



From Earth Observation to Policy Development & Implementation

Concept note & Programme

#2nd MESAforum

24-28 April 2017,
King Fahd Hotel, Dakar, Senegal



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MESA
MONITORING FOR ENVIRONMENT
AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

I. Introduction

The Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) project is a European Union funded project which utilizes earth observation (EO) and satellite technologies to generate critical products and information services for socioeconomic development of African people as well as sustainable environmental management.

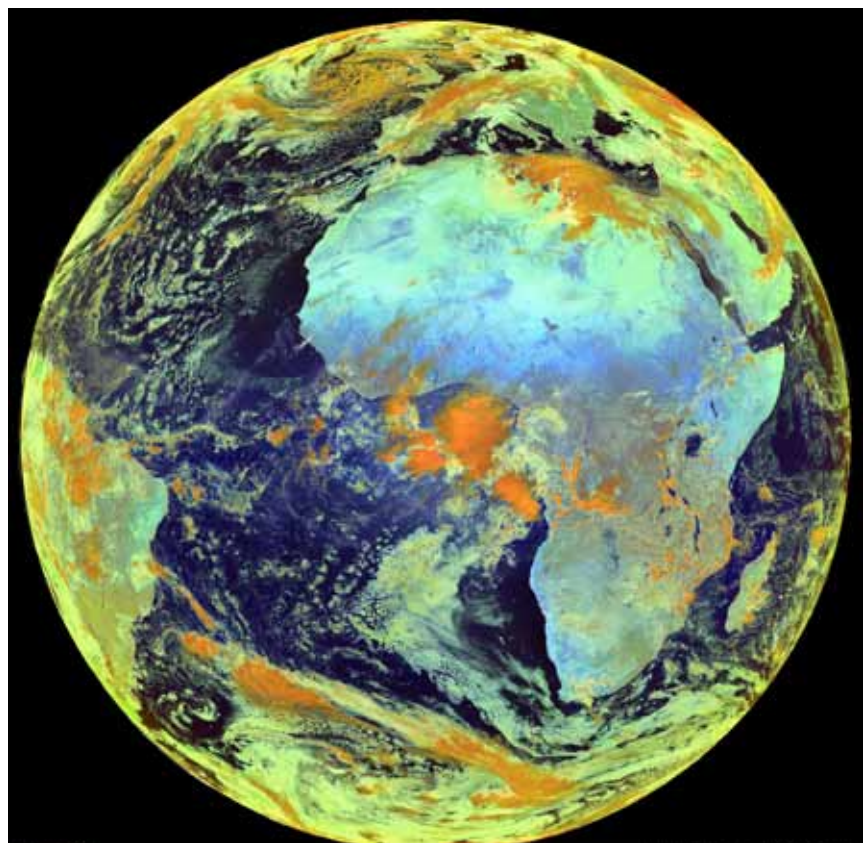
The project is supporting mainly African decisions makers, planners, scientists and international institutions in designing and implementing policies and development plans for sustainable development, thereby enhancing socioeconomic conditions of the African population.

The MESA project promotes regional integration, enhances Africa's access to EO data, develops and disseminates products and services, encourages exchanges between the African and European experts and institutions, and also enhances the capacity of African institutions, policy makers and experts. The project is currently offering products and operational services to African users in areas such as: agricultural production, monitoring and assessment of droughts, floods and wildfires, climate services for disaster risk reduction, land degradation mitigation, coastal and marine resources management, water resources management, natural habitat conservation, rangeland management, and forestry management.

MESA also contributes to the 2nd, 13th, 14th and 15th Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations; and to the 3rd objective of Group on Earth Observation (GEO) 10 years Strategic Plan 2016–2025 : “To deliver data, information and knowledge enabling stakeholders to improve decision – making processes and inform policy requirements, promote the exchange of best practices, enable the uptake of new technologies, and create new economic opportunities while leveraging public sector investment through standardization, collaboration and innovation”.

The MESA project is implemented with the overall coordination of the African Union Commission and steering by the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Intergovernmental Organizations [i.e. The Committee of Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), the Economic Commission of West African States (ECOWAS), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the Southern African Development Community (SADC)] and the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Secretariat, in close cooperation with the European Union Delegation to the African Union, and partner institutions such the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Services (EUMETSAT) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission.

