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**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
and
PERMANENT INTER-STATE COMMITTEE
FOR DROUGHT CONTROL IN THE SAHEL**

Agreement—*Programme for the strengthening of the Agrometeorological and Hydrological Services of the Sahelian countries and establishment of a Centre for training, research and applications of agrometeorology and operational hydrology (with annexes and protocol of execution). Signed at Geneva on 16 March 1981*

Authentic texts: English and French.

Filed and recorded at the request of the World Meteorological Organization on 20 April 1981.

**ORGANISATION MÉTÉOROLOGIQUE MONDIALE
et
COMITÉ PERMANENT INTER-ÉTATS
POUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA SÉCHERESSE
DANS LE SAHEL**

Accord — *Programme de renforcement des Services agrométéorologiques et hydrologiques des pays du Sahel et création d'un Centre de formation, de recherche et d'applications en agrométéorologie et hydrologie opérationnelle (avec annexes et protocole d'exécution). Signé à Genève le 16 mars 1981*

Textes authentiques : anglais et français.

Classé et inscrit au répertoire à la demande de l'Organisation météorologique mondiale le 20 avril 1981.

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE PERMANENT INTER-STATE COMMITTEE FOR DROUGHT CONTROL IN THE SAHEL (CILSS) AND THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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I. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Agreement is to describe the structure and operation of the Programme for the strengthening of the Agrometeorological and Hydrological Services of the Sahelian countries and the establishment of a Centre for training, research and applications of agrometeorology and operational hydrology, and to define the rôles and responsibilities of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and also of the World Meteorological Organization, in implementing this Programme.

II. ORIGIN AND OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAMME

A. *Origin*

1. Following the severe drought which began in 1969 in the Sudano-Sahelian area of West Africa, and which reached catastrophic proportions after the rainy seasons in 1972 and 1973, six countries (Chad, Mali, Mauritania,

¹ Came into force on 16 March 1981 by signature, in accordance with article VII (1).

Niger, Senegal and Upper Volta) decided to set up the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS). The Gambia joined the CILSS in 1974, and the Cape Verde Islands in December 1975. Resolution 5, adopted in March 1973 at a meeting of the Ministers of these countries, requested the assistance of international organizations specializing in the study of problems relating to drought, including certain meteorological problems.

2. Resolution 1759 (LIV), adopted by the Economic and Social Council in May 1973, requested bodies within the United Nations—each acting under its terms of reference—to organize the necessary assistance, in order to meet the requests made by the Governments of the Sahelian region concerning their medium and long-term needs.

3. During a meeting, at which the agencies of the United Nations, governments, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations were represented and which was held in Geneva in June 1973, proposals were made concerning the general lines along which the activities of the United Nations agencies should be developed within the framework of medium and long-term programmes.

4. At its first meeting held in Ouagadougou in September 1973, the CILSS adopted resolutions, requesting

- (i) Hydrometeorological, agrometeorological and climatological studies.
- (ii) The setting up of sub-regional centres for applied meteorology, responsible, in particular, for
 - (a) Training staff;
 - (b) Agrometeorological studies, enabling early warnings of crop failure to be issued;
 - (c) Precipitation enhancement experiments.

5. The reports submitted to the CILSS by the commissions of the meeting of experts, which preceded the Conference of Heads of State and the Council of Ministers, give additional information on the intentions of the Sahelian countries, as follows: Commission No. 1—Agricultural and hydraulic engineering for agriculture—recommended the setting up or strengthening at national level of services responsible for data collection and research in the fields of climatology and water resources, in order to facilitate the implementation of projects in all sectors of the economy. Commission No. 2—Environment and climatology—recommended the setting up of infrastructures which would provide essential information for agricultural economics, specifying the setting up or re-structuring of national Meteorological Services, increasing the density of observing networks, the provision of equipment, the creation of archives and a centre for studies. This Commission also mentioned, in particular, studies on possible precipitation cycles, the use of satellite pictures and improvement of forecasting methods.

6. From the outset, WMO has worked in close collaboration with CILSS and representatives of the CILSS Member States, in order to develop a programme for technical co-operation, to achieve the aforementioned objectives. For this purpose, a UNDP/WMO/FAO mission (May/June 1974) defined in detail the needs of the seven countries and prepared a "Programme for the strengthening of the Agrometeorological and Hydrological Services of the Sahelian countries and for the establishment of a Centre for training and applications of agro-

meteorology/operational hydrology". A conceptual plan and implementation programme were drawn up in separate documents.

B. *Objective*

1. The long-term objective of the Programme is to contribute to the social and economic development of the Sahel, by

- (a) Continuously and adequately monitoring the meteorological and hydrological conditions by means of up-to-date observing networks;
- (b) Improving the understanding of these conditions and their variations in order to be able to forecast them;
- (c) Applying this monitoring and this understanding to human activities, more particularly to agriculture and livestock rearing, with a view to increasing and regulating the production of the resources which essentially originate in the atmosphere.

III. MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME

Implementation of this Programme calls for financing from various sources and therefore requires a well-structured organization. Two Committees have been established for this purpose

- The Executive Committee of the Programme,
- The Co-ordinating and Advisory Committee.

1. The Executive Committee is responsible for

- Supervising the implementation of the entire Programme on behalf of the CILSS Member States,
- Defining, on behalf of the Member States, the objectives, guidelines for action and then extensions of the Programme.

This Committee acts as the Administrative Council for the Centre under the conditions laid down in the Statutes of the Centre.

The composition of the Executive Committee, its detailed terms of reference and the way in which it functions are established in the annexed Regulations which form an integral part of the present Agreement.

2. The Co-ordinating and Advisory Committee is responsible for co-ordinating international contributions whether financial or otherwise, necessary for the implementation of the Programme.

The composition of the Co-ordinating and Advisory Committee, detailed terms of reference and the way in which it functions are established in the annexed Regulations which form an integral part of the present Agreement.

3. Liaison between these two Committees is ensured by representation of both CILSS and WMO on both Committees as well as by having the Chairman of each Committee as *ex officio* member of the other Committee.

4. WMO, in association with FAO, has been officially designated by CILSS and UNDP and by the donor countries and organizations as the Executing Agency for the Programme.