

GENEVA, Switzerland, 21-23 October 2009

CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT WMO POSITION PAPER FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES (GFCS)

The Heads of States and Governments, Ministers and Heads of Delegations present at the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3), held from 31 August to 4 September 2009 in Geneva, through the High-level Declaration, called for the establishment of a Global Framework for Climate Services (hereafter referred to as "the Framework"). The task force, consisting of high-level independent advisors (expected to be setup through an inter-governmental process), is tasked to recommend the proposed elements of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

EC-LXI, while discussing the proposed outcomes of WCC-3 had desired that WMO should prepare a Position Paper with the concurrence of EC-WG-CWE on how WMO Programmes should become core elements of the GFCS.

This Draft Position Paper (**Appendix**) outlines the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) vision of the Framework and its potential role in its implementation. The Paper describes WMO's on-going activities related to the climate services, and its future commitments for its successful implementation. The paper also brings out the strengths of WMO in taking its designated role in GFCS.

The Position Paper takes into account the views of WMO Members as presented at the last EC, the meeting of WCC-3 International Organizing Committee, the discussions with various experts and missions that took part in meetings related to the preparation of WCC-3, the discussions that took place in the various sessions of the Expert Segment of WCC-3 as outlined in the Conference Statement.

This extra-ordinary session of the EC-WG-CWE is expected to critically look at the approach being taken in the Position Paper and the commitments that are made therein. These commitments would have to be taken on board while preparing WMO strategic plan and programme of work in various Technical Commissions for the Cg-XVI as well as in the future planning processes. Based on the inputs from the EC-WG-CWE, the Position Paper would be revised. The revised Position Paper will be shared with all the Permanent Representatives of Member countries with WMO.

It is expected that in order to fulfil these commitments WMO may have to make certain readjustments to its Programs, structure of its Technical Commissions and programme of its Regional Associations, etc. These issues will be taken up as Agenda Items for the regular meeting of the EC-WG-CWE sometime in February/March next year along with the Draft Position Paper revised based on inputs from NMHSs before a comprehensive proposal for the establishment of the GFCS is finalized in time for a thorough review by EC-LXII.