The project is implemented by the aforementioned RECs and Regional Intergovernmental bodies through their specialized technical institutions: the Botswana Department of Meteorological Services and SADC Climate Services Centre for the SADC region, the International Commission for Congo-Oubangui-Sangha Basin (CICOS) for Central Africa, the AGRHYMET Regional Centre for the ECOWAS, the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) for IGAD, the Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) for the IOC, the University of Ghana for ECOWAS Region for Coastal and Marine Resources Management, and the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) provides climate services for disaster risk reduction for the African continent.



EUMETSAT

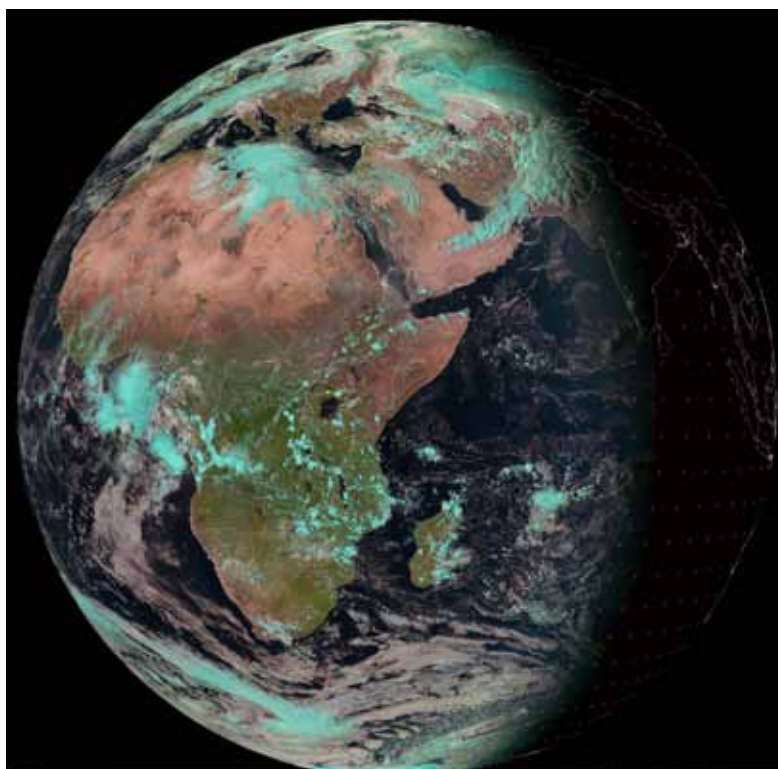
Meteosat-3 Data Show, 2017-05-21 12:00:00 UTC

II. Overview of the Second MESA Forum

The organization of this 2nd MESA forum is one of the major activities of MESA and capitalizes on the experience of two Fora organized under African Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) as well as the 1st MESA Forum, held in Kenya (Nairobi) from the 31st of August to the 4th of September 2015.

The first AMESD forum on “Towards a Pan African Partnership and Networking for the monitoring of the African Environment by Satellite” was organized in Kinshasa from 1st to 4th December 2009.

The 2nd AMESD Forum was held in Mauritius from the 20th to the 22nd July 2011 on AMESD services and products with a focus on “achievement and perspective in support of environmental management”.



The first MESA Forum focused on services development, their use and applications both at regional and country level. It also focused on the broad issues of Environmental Governance, use of media to communicate environmental events and trends and climate change. The Theme of the 1st forum was “streamlining MESA products and services towards the decision making cycle in support of sustainable environment management”.

The second forum aims at highlight how MESA link Earth Observation to decision making. The overall goal of the second MESA Forum is enhancing exchanges with policy makers and the general public on MESA achievements to address environmental challenges including lessons learnt and perspectives with GMES&Africa and other programs.

The second MESA Forum will build not only on the past AMESD and MESA fora but also to some relevant events which took place in 2016 e.g. The MESA Policy Dialogue Workshop, the EUMETSAT User Forum and COP 22 highlighting MESA contribution to address climate and environmental challenges of our time. Importantly, it will be laying the foundation for GMES & AFRICA to make the most of the lessons learnt in a spirit of shared knowledge.

