reference Number: **ET11073703542714** which is EMI's Number. Apply for "Worksop/Conference Visa".

You will be asked for the following documents:

a) Copy of your Passport page which has the passport number and identified you, validity date (start and end).
b) Your recent Passport size picture
c) A **stamped** letter requesting the '**Immigration and citizenship service, Ethiopia**' to issue Visa. If you need a format request to Harinder Ahluwalia at (ha@info-electronics.com).
d) A **stamped** letter of Invitation from Ethiopian Meteorological Institute (**EMI**) Service requesting this letter. If you need this letter, please contact Harinder Ahluwalia at (ha@info-electronics.com) and also send your office or home address to be put in the letter.

The following information will be required: **Given Name, Surname, Citizenship, Gener, Country of Birth, Date of Birth, Place of Birth, Email address, Phone Number, Occupation, Street Address, Address City, Address Country, Visa Type (**answer: Workshop/Conference**), Visa Validity (**answer: Single Entry 30 days**).**

Arrival Information: **Arrival Date, Departure Country, Departure City, Airline, Flight Number, Accommodation Type (**Hotel**), Accommodation Name, and Accommodation City.**

In case of any questions, please contact Harinder Ahluwalia (ha@info-electronics.com)