

**WMO**  
**Expert Meeting on Exchange of Early Warning**  
**& Related Information Including Tsunami Warnings in the Indian Ocean**

The Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) is a regional Telecommunication Hub (RTH) serving or connected to about 12 countries like Cairo, Ethiopia, Eretrua, Djibouti (RANET), Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Algeria & Niger.

These links need to be upgraded for the exchange of information on disaster including TEWS.

Kenya is currently improving its national telecommunication network using satellite based VSAT communication system. At the moment, four data collection centres have been connected with VSAT System. These are Mombasa, Garissa, Kisumu and Tomo Kenyatta International Airport. The airports are also being looked if VSAT communication including Malindi at the coast.

The Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS) for data exchange is now over 10 years old and the process for replacement is under way. Money has been availed.

On the Main Telecommunication Network (MTN), KMD has already signed a contract with the supplier to link Nairobi Offenbach line with VSAT connection at 64 KBPS.

KMD works with the National Operation Centre (NOC), the Disaster Management Office (NOC) in the office of the President. This office will need to be strengthened in term of capacity (both human and equipment).

Other international responsibility for KMD include :

- Regional Calibration Centre (RICC);
- Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) on Monsoon and as the preparation centre for Tropical Cyclone Warning. KMD has a Marine Meteorology and Physical Oceanography Section. Hence will act as TEW Centre.
- African Satellite Meteorological Education and Training (ASMET). Hence has the space-based centre facilities.
- Meteorological Transition for TEWS in Africa Project (MTAP) for MSG equipment acquisition, installation and Training. Can use EUMETSAT communication or system?
- Regional Meteorological Training Centre (RMTC) upgraded facilities for any Training in Tsunami preparedness.
- Need for a WMO consultant to assess the GTS requirements of African NMHSs along the east coast of Africa.

**Current Needs**

The telecommunication service providers are a problem; they have in efficient systems. However, more providers are getting into the liberalized market.

Upgrading the current GTS links and facilities to the requirement of TEWS and sustaining them. Having back-ups of the AMSS.

2. Support of the Toulouse Link which enable linkages with W. African RTH's. Weather radio as a public address system; e-mail; fax.
3. Capacity Building in line with TEWS requirements.

To be responsive to a warning, and for the warning to be effective, the warning should be available to the recipient 2 minutes after issuance. How can be effected ?