

Report on the IHY-Africa Space Weather Science and Education Workshop, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 11-16 November 2007

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The IHY-Africa Space Weather Science and Education and the SCINDA 2007 Workshops were organized and hosted by Addis Ababa University, Bahir Dar University and the Ethiopian Physical Society. The Workshops were held during 11-16, November 2007, at Ghion Hotel in the city of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Under the auspices of IHY, the Workshops were conducted in cooperation and collaboration with eGY, AMMA and AFREF. We are privileged to acknowledge generous financial support of NASA, NSF, EOARD, ICTP, AFOSR, ONR, AFRL, CAUSES and COSPAR. There were 63 African scientists, including several post-docs and graduate students, representing 20 different African nations and 40 scientists representing the other nations of the world. Several post-docs and graduate students were part of the US contingent. The International Scientific Organizing Committee was Co-Chaired by Sunanda Basu, Boston University and Tim Fuller-Rowell, NOAA.

The objectives of the workshops were to facilitate scientific interaction and promote space science and education in Africa. The space science community is currently exploring ways to increase the observational infrastructure in the African sector, and to encourage scientists in sub-Saharan Africa to become involved in the near-space science objectives and to host instrumentation at their institutions. The new observational infrastructure will facilitate the study of space weather, spark interest in space science education and research, and encourage the next generation to become interested in the space sciences. The deployment of many such instrument arrays, like GPS receivers, magnetometers and low frequency receivers, has already been initiated as shown below in the map of Africa. The first experimental campaign using these instruments will be undertaken during the IHY-supported Whole Heliosphere Initiative (WHI) covering the solar Carrington rotation 2048 period of March 20-April 16, 2008.