Current MESA efforts and achievements, lessons learnt and best practices, sustainability of the programme and future strategies and programmes to further support sustainable environmental policies, strategies and practices are major topics to be discussed.

It is of paramount importance that MESA is able to inform and enhance policy development frameworks to ensure more effective environmental policies with tangible benefits to society, economy and environment. The second MESA Forum will, amongst the other objectives, try to verify up to what extent this goal is achieved.

III. Objectives of the 2nd MESA Forum

The overall objective of the 2nd MESA Forum is to highlight achievements of MESA, demonstrating how MESA initiative has influenced policy development frameworks and informed decision making processes across Africa and how the initiative outcomes (results) will support GMES & Africa and other related programs of Africa.

The specific objectives of the Forum are to:

1. Present the status of the program, with emphasis on show-casing how MESA services are used in environmental policies in light of the livelihood benefits to the African society. Each REC will illustrate how policies and decisions are supported by MESA and identify the major challenges ahead.
2. Highlight human capital development strategies of MESA program and the role of Universities to promote MESA topics in the curriculum of African Universities.
3. Discuss the sustainability path of MESA
4. Discuss COPERNICUS and new technology in earth observation with specific reference to the Sentinel and MTG data and their potential to improve access to data.
5. Present GMES&Africa and long term EO climate data, and identify patterns to collaborate, sustain, complement and benefit from MESA.

Conclusions will be drawn at the end of the Forum and some key recommendations will be presented in a plenary session to the participants and included in the MESA Forum Proceedings.

IV. Expected Results

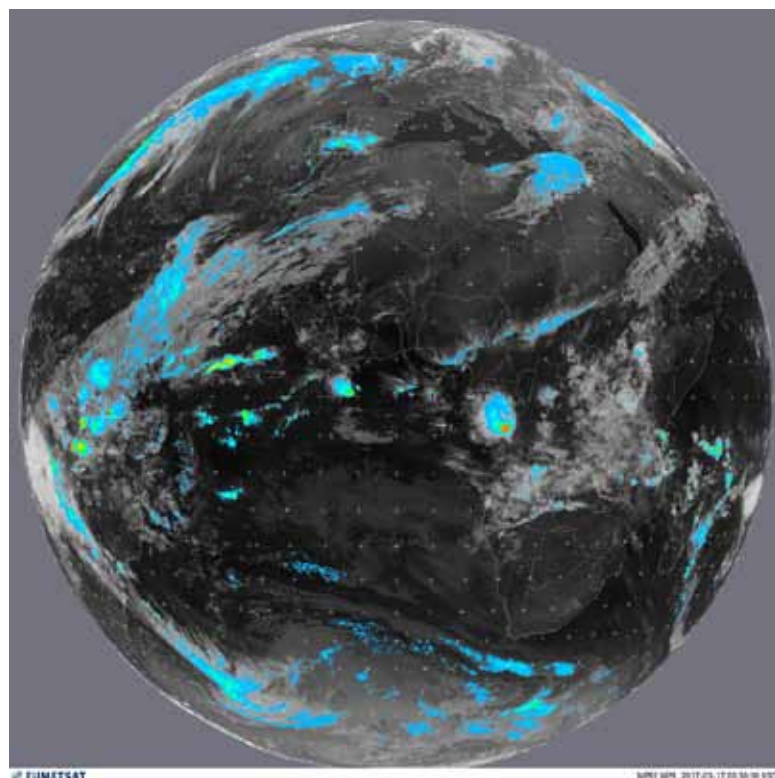
The Forum is expected to achieve the following results:

1. Overview of the project achievements and their potential for further improvements including, in-depth understanding of how MESA is impacting on Africa's continental, regional and national policies.
2. Deep understanding on the effectiveness and challenges of the human capacity development component of MESA and the role of universities.
3. Gain knowledge on how sustainability can be achieved in terms of EO applications with link to environment policies.
4. Improved knowledge on how the COPERNICUS and MTG programs can improve data access and EO applications for African Environmental policies.
5. Better understanding on how GMES & Africa programs complement and benefit from MESA.

