

## **Chairman's report**

*(Submitted by Stephen English)*

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### **Summary and Purpose of Document**

#### Introduction to IPETSUP-5

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#### **Introduction**

1. Please pass on thanks to each of your organisations for providing the time for you to contribute to this team. Thanks also to Werner Balogh and the WMO Space Programme Secretariat for their excellent support to this team and for their efforts in organising this meeting.
2. As was discussed at the last preparatory telecall this year IPETSUP is more focussed and shorter. The length has been cut from 4 to 3 days and the presentations from 2 to 2.5 days to just over 1 day. The aim is to have a subset of presentations that can be addressed in detail in the Break Out Groups on day-2, whilst still allowing time to discuss in detail the wording in the final report. This new format can be considered experimental, if we find it causes difficulties we can revert to the previous length and structure.

#### **Objectives for IPET-SUP-5**

3. New observations: There are some important new developments in satellite observations. Users can benefit from these and also users have a role in evaluating their usefulness to inform future investment decisions. In addition to important launches to maintain critical systems, such as GOES, we are seeing increasing activity in innovative areas: Cubesats, the launch of Aeolus providing doppler wind lidar, the three Metop satellite in tristar formation and new missions from China and Korea in particular. We will take a particular look at the TROPICS mission proposal, in order to consider general issues related to this type of constellation.
4. Regional reports: A key role of IPETSUP is to ensure satellite data utilisation across the regions. As there has been significant coordination between Region II and Region V this year we will have a significant degree of coordination in the presentations between these regions and I am grateful to Riris, Jaedong and Shiro for organising this. This discussion will note that

the SDR (Satellite Data Requirements) Group for RA I is gearing up for MTG, EP-SG and the SDR Group for RA3/4 will have meeting this year.

5. Application areas: We will have a particular focus this year on ocean, hydrology and polar regions. I am delighted also that David Halpern will talk about JCOMM, Francesco Zauli about the Hydrology SAF (as well as input from H-SAF cluster leaders during our Break Out Groups) and we will presentations from YOPP activities. We will also give special consideration to the contribution of satellite observations to Disaster Risk Reduction.
  6. A theme throughout IPETSUP-5 will be the WMO governance reform (Earth system approach etc). In this context we may also wish to think about the future role and composition of IPET-SUP and how it could most efficiently conduct its work to support the WMO overall strategy? In reviewing our strategy in this context we should of course continuously review what is working well and what is not in IPETSUP.
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