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FIRST MEETING  
OF THE WORLD CLIMATE CONFERENCE--3  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (WIOC)

ITEM 2.3

GENEVA, Switzerland, 4-6 FEBRUARY 2008

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**REVIEW OF PAST ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS LEADING TO APPROVAL  
TO IMPLEMENT A WORLD CLIMATE CONFERENCE-3**

**Discussion of scope, objectives, and critical issues  
emerging from items 2.1 and 2.2 for a WCC-3**

(Submitted by the WMO Secretariat)

**1. Primary issues for consideration of the WIOC related to WCC-3**

Since there was considerable interaction between the work of the Provisional Organising Committee (POC) and the deliberations of the Executive Council (and ultimately the WMO Congress), the major issues that were discussed in document 2-1 and 2-2 are relevant to this item. A summary of major issues for consideration by the WIOC include:

- **Ministerial Declaration** – defining actionable outcomes from the Conference that can be incorporated into a Ministerial Declaration, thus justifying having a Ministerial Segment to the Conference;
- **Resource mobilisation strategy** – Since Cg-15 and EC-59 strongly supported the funding of the WCC-3 from extrabudgetary sources, it is absolutely essential that a realistic, tractable strategy or approach be developed to obtain the necessary resources to implement the WCC-3;
- **Science agenda** – Further refinement of the science agenda from POC is desirable and then the programming of experts to implement the sessions is necessary;
- **National and international support** – Developing the support of international and national agencies and organisations for participation in the Conference and for implementing the outcomes of the Conference is critical for the success of WCC-3;
- **Venue and scheduling** of the WCC-3 – The issue derives from interventions and decisions at Cg-15 and subsequent actions by Members.

**2. Ministerial Declaration**

The WMO Cg-15 “agreed that any WCC-3 should produce outcomes of comparable significance to those of the prior world climate conferences so as to merit Ministers’ interest and justify the cost and effort involved.

The POC developed "Expectations from the High-Level Segment" that was discussed in Doc 2-2. It recognised that these expectations were only a first step toward developing an action set of policy issues that could be included in a Ministerial Declaration. WIOC will need to focus considerable attention on this issue to define actionable outcomes from the Conference that can be the basis for a Ministerial Declaration and to develop a consensus on the issues prior to the Conference.

### **3. Resource mobilisation strategy**

Congress agreed and EC-59 reemphasised that any costs for organizing and holding a WCC-3 must be funded from extrabudgetary resources and emphasized implementing efficient mechanisms for resource mobilization. POC noted the advisability of enlisting individuals who have experience in mobilizing resources if possible and need for a number of dedicated individuals at the national and international levels.

The WIOC will be expected to provide further input to developing a strategy for resource mobilisation and where possible direct support to this effort. A document on resource mobilisation has been prepared and will be presented at the meeting.

### **4. National and international support**

Achieving the objectives of a WCC-3 will require active participation by a wide array of scientists, practitioners, policy makers, and the private sector. Building this support within countries will require a coherent strategy for informing the necessary individuals with an interest in climate or those who recognize the need for and value of climate information and services to their country and then motivating their interest and where possible, direct participation in the Conference and its related activities. These connections should be far reaching to involve the whole spectrum of interested groups and individuals from the public and private sectors (including having national focal points) well beyond what has been done previously for the First and Second World Climate Conferences.

POC recognized the need for strong interagency support for a WCC-3. It agreed that in addition to those agencies that cooperated with WMO in the Second World Climate Conference (i.e., UNEP, FAO, UNESCO and its IOC, as well as ICSU), WMO coordination for WCC-3 should encompass agencies, which have interests in climate science and applications (including UNDP, WHO, WTO); international programmes (such as ISDR, IGBP and GEO); and the international conventions on climate, biological diversity and desertification (UNFCCC, UNCBD, and UNCCD). A number of international and intergovernmental agencies participated in the third meeting of the POC and will be participating in the first WIOC meeting.

Efforts by WIOC members to build support at the national level are desirable. Likewise efforts by the representative of international and intergovernmental agencies or organisations to increase participation and support is essential for achieving a successful WCC-3.

### **5. Science agenda**

The WMO Congress in deciding to convene a WCC-3, agreed to an overall theme of "climate prediction for decision making focusing on seasonal to inter-annual timescales taking into account multi-decadal prediction". It also agreed that the science segment of WCC-3 should be organised in four parallel sessions on four sub-themes as recommended by the POC. These sessions would emphasize the importance of climate information as well as climate prediction, provide a more

specific focus for the sessions, and allow for greater individual participation and greater depth in the conference. The sub themes are:

- Advancing climate prediction and information science;
- Embedding climate into Hazard Early Warning Systems;
- Applications and socio-economic benefits of climate information and prediction;
- Mainstreaming climate information for development.

The WIOC should consider the further refinement of the agenda in light of the modification of the theme by the WMO Congress and must program scientific experts into the agenda as an essential task.

## **6. Venue and scheduling of the WCC-3**

The Cg-15 decided that the World Climate Conference-3 should be convened towards the end of 2009. This time period appeared to be relatively free of other high-level meetings on climate.

The Government of Switzerland volunteered to host the Conference in Geneva at the CIGG during the week of 12-16 October 2009.

At UNFCCC COP-13, the Parties adopted the Bali roadmap, which charts the course for a new negotiating process to be concluded by 2009 that will ultimately lead to a post-2012 international agreement on climate change. Ground-breaking decisions were taken including the launch of the Adaptation Fund, decisions on technology transfer and on reducing emissions from deforestation.

COP-15 in November 2009 now becomes a major climate meeting at the time of WCC-3 and could possibly draw the attention of Ministers from WCC-3.

## **7. Other issues**

The WIOC may want to raise other issues that are important to a successful WCC-3 and to the nature of its work.