V. Forum Approach

The second Forum would follow a slightly different approach than the first MESA Forum of September 2015. Whereas some elements of the previous approach will be maintained namely 1) the duration, 2) the technical visit 3) the utilization in the program of parallel sessions and round tables, 4) the focus on achievements at a level of policy implementation, these below are the new elements:

1. Active participation of important MESA continental partners such as AMCOW, AMCOMET, AM-CEN, etc.,
2. The presentation spotlights on Thematic Areas instead of Regional Implementing Centres
3. The engagements of ultimate end users e.g. Fishermen as testimonials of the benefits reaped at community level.
4. The active involvements of universities deemed as factor of sustainability of MESA achievements.
5. Panel, parallel and plenary and exhibition sessions feed each other and contribute to the main objective of the forum



VI. Forum Participants

Representative of the 48 participating African countries; the Regional Economic Communities; Representatives of African Ministerial Conferences (i.e. AMCEN, AMCOMET, AMCOW); the African Union Commission; the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Secretariat; the European Union; the African Development Bank; the United Nations Organizations (UNISDR, WMO, UNECA, UNDP, UNEP etc.); European Partners including EUMETSAT, JRC, ITC, ESA, CNES, ECMWF, NGOs; Development and Research institutions i.e. FEWSNET, Programme and projects, the Africa Risk Capacity. Final beneficiaries of MESA project such as farmers, fishermen, etc will also take part in the Forum.

High-Level Participants

- (a) African Ministerial Bodies (i.e. AMCOMET, AMCOW, AMCEN, etc.)
- (b) The ACP Secretariat
- (c) The African Union Commission
- (d) The European Union
- (e) The Government of Senegal
- (f) The Regional Economic Communities
- (g) Pan African Parliament
- (h) Director of Universities

VII. Venue and dates of Forum

Venue and dates of the second MESA Forum is at King Fahd Hotel, in Dakar Senegal, from 24 to 28 April 2017



VIII. Explanation of the FORUM sessions

1: Key note address and round table discussion

In this session key notes addresses will be provided on how policy implementations have benefited from the MESA program. After a short introduction on environment policy makers, a high level round table discussion will follow.

2: Overview of MESA achievements

This session will provide an overview of MESA achievements by major result areas. This will be followed by a visit to the MESA exhibition.

3: Policy development and implementation

First, the AUC will introduce the session by an introductory note. Then each Thema representatives provide highlights of their respective service and invite ultimate end users to present success stories, hence linking policy development with communities' livelihood enhancement. Afterward, the Forum participants will split in to 3 groups based on different Thematic Areas (Land and Water, Marine and Climate). Successful endeavours able to relate environmental policies and livelihood improvement at societal level, under the aegis of Earth Observation best practices will be presented and discussed. Parallel sessions will be used.

4 – Capacity building and sustainability

Overview of the MESA Training program will be provided with a spot light on the immediate benefits and potential for scaling up. Presentations by Universities in their scope for adopting and availing the MESA topics within their courses, will be forwarded. A panel discussion will be organized to conclude this session .

5- Technical Visit

A technical visit to Gore Island will be made on the fourth day of the Forum. The visit is the opportunity to highlight some environment issues related to land or marine in Senegal. The MESA products will be used to illustrate this showcase.

6: GMES&AFRICA, COPERNICUS and Data access sustainability:

The status of GMES&AFRICA project will be presented. Common ground in thinking and planning lessons that GMES & AFRICA can learn from MESA will be discussed. COPERNICUS program (with Sentinels applications for marine and land) with data access and applications and potentials will be illustrated and the experience sharing among applications developed in COPERNICUS and MESA. The EUMETSAT contribution to weather and climate monitoring from space will be illustrated by the long term data access sustainability.

7: Adoption of Actions and Recommendations

During this session, recommendations of the MESA Forum will be presented in the plenary and reviewed.

8. Closing

Closing remarks and press conference will be given and this will end the 2nd MESA FORUM.

IV. Summary of Programme

Below is abridged version of the agenda.

