



COMITE PERMANENT INTER-ETATS DE LUTTE CONTRE LA SECHERESSE DANS LE SAHEL
PERMANENT INTERSTATE COMMITTEE FOR DROUGHT CONTROL IN THE SAHEL
COMITÉ PERMANENTE INTER-ESTADOS DE LUTA CONTRA A SECA NO SAHEL
اللجنة الدائمة المشتركة لمحاربة التصحر في الساحل



« 50 years of commitment to serving Sahelian and West African populations »

AGRHYMET RCC WAS

AGRHYMET RCC-WAS Strengthens Regional Resilience with Weekly Multi-Risk Briefings for West African and Sahelian countries

Niamey, Niger, 13 August 2026

The AGRHYMET Regional Climate Centre for West Africa and the Sahel (AGRHYMET RRC-WAS) launched its **weekly multi-risk briefings**, a major step in enhancing regional collaboration to anticipate and respond to extreme weather events across **West Africa and the Sahel**. This initiative follows the establishment of the **Regional Multi-Risk Monitoring Room in July 2025**, designed to complement national systems and strengthen cross-border disaster preparedness.

The inaugural session brought together key partners, including **national meteorological and hydrological services, disaster management agencies, ECOWAS Disaster Operations Centre, WMO, and UNDRR**. Opening the session, **Dr. Guiguibaza-Kossigan Dayo, Director General of AGRHYMET RCC-WAS**, emphasized the importance of building capacity to anticipate meteorological and hydrological risks, noting that the monitoring center will provide regional forecasts, analyze risks such as floods and droughts, and evaluate forecast performance. His leadership marks a new era for AGRHYMET RCC-WAS, reinforcing its role as a regional hub for climate resilience.

The technical backbone of the initiative was presented by **Dr. Abdou Ali, Head of the Climate-Water-Meteorology Department**, who showcased the products and tools available in the monitoring room. These include **regional weather models, flood forecasting platforms, and real-time satellite data systems**. Dr. Ali highlighted the new **PHARES platform**, which generates automated forecasts and country-specific bulletins, demonstrating its capacity to deliver timely flood forecasts and rainfall simulations. His presentation illustrated how science and technology are being harnessed to provide actionable insights for member states.

Next, Dr. Tinni Seydou Halidou, an expert in Meteorological and Climatological Forecasting and head of the Regional Hydrological, Meteorological, and Climate Monitoring Division in the Climate-Water-Meteorology Department, gave a detailed presentation on the various products and services provided by the **Regional Multi-Risk Monitoring Room** for national and regional users.

Partners agreed that weekly briefings will provide clear, consistent, and actionable information, including regional summaries of key risks and confidence levels, ensuring that national services can act swiftly and

effectively. Member states expressed strong support: **Togo** highlighted the need for improved data coordination following recent floods, **Mali** stressed the importance of enhanced communication, **Nigeria** called for broader inclusion, and **Guinea** requested capacity building to strengthen hydrological data systems. These interventions underscored the collective commitment to improving disaster preparedness and resilience across the region.

The briefings will align with existing regional mechanisms such as MISVA, ensuring synergy and avoiding duplication. Each national meteorological service will designate a **focal point** to streamline collaboration, supported by UNDRR and WMO. AGRHYMET RCC-WAS also announced plans to gradually integrate **new forecasting models** such as EF5, expand the **flash flood forecasting pilot** to include Gulf of Guinea countries, and organize dedicated technical sessions for experts to evaluate products and co-produce national-level data. Bilateral collaborations were also agreed upon, with Togo integrating its data into the PHARES platform and Guinea submitting a formal request for capacity building.

The launch was marked by strong participation both virtually and in person, with AGRHYMET RCC-WAS and ECOWAS delegations gathered to present regional rainfall, temperature, flood, and drought outlooks.



