



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



Centre Régional AGRHYMET

MESA Policy Dialogue day

Decision-makers are aware of MESA ECOWAS Land Thema products and services

Forty-five (45) decision-makers composed of General Directors, responsible of research institutions, head of Central agriculture services, Livestock, Environment etc, francophone and Portuguese speaking countries from the Sahel and West Africa took part to the policy dialogue day that was held on January 15, 2016 at AGRHYMET Regional Centre.

The formal opening ceremony of this event was chaired by his Excellency Mr. Mahaman EL Hadj Ousmane, Niger Minister of livestock in presence of Dr. Djimé Adoum, CILSS Executive Secretary, Dr Samuel MEDU, representative of the ECOWAS commission, the technical advisor of the Minister of state Minister of Agriculture and Mrs. Beatrice Bussi, representative of the European Union delegation in Niger.

Prof. BOUAFOU Kouamé Guy Marcel, Director General of AGRHYMET Regional Centre (ARC), Mrs. Rabi Oumarou and Mr. Seydou Diakitè, respectively Permanent Secretary of CILSS in Niger and Mali, the MESA Land Thema focal points, experts from CILSS and many guesses were as well present.

Three addresses were delivered during the opening ceremony:

- The welcoming address by the ARC Director General
- The address by the representative of the ECOWAS commission
- The opening address by the minister of Livestock

In his opening address, the Minister of livestock has emphasized the achievement of CILSS through the ARC especially the concrete results in terms of capacity-building of regional national managers on Environment indicators and tools, installation of AMESD stations and production of Environment monitoring bulletins. He highlighted also the importance of that day which main objective is to permit national decision-makers to be aware of earth observation products and data from MESA stations and also take into account their opinion and recommendations in order to improve the products and services made available to them. To end, the Minister renewed his acknowledgements to CILSS and ECOWAS for their technical supports to member states and to the European Union for

sponsoring the MESA program.

Before, the representative of the ECOWAS commission expressed his acknowledgements to ARC for the organization of this day. He has also highlighted the relevance of the three MESA information services (Crop, Pastoralism and Bush fire) for a better monitoring for Environment in the Sahel and West Africa, however, Dr. Medu has invited decision-makers from francophone and Portuguese speaking countries to support efforts of the MESA ECOWAS Land Thema at national level.

In his turn, the Director General of AGRHYMET Regional Centre has in his address expressed his acknowledgements to decision-makers who have taken part to this dialogue day on MESA products. He has recalled the major actions conducted by the ARC under the MESA ECOWAS Land Thema project especially circular missions to aware national policy-makers to support the MESA and its derived products for decision-making at national level. To this, we can add the regional workshops on MESA products for francophone, Anglophones and Portuguese speaking countries of the Sahel and West African countries. Finally, the Director General of AGRHYMET Regional Centre has on behalf of the Executive Secretary of CILSS expressed his acknowledgements to the European Union and the ACP secretariat for sponsoring the MESA project and the ECOWAS Commission to have renewed its confidence to ARC

The addresses were followed by presentation of prototype bulletin by participants of the regional training on the MESA products and by the MESA ECOWAS Land Thema team on the services and functioning of MESA networks, the financial procedures to use the MESA funds and also on the MESA new stations.

They were subject of debate and discussions for a better consideration of concerns from the Sahelian and West African countries in terms of environment monitoring.

At the end of the day, various recommendations were made by participants. They are mainly:

- The organization of a day for potential beneficiaries of the MESA ECOWAS Land Thema project such as the farmers organization, nongovernmental organizations, etc
- The regular update of earth observation data for national focal points
- The consideration of new themes that results from countries needs such as flooding
- The setting-up of an early warning system on bush fire monitoring



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- The implication of decision-makers in making available the funds for environment monitoring actions
- Strengthening the consultation frameworks that exist in countries such as the multidisciplinary working groups (GTP)

This policy dialogue day was also an opportunity to deliver certificate to participants at the regional training on MESA products and services that was held from January 11 to 15, 2016 at AGRHYMET Regional Centre.

It was ended with the addresses by Prof Atta Sanoussi and Mr. Djéri Alassani, respectively representative of the Director General of AGRHYMET Regional Centre and representative of the ECOWAS Commission.

Images of the policy dialogue day



High table :From right to left : the EU representative, ECOWAS representative, Minister of livestock, CILSS Executive Secretary, the technical chief of Niger Minister of State Minister of Agriculture

Address by



The Minister of Livestock



The ECOWAS representative



The ARC Director General



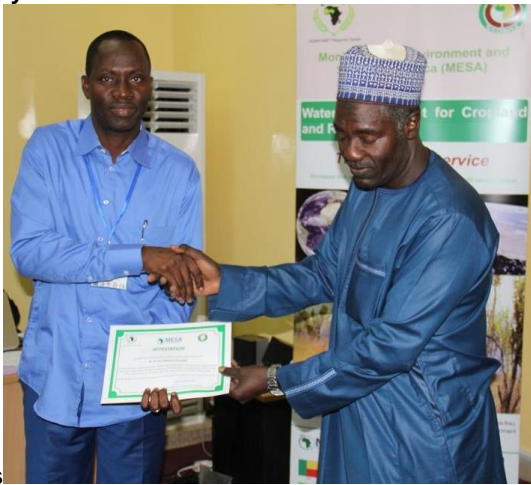
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Delivery of certificate to MESA ECOWAS Land Thema focal



points



Family photo