	Day 01, Monday 24 April 2017	Day 02, Tuesday 25 April 2017	Day 3- Wednesday 26 April 2017	Day 04, Thursday 27 April, 2017	Day 05, Friday 28 April 2017
Morning Session	<p>Registration</p> <p>Opening ceremony</p> <p>Group photo</p> <p>Exhibition</p> <p>Press conference</p> <p>Key note address</p> <p>Round table discussion on policy</p> <p>Overview of MESA Achievements</p>	<p>Overview of Service development using EO Technologies in Africa</p> <p>MESA Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MESA Marine Thema (ECOWAS & IOC), MESA Land Thema (ECOWAS, IGAD and SADC), MESA Water Thema (CEMAC), MESA Climate services (Continental Thema) 	<p>Capacity Building and sustainability</p> <p>MESA continental training and its contribution to sustainability of services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keynote speech: EO Education and Trainings for sustainable development MESA Continental Training and its contribution to MESA service development <p>Trainings at Regional Implementation Centres; The role of Universities in imparting EO technology to youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution of Regional Trainings to University curriculum: The Case of SADC MESA Training and University Curriculum (Presentation from selected Universities) Panel discussion on what has been benefited from MESA and how it can be further utilized in academic training 	<p>Technical Visit</p>	<p>COPERNICUS: the EU EO program</p> <p>Key note address: COPERNICUS sentinel 2 application in Africa-A cooperative approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term data accessibility EUMETSAT GMES and AFRICA
	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
Afternoon Session	<p>Use of MESA Products and Services for policy and decision making in Africa – The case of MESA Continental Environmental Bulletin (CEB)</p> <p>Participants visit to Exhibition Booths</p>	<p>Use of MESA products and services for policy and decision making process (Three Parallel Sessions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MESA and Marine application in Africa (IOC & ECOWAS) MESA and Land & Water applications (IGAD, ECOWAS and SADC & CEMAC) MESA, DRR, Weather and climate services (ACMAD, AMCOMET) <p>Reporting in plenary</p>	<p>MESA Training Partners (Third Party Trainings and Contribution to Service Sustainability)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution of JRC to capacity building in EO in Africa EUMETSAT's Support to Meteorological trainings in Africa Up scaling achievements and the role of distance education in distance education in building capacity 	<p>Technical Visit</p>	<p>Session 7 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Forum recommendations Adoption of Forum recommendations Closing Ceremony
				Gala Dinner	

2nd MESA Forum Detailed Programme

Day 1: Monday 24 April 2017		
Time	Session/Title	Speaker & Chair
08:30-09:00	Registration	
Session1: Opening Ceremony		
09:00-10:0	Statements made by representatives of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECOWAS • MESA PSC Chair-CEMAC • Head of EU Delegation • Commissioner, REA, AUC • Minister, Government of Senegal 	Facilitator: Master of Ceremony Speakers: ECOWAS, MESA PSC Chair-CEMAC, EUD, AUC and Government of Senegal
10:00 -10:30	Key note address: The role of Earth Observation services for policy development and implementation in Africa	Speaker: Prof. Abdoulaye Dia, Executive secretary and CEO Pan African Agency of the Great Green Wall Chair: ECOWAS
Session 2: MESA Achievements and Lessons Learned		
10:30-11:00	Overview of MESA Achievements and Lessons Learned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure • Products and Services • Training • Questions, observations and comments on the presentation 	Chair: ECOWAS Presenter: Dr. Jolly Wasambo, MESA Project Coordinator, AUC
11:00-12:00	Group photo VIP visit exhibition stands/ Health Break for participants	Facilitator: AUC Presenters: 12 Exhibitors Venue: Exhibition Hall
	Press Conference	Speakers:: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECOWAS • MESA PSC Chair-CEMAC • EUD to AU • AUC • Government of the Republic of Senegal
12:00-13:00	High level round table discussion Topic: Contribution of Earth Observation to Africa's Development Agenda at Continental Regional and National levels	Speakers: Representatives of AUC; Government of the republic of Senegal; ECOWAS; EU Delegation; Parliamentarian Government of Senegal Facilitator: Ibrahima Fall
13:00:-14:30	Lunch Break	
14:30-15:30	Use of MESA products and services for policy and decision making in Africa: The case of MESA Continental Environmental Bulletin (CEB); Questions, observations and comments on the presentation	Presenters: Mr Farai Marumbwa, Mr. Kwame Adu Agyekum and Mr. Eugene Kayijamahe Chair: AUC
15:30-16:00	Health Break	
16:00-17:00	Participants visit to Exhibition Booths	Facilitators: Master of Ceremony and AU-MESA Communications Officer (Hailu W.)

