



## **Eighteenth Session of the Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction**

**4-6 October 2022, Algiers, Algeria**

### **BACKGROUND**

The Eighteenth Session of the Africa Working Group on DRR (AWGDRR) was held in hybrid format from 4-6 October 2022 in Algiers, Algeria under the theme 'From commitments to action-Enhancing Anticipatory Action in Africa through effective implementation of Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning and Early Action Programme'. The meeting was held in a hybrid format and was attended by 88 participants (54 in-person and 34 virtually) drawn from AWGDRR member organizations and other stakeholders, including Member States, Regional Economic Communities, Regional Climate Centers, African Peer Review Mechanism, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, World Meteorological Organization, and other United Nations organizations, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Periperi U, Africa Science and Technology Advisory Group, Africa Youth Advisory Board, GreenAid International, European Union, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. The meeting was chaired by the African Union Commission, while UNDRR served as a secretariat.

### **Objective of the meeting**

The main objective of the session was to review progress and agree on the way forward to effectively implement recommendations agreed at the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the AWGDRR, as well as commitments and priorities outlined in the 2021 Nairobi Declaration and the Africa Common Position to the Global Platform for DRR 2022. The meeting was also an opportunity for the AWGDRR member organizations and other stakeholders in attendance to contribute inputs to the Midterm Review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the Second Biennial Report on the Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa.



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## Structure and outcome of the meeting

To achieve the above objective, the Group concentrated its deliberations on prioritized strategic issues related to the theme of the event. In addition to panel and plenary discussions, the session featured Market Place and lighting talks in which the host country has also participated. Unlike previous sessions, the session included field visits with the view to providing additional opportunity for participants to learn more from the experience of Algeria in DRR, including multi-hazard early warning and early action systems. The session concluded with the adoption of concrete recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa, which are summarised in the table below.

## Agreed action points

No.	Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
1.	Expedite the operationalization of the SADC Humanitarian and Emergency Operations Centre (SHOC)	SADC	AUC, UNOCHA, IFRC, UN-Habitat, AWGDRR members	2022-2023
2.	Support ECOWAS and ECCAS to establish/strengthen MHEWEAS situation rooms/operations centers	ECOWAS, ECCAS, AUC, UNDRR	AWGDRR members	2022-2023
3.	Rollout and report on the IGAD and Africa roadmaps on Anticipatory actions	IGAD, IFRC	AUC	2022-2023
4.	Report on the progress of the East Africa Drought watch and its scaling up at the continental level	IGAD, ACMAD	AUC	2022-2023
5.	Develop institutional frameworks harmonized with the AMHEWAS framework in RECs (SADC, ECOWAS, ECCAS) and Member States.	RECs, MS	AUC, UNDRR, AWGDRR members	2022-2023
6.	Facilitate AU Member states, AUC, UNDRR, AWGDRR and other stakeholders consultations on the establishment of the Pan African Mechanism for Continental Civil Capacity for Disaster Preparedness and Response	AUC, Algeria	UNDRR, UNOCHA, AWGDRR members	By December 2022

No.	Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
7.	Mobilize AU MS, AUC, UNDRR and AWGDRR to support the establishment of the Pan African Mechanism for Continental Civil Capacity for Disaster Preparedness and Response	AUC	UNDRR, UNOCHA, AWGDRR members	2022-2023
8.	Facilitate Intra-Africa peer-to-peer learning among MS and RECs	AUC, RECs	AWGDRR members	2023-2024
9.	Continue to actively engage in the preparation for COP27 to ensure consideration of DRR in Africa's Common Position as a tool to build climate and disaster resilience across the continent	MS, AUC, UNECA,	AWGDRR members	2022-2023
10.	Support efforts to better integrate DRR financing into budgeting process and mobilization of finance through innovative mechanisms such as green and blue bonds, debt swaps for climate action	ARC, AfDB, UNECA, UNDRR	AUC, AWGDRR members	2022-2023
11.	Ensure active engagement in CCDA-X (24-28 October 2022) ARFSD-9 (2023) to mainstream AWGDRR priorities in the deliberations and outcome documents	AUC, UNECA, AfDB, UNDRR	AWGDRR members	2022-2023
12.	Follow up on submission of the Nairobi Declaration (November 2021) to the AU policy organ for endorsement	Republic of Kenya, AUC	UNDRR	February 2023
13.	Finalize the development of the Africa Urban Resilience Roadmap to guide resilience-building efforts, in support of the PoA implementation	AUC	UNDP, UNDRR, UN Habitat	December 2022
14.	Engage African MS to actively participate in the deliberations on the drafting of the MTR outcome document	UNDRR	AUC, AWGDRR members	2022-2023
15.	Finalize consultations on the draft TORs of the AWGDRR based on inputs from AWGDRR	AUC	UNDRR	By February 2023

No.	Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
	meeting with relevant stakeholders			
16.	Finalize the Second Biennial Report on the PoA based on inputs from the 18 <sup>th</sup> session of AWGDRR and share the revised version with member organizations for additional inputs (if any)	AUC	AWGDRR members	By 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022