



KENYA METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 41959, 00100-GPO, NAIROBI
Tel. 020 - 2147770, 020 - 3867880/7ext 2230
E-mail: info@kms.or.ke
Web site: www.kms.or.ke

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Dear Distinguished Member,

I take this opportunity to pass our sincere gratitude for your continued support of the KMS journals and for your loyalty to the society. It has been a pleasure to serve you in the quarterly **Journal of Meteorology and Related Sciences (JMRS)** published by this society. Note that, this is one of the core mandates of the society.

Sometime back, we realized that the JMRS needed improvements in several areas and we have been working to ensure that it is streamlined to conform with modern publication procedures and that readers and authors have an excellent experience. Some of the major accomplishments we have so far achieved include indexing of all articles in the journals by CrossRef, and are assigning digital object identifiers. This is useful with regard to citation, access and linking of published articles. Recently, we rolled out an automated system to enable members submit articles online. The review process is also automated via the KMS website (www.kms.or.ke) and you are invited to submit comments and feedback. In June this year, the society applied to the African Journals Online (AJO) to have the JMRS hosted by the premier hosting agency of African journals. This process is still ongoing and we endeavor to have JMRS join this collection of top journals across the continent.

Esteemed member, some of the achievements listed above were achieved at a cost and are also maintained at some cost. For instance, it costs \$1 to register a single digital object identifier and an annual subscription fee of \$350. You realize that majority of (in fact all) the journals you may be aware of charge publication fees, for articles, which is used for such purposes. However, in the spirit of promotion of the science of Meteorology and allied sciences, KMS took an extra step to cover the publication costs for all the earlier articles published in our journal which ideally should have been met by authors.

In the recent past, we have witnessed a large submission of articles to the JMRS and we find ourselves in a situation where the costs incurred during publication will increase considerably. In an effort to ensure sustainability of the JMRS, the Management Committee, at its last meeting held last month, amended the prevailing manuscript submission terms to stipulate that manuscripts submitted to JMRS will attract a fee of KES 2,500 or \$25 (USD twenty-five, only) with effect from **1st October, 2016**. This fee shall be paid by author(s) upon acceptance of their respective manuscripts for publication.

We appeal to your kind support and we look forward to working with you to advance the science of meteorology and its applications in Kenya and beyond.

Kind Regards,

Secretary, KMS