Day 2: Tuesday 25 April 2017

Session 3: MESA Products and Services – Regional and Continental Applications

9:00-09:30	Overview of Service development Using Earth Observation Technologies in Africa	Speakers: Dr. Bakary Djaby, MESA TAT Team Leader Prof. Alioune Kane, UCAD Chair: IOC
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Session 3.1: MESA Success Stories

09:30-10:20	MESA Marine Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECOWAS Marine Thema: Coastal and Marine Resource Management • IOC Marine Thema: Marine and Coastal Management Questions, observations and comments on the presentation.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. George Wiafe, University of Ghana • Eric Martial, Mauritius Oceanography Institute Chair: IOC
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10:20-10:50 Health Break

10:50-12:05	MESA Land Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECOWAS Land Thema: Water Management for Cropland and Rangeland • SADC Land Thema: Agricultural and Environmental Resources Management • IGAD Land Thema: Land Degradation Assessment, Natural Habitat Conservation and Forest Monitoring Services Questions, observations and comments on the presentation.	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Issa Garba, RIC Manager, AGRHYMET • Isaac Kusane, RIC Manager, BDMS/SADC-CSC • Zachary Atheru, RIC Manager, ICPAC Chair: IGAD
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12:05-12:30	MESA Water Application: CEMAC Water Thema: Management of Water Resources in Central Africa	Speaker: Eng. Georges Gulemvuga, RIC Manager, CICOS Chair: AMCOW
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12:30-13:00	MESA Climate Applications: Continental Climate Services for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa	Speaker: Dr. Andre Kamga, CIC Manger, ACMAD Chair: AMCOMET
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13:00:-14:30 Lunch Break

Session 3.2: Use of MESA products and services for policy and decision making process

14:30-14:40	Introduction of the session & Group Formation (Three Parallel sessions with NFPs presentation)	Chair: ACP
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14:40-15:40	Group 1: MESA and Marine Application in Africa (IOC & ECOWAS) Group 2: MESA and Land Applications (IGAD, ECOWAS and SADC) Group 3: MESA, DRR, Weather, Climate Services and Water (ACMAD, AMCOMET & CEMAC)	Chairs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: ECOWAS • Group 2: IGAD • Group 3: CEMAC
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15:40 -16:00	Health Break	
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16:00 -17:00	Group Reporting in Plenary Questions, observations and comments	Speakers: Rapporteur of the three groups Chair: ACP
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Day 3: Wednesday 26 April 2017

Session 4: Capacity Building and Sustainability

Session-4.1: MESA continental training and its contribution to sustainability of services

9:00-09:30	Keynote speech: EO Education and Trainings for sustainable development	Speaker: Professor Ayobami T. Salami, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic), Institute of Ecology & Environmental Studies, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Chair: SADC
09:30-10:00	MESA Continental Training and its contribution to MESA service development	Speaker: Dr. Tesfaye Korme, Training Manager of MESA Chair: SADC

10:00-10:30 Health Break

Session 4.2: Trainings at Regional Implementation Centres; The role of Universities in imparting EO technology to the youth

10:30-10:45	Contribution of Regional Trainings to University curriculum: The Case of SADC	Speaker: Mr. Isaac Kusane Chair: IGAD
10:45-11:30	MESA Training and University Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Zimbabwe (Land Thema), • University of Dakar (Climate Thema), • University of Ghana (Marine), • Institut Des Sciences et techniques appliquées (ISTA) (Water) • Obafemi Awolowo University Ile-Ife (Land) 	Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Amon Munriwa, University of Zimbabwe • Prof. Amadou Tahirou DIAW, University of Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar • Prof. Daniel Kwadwo Asiedu, Provost of College of Basic and Applied Sciences (CBAS), Ghana • Prof. Balthazar Cizungu Musole, ISTA, DRC • Prof. Ayobami T. Salami, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Chair: IGAD

11:30-12:30	Panel discussion with beneficiary universities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Nairobi (Drought monitoring) • Makerere University (Land) • University of Niamey (Pastoralism) • University of Mauritius (Marine) DiscussionTopic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefit from MESA and how this can be integrated to enhance the EO curriculum at the Universities • How MESA Training resources can further be utilized in academic training 	Facilitators : Papa Oumar Dieye, Serge Bayala and Ibrahim Ceesay (African Youth)
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12:30-13:00	Plenary Discussion: Challenges and opportunities	Facilitators: Papa Oumar Dieye, Serge Bayala and Ibrahim Ceesay (African Youth)
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13:00:-14:30 Lunch Break

