

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE  
AND RELATED WEATHER, WATER AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS  
*Third Session*

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**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GFCS:  
ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PROGRAMME STRUCTURE -  
WORLD CLIMATE PROGRAMME**

#### **4A. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GFCS: ADJUSTMENTS TO THE PROGRAMME STRUCTURE – WORLD CLIMATE PROGRAMME**

The EC-WG-CWE was informed of the detailed discussion that took place during the e-discussions on the Agenda.

The Group recalled that in light of the historical significance of the WCP as well as the Climate Agenda and the enormous success of WCP that triggered global attention on GHGs and contributed to the establishment of IPCC, UNFCCC, CLIPS initiative, etc., the Group, in its 2<sup>nd</sup> session in October 2008 had suggested deferring final decision on the future of the WCP and the Climate Agenda until after the WCC3. The Group, in its report to the ECLXI had thus recommended that the Climate Agenda would, subject to the outcomes of WCC3, finally be retired and replaced by the Global Framework for Climate Services.

Based on the e-discussion the Working Group decided:

- The Global Framework for Climate Services, with its objective as decided to be established by the WCC-3, subsumes the objectives of the Climate Agenda which till now forms the Integrating Framework for International Climate Related Programmes. As such the Climate Agenda should be retired along with this the Inter-Agency Committee on Climate Agenda (IACCA), should also be retired.
- Given the larger scope of the GFCS, and its very nature as a framework which is likely to involve many other partners, both within and outside the UN system, the activities under the World Climate Programme should be focused so that it can be appropriately monitored and evaluated. The details components of the WCP, however, should be finalized once the report of HLT on the details of GFCS structure is available.
- The discussion paper presented to the Group should be revised based on the comments in the e-discussions as well as the discussion during the meeting for wider consultations and deliberations by the EC-WG after the report of the HLT is available.

In guiding this discussion, the EC WG CWE needs to discuss the structure and content of the WCP following the above decisions. Discussion has focused on two possible approaches:

Either:

- (a) Adoption of a draft proposal put forward by the Secretariat with appropriate changes. Should this approach be adopted there are a range of suggested changes to the proposed structure and content that need to be debated. These are addressed in the report of the e-mail discussion

Or:

- (b) Rethink the structure in the light of the outcomes of the WCC3 and use the thematic areas identified under the GFCS to restructure the WCP using the Climate User Interface Programme (CUIP) as the connecting mechanism to all partner communities.

Option (a) keeps a clear distinction between WCP and the GFCS, but proposes linkage mechanisms with it, while Option (b) maintains the strongly accepted GFCS structure, but makes a major play for ownership of key elements by WMO.

In discussing these options we may like to consider how the external environment will view our approach. I believe that there are risks in both approaches that need to be considered and discussed. We need to go back to basics, what are we trying to achieve and how will this best be achieved.

Once the EC WG CWE has made a decision, the summary information from the e-mail discussions can be reconsidered, depending on the direction of the decision.