

WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA WITH THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO), DR. AGNES KIJAZI DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE “OBSERVING SYSTEMS CAPABILITY ANALYSIS AND REVIEW TOOL FOR THE METADATA OF SURFACE-BASED OBSERVING SYSTEMS (OSCAR/SURFACE) TRAINING COURSE”, ARUSHA,

15TH -17TH AUGUST 2018

The Guest of honour, Honourable Mr. Shio Gambo, the Regional Commissioner of Arusha;

The representative of WMO Secretary General; Mr. Mark Majodina

Workshop trainers,

Workshop Participants;

Members of the Press;

Distinguished Invited Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

First of all I would like to thank you Honourable Regional Commissioner for agreeing to be the Guest of Honour at this important training workshop on “Observing Systems Capability Analysis and Review Tool for the Metadata of surface-based observing systems (OSCAR/Surface) despite of your very busy schedule. We really appreciate your high commitment to support the climate related events and specifically those held in your region. On behalf of the Tanzania Meteorological Agency, I wish to express our appreciation for your commitment in supporting TMA activities especially, by attending yourself in person whenever we have an event in your region. Honourable Regional Commissioner we thank you.

Let me also, take this opportunity on behalf of my colleagues Permanent Representatives in the Regional Association-1 (Africa) to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the World

Meteorological Organisation (WMO) for the continuous support to the National Meteorological Services in the RA-1 (Africa). Specifically we appreciate WMO support in organizing and funding this important training workshop. I also wish to express my appreciation to the MeteoSwiss for technical support offered in the development and maintenance of OSCAR/Surface tool, which is a web-based database for the maintenance of WMO Integrated Observing System (WIGOS) metadata. OSCAR/Surface is one of the priorities of the plan for the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase (2016-2019) endorsed by the 17th WMO Congress. As RA-1 we appreciate having this training workshop that has come at the right time so as to well prepare for the WIGOS operational phase and see Africa not left behind.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure and great honour to welcome all participants of this workshop to the United Republic of Tanzania, please feel at home away from home. The Management and staff of the Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA) are very proud to be your host in this OSCAR/Surface training workshop.

Honourable, Guest of Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The objective of this training workshop is to learn how to use OSCAR/Surface database online tool for the registration of all WMO Integrated Global Observing Systems (WIGOS) metadata connected to the surface observing systems. Activities during this training workshop as highlighted in the training program, they seem to be more hands on, starting from the basics of WIGOS, the Introduction to the Pre-operational phase, introduction to WIGOS Metadata standards, registration process and how to find information in OSCAR Surface among other modules. I find this to be very useful and I expect at the end of the course participants will be more conversant with OSCAR surface tool.

Further more, as we are all aware that despite the observed diversity in weather and climate patterns in Africa, the observation and monitoring network is still very sparse. Due to inadequate information especially the metadata and meteorological data emanating from these sparse observation networks, there is a limited capacity in the provision of weather and climate services to the individual African countries. Therefore, we expect through this OSCAR/Surface training workshop and **through the use of the on-line tool participants will be able to identify the gaps in**

observation network for their respective countries so as to well inform countries efforts to enhance observation network.

Guest of honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Finally, I once again wish to thank the World Meteorological Organization for giving the United Republic of Tanzania the opportunity to host this important training workshop. I also thank the local organizing committee who have been working tirelessly for the organization of this training workshop. With these few remarks it is now my humble duty to invite you honourable Regional Commissioner to give your speech and finally officiate this OSCAR/Surface training workshop.

HONOURABLE PLEASE WELCOME