Session 4.3: MESA Training Partners (Contribution to Service Sustainability with emphasis on challenges and opportunities)

14:30-15:15	Contribution of JRC to capacity building in EO in Africa	Speaker: Dr. Marco Clerici & Antione Royer Chair: AMCOMET
15:15-16:00	EUMETSAT's Support to Meteorological Trainings in Africa	Speaker: Dr. Vincent Gabglio Chair: AMCOMET

16 :00-16:30 Health Break

Session 4.4: Upscaling MESA achievements and the role of distance education in building capacity

16:30-17:00	Experiences of two champion MESA distance education students	Chair: AMCOMET Speakers: Dr. Abdoulaziz Diouf, CSE, Senegal Mr. Liberti Mlambo, University of Zimbabwe
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Day 4: Thursday 27 April 2017

Time	Session/Title	Speaker & Chair
Session 5: Technical visit to Gorée Island		
8:00-8:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants arrive at King Fahd Hotel 	Facilitator: BMS, CSE and MC
8:30 - 16:30	Field visit	
Gala Dinner at King Fahd Palace Hotel		
19:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Speech Award ceremony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AUC, EUD, ECOWAS , CEMAC & CSE representatives MC

Day 5: Friday 28 April 2017

Session 6: Long term sustainability		
9:00-9:30	Copernicus : the EU's Earth Observation Programme	Speaker: Dr. Michel Massart, Copernicus Unit I2, DG GROW, European Commission Chair: AMCOMET
09:30-10:00	Key note address: Copernicus Sentinel 2 applications in Africa – A cooperative approach	Speaker: Dr. Marc Leroy, CNES Chair: AMCOMET
10:00-10:30	EUMETSAT Long term data accessibility	Dr. Vincent Gabaglio, EUMETSAT
10:30-11:00	Health Break	
11:00-12:00	GMES and Africa	Speaker: Dr. Tidiane Ouattara, Project Coordinator, GMES & Africa, AUC Chair: IGAD
12:00-14:30	Preparation of recommendations	Chief rapporteur
13:00:-14:30	Lunch Break	
14:30-15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of Forum recommendations Adoption of Forum recommendations 	Speaker: Chief rapporteur Chair: IGAD
Closing Ceremony		
15:30-16:30	Closing Remarks and Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECOWAS EUD to AU MESA PSC Chair-CEMAC AUC Government of Senegal
16:30-17:00	Press Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECOWAS EUD to AU MESA PSC Chair-CEMAC AUC Government of Senegal



The MESA Project

The Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) Project uses space-based and in-situ data to enable an improved management of the environment and food security at continental, regional and national levels in Africa. MESA consolidates and widens the operational environmental services developed in the African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD) programme, and is a contribution to the GMES & Africa.

The objective of the MESA Project is to enhance access to reliable, timely and accurate land, marine and climate data and information for Africa. And the purpose of the MESA project is to increase the capacity in information management, decision making and planning of African continental, regional and national institutions mandated for environment, climate and food security. This is being achieved by enhancing access to reliable, timely and accurate land, marine and climate data and information for Africa. MESA is exploiting Earth Observation (EO) data and technologies to promote socioeconomic progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals: Agenda 2063.

The MESA project provides eighteen services for the seven thematic actions: Management of Water Resources in Central Africa; Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the ECOWAS Region; Water Management for Cropland and Rangeland in the ECOWAS Region; Land Degradation, Natural Habitat Conservation and Forest monitoring in the IGAD Region; Marine and Coastal Management in the IOC region; Climate Services for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa.

The MESA Project, funded by the European Union, is implemented with the overall coordination of the African Union Commission. Specialised technical institutions of the Regional Economic Communities and Inter-Governmental Organisations (CEMAC, ECOWAS, IGAD, IOC and SADC) lead the implementation of the project in their respective regions. The project is also implemented with close cooperation of the European Union and partners such as European Organisation for the Exploration of Meteorological Satellite (EUMETSAT) and the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC).

