SOFF
Systematic Observations Financing Facility

Fifteenth Steering Committee
21 October 2026

Decisions of the SOFF Fifteenth Steering Committee Meeting

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility



Weather
and climate
data for
resilience

Decisions of the SOFF Fifteenth Steering Committee Meeting

21 October 2026

Decision 15.1: Adoption of the Agenda

The SOFF Steering Committee adopts the Agenda for the SOFF Fifteenth Steering Committee meeting.

Decision 15.2: SOFF approach for regional, sub-regional and multi-country delivery

The SOFF Steering Committee:

Recalls Decisions 1.4 and 5.8 on regional and subregional gains in SOFF programming and Investment; Intersessional Decision 2.1 and Decision 9.4 on regional workshops, engagement and partnerships; and Decision 14.3 adopting the Compliance Phase Framework, including an option for a regional window;

Acknowledges the need to preserve country ownership and national accountability for GBON compliance while improving implementation efficiency and long-term sustainability; and the role of regional workshops as enablers for developing, validating and putting such arrangements into practice;

Adopts the voluntary and modular regional, sub-regional and multi-country approach for the SOFF Investment and Compliance Phases set out in this document; and

Approves an allocation of USD 75,000, including WMO indirect support costs, for two follow-up regional workshops in the Caribbean and the Pacific in 2027;

Notes that a workshop for African countries covered by the Water at the Heart of Climate Action initiative will be held in Africa in 2027, on the margins of the initiative's Regional Learning Assembly, and funded by the Netherlands grant to the SOFF Secretariat; no allocation for that workshop is requested under this decision.

Requests

the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office to

- Disburse USD 75,000 from to WMO for the SOFF Secretariat to organize the Caribbean and Pacific workshops;

the SOFF Secretariat to

- organize the workshops in consultation with beneficiary countries and relevant operational, regional and subregional partners, and pursue cost-sharing opportunities;
- facilitate operationalization of the endorsed approach, including by facilitating regional, sub-regional or multi-country overview notes for related Investment Funding Requests and supporting country-backed regional proposals under the Compliance regional window, while preserving country ownership and applicable fiduciary requirements; and
- report to the Steering Committee on workshops outcomes, lessons from early application and any recommended refinements to the approach.

Decision 15.3 SOFF Investment funding requests

The SOFF Steering Committee

Recalls Decision 11.6 which adopts an approach to managing SOFF country funding requests including the establishment of a pipeline for Investment funding requests.

Notes

- The six countries in the SOFF Investment Phase Pipeline, namely Antigua and Barbuda, Cambodia, Haiti, Jamaica, Nepal, and Senegal (in this order) as publicly available on the SOFF website,
- That sufficient resources are available to approve one Investment funding request from the pipeline.

Acknowledges

- the six newly submitted and reviewed Investment funding requests from Dominica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Seychelles, Djibouti and Papua New Guinea for consideration by the 15th Steering Committee.
- the proposed approach under draft decision 15.2 to step up SOFF regional, subregional and multi-country engagement.

Decides

- To include the six new Investment funding requests after the existing Investment funding requests in the current pipeline: Dominica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Djibouti and Papua New Guinea. The Steering Committee will further consider the funding requests when resources are available.
- To review the prioritization criteria through an intersessional decision, and requests the SOFF Secretariat to prepare the updated prioritization criteria

considering Decision 15.2 *SOFF approach for regional, sub-regional and multi-country delivery* to maximize economies of scale.

Decision 15.4: Adoption of the updated SOFF Operational Manual

The SOFF Steering Committee

Recalls

- the adoption of the SOFF Operational Manual through decision 2.2 following the consultation process requested by Steering Committee in its decision 1.5
- the adoption of the updated SOFF Operational Manual through decision 12.3

Notes that specific operational updates are required following decisions made by the Steering Committee.

Adopts the Update SOFF Operational Manual which reflects the following Steering Committee decisions:

- Decision 11.6 Adoption of the SOFF approach to SOFF Investment funding and the creation of the SOFF Investment phase pipeline
- Decision 14.2 Adoption of the expanded role of the WMO as SOFF Technical Authority
- Decision 14.3 SOFF Compliance Phase Framework
- Decision 14.6 Adoption of updated SOFF results framework for the extended first implementation period 2022-2027
- Decision 14.7 Adoption of the SOFF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework

Requests the SOFF Secretariat to make the updated SOFF Operational Manual public and available on the SOFF website.

Decision 15.5: Date and Format of Upcoming Steering Committee Meetings

The SOFF Steering Committee

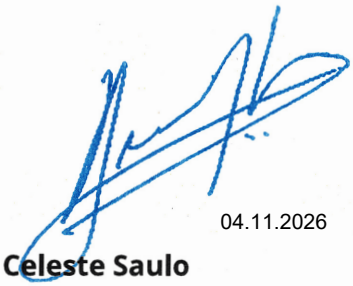
Adopts:

- The 16th Steering Committee to be held on 11 March 2027, from 14:00 to 17:00 CET, in virtual format.
- The 17th Steering Committee to be held from 31 August to 2 September 2027 in physical/hybrid format.
- The country engagement visit to Bhutan to take place from 6 to 12 September 2027.

Signed by

UN Steering Committee Co-Chair

21 October 2026



04.11.2026

Celeste Saulo

Secretary-General,

World Meteorological Organization

Co-Chair of the Steering Committee

21 October 2026

Jonas De Meyer (Signature)

Digitally signed by Jonas De Meyer (Signature)
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Jonas De Meyer

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