

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION



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

Extraordinary Session

Geneva, 21-23 October 2009

REPORT

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AND RELATED WEATHER, WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

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1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1.1 Opening of the session

The extraordinary session of the WMO EC Working Group on Climate and related Weather, Water and Environmental Matters (EC-WG-CWE) was opened at the WMO Headquarters, Geneva, at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday 21 October 2009. The session was chaired by Dr Antonio Divino Moura during the morning meeting on 21 October and Dr Ali Mohammad Noorian for the rest of the session.

Professor Hong Yan, Deputy Secretary-General welcomed the participants to the WMO Secretariat. He noted that at the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3), Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Heads of Delegations decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The proposed Framework aims at strengthening the production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate data, information and predictions.

The Deputy Secretary General noted that the focus of the framework was on users of climate information in major socio-economic sectoral groups that are highly dependent upon production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services. He expressed hope that the result of the meeting would provide essential inputs to the work of the high-level taskforce of independent advisors who would further develop the Framework. On this issue, he emphasized that the meeting should clearly define "climate services" so that there would be a clear understanding as to what WMO would achieve under the Framework.

He informed the meeting that the taskforce, after it is established, is scheduled to be constituted tentatively by January/February in 2010, when WMO, would be able to lay before them the vision and goals of the Framework. Deputy Secretary-General noted that all those issues were envisaged in the draft Position Paper that outlines the potential role of the (WMO) in the Framework. In closing his remarks, Prof. Yan, wished every success to participants and the meeting.

The full list of participants in the session is given in Annex 1.

1.2 Adoption of the agenda

The session adopted the agenda and set the working hours of the meeting. The annotated agenda is attached as Annex 2.

2. REVIEW OF THE OUTCOMES OF WCC3 AND BRIEFING ON THE SECRETARIAT ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 Dr Love, Director of Weather and Disaster Risks Reduction Services Department, briefed the meeting on the outcomes of the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3) and follow up actions including the 'Establishment of a taskforce on Global Framework for Climate Services'.

2.2 The meeting recalled that the Heads of States and Governments, Ministers and Heads of Delegations present at the (WCC-3), through the High Level Declaration, called for the establishment of a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The Group further noted that the Declaration had proposed that a High Level taskforce (HLT) of independent advisors would be set up through an intergovernmental process. It would be tasked to recommend the proposed elements of the GFCS described in the Conference Statement and the Brief Note attached to the High Level Declaration. The meeting noted that the taskforce would also be asked to propose next steps for developing and implementing the Framework.

2.3 On the timing of the Intergovernmental Meeting, the Working Group noted that due to UNFCCC COP-15 in Copenhagen from 7 to 18 December 2009, the Intergovernmental Meeting (IGM) is proposed to be held on 21-22 December, 2009 in Geneva at the CIGG. To that effect the Group was informed that the WMO Secretary-General would soon be sending invitations to the Permanent Representatives, Governments (Departments of Foreign Affairs), Executive Heads of UN Organizations that participated in the WCC-3, and Heads of NGOs that have observer status at the WMO Congress.

Conduct of the Intergovernmental Meeting

2.4 The Group noted that decisions at the IGM would be made by consensus of the government delegations. As such WMO would be seeking credentials and identification of the principal delegate and his/her alternate representing various governments. Organizations with observer status would be able to provide advice to the meeting at the discretion of the chair. The Group noted that the Secretary-General was having broad consultation on various issues related to the IGM. One of the issues concerns chairing of the meeting. One possibility was that the President of WMO would chair the meeting, assisted by two co-chairs, one from the developing and one from the developed countries. The Group noted that the Secretary-General would present his proposal for the composition of the HLT with around 12 names as a package to the IGM.

2.5 The Group was provided with draft Terms of Reference (ToR) for the HLT (Annex 3). They would be discussed with governments informally before the Meeting. It was however, expected that this version of ToR would evolve substantially over the next two months.

2.6 The Group believed that a reference to the Conference Statement in the ToR is important. The Group recognized that it would be critically important for WMO to bring other traditional climate partners such as UNESCO, UNEP, FAO and ICSU on board a coherent input to IGM taking into accounts views of the organizations that are WMO's co-sponsors, e.g. GCOS, WCRP, etc.

2.7 Dr Mannava Sivakumar, Acting Director, CLPA, made a presentation on the arrangements for WCC-3 follow-up publications, including the proceedings of the Conference. He noted that three publications are planned: the Summary Report (hard copy), the Conference Proceedings (CDs) and the Proceedings of Technical Papers (free-access, online). The Group was informed that the Summary Report will be made available at COP15.

2.8 The Group took note that the objective of the Summary Report was to provide material for immediate outreach, serve as report to the sponsors and finally, inform Members about the major WCC-3 outcomes.

2.9 The Group further agreed that WMO side event during the COP-15 would be a good opportunity to highlight and reiterate the outcomes and achievements of WCC-3. It further suggested that the publications to be distributed at COP-15 should reflect the success of the Conference to outside community. It should be attractive, self contained and plausible, since the

uptake of the WCC-3 outcomes within the COP community is important. The meeting advised that the WMO Secretariat would check on the issue of copy rights of white papers that would be published in the procedia.

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

3.1 Mr Avinash Tyagi, Director of Climate and Water Department, briefed the meeting on the Draft Position Paper for implementation of Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

3.2 The Group recalled that 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.

3.3 The Group believed that the revised Position Paper would be an important element of communication to the taskforce as they undertake their work of developing an implementation plan for GFCS. In that sense, the paper should establish WMO's core role in the Framework and inform the taskforce of WMO's capabilities. The Group noted that the paper should bring out the strengths of WMO in taking its expected leadership role in GFCS, rather than focusing on deficiencies. The meeting believed that rather than a WMO Vision, the Position Paper should start with a vision for all players. On this basis, it concentrated the discussion with an overall approach on major sections of the Position Paper, namely; Concept, Observations, Research, Service, User Interface, Capacity Building and Governance.

3.4 The Group discussed the draft Position Paper in detail and provided further guidance for the development of the Draft Position Paper as per observations/comments provided in Appendix to the report. The Group was informed that the revised Position Paper based on guidance from the Group would be sent to the members by 15 November along with an Executive Summary.

4. WAY FORWARD

4.1 Mr Avinash Tyagi briefed the meeting on the way forward leading to the EC-LXII and beyond. The meeting agreed on the following timeline:

- A new version of the Draft Position Paper, including an Executive Summary of 4-5 pages, will be submitted to ECWG-CWE by 15 November 2009;
- EC-WG-CWE members and other participants of the meeting will review and send comments to the Secretariat on the revised Draft Position Paper by 15 December 2009;
- The final version of the Draft Position Paper will be sent to all Permanent Representatives after the IGM, seeking feedback, before the taskforce meets possibly by March 2010;
- It is expected that, in order to fulfill the commitments under GFCS, 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 Revised Draft Position Paper;
- The Position Paper will be presented to EC-LXII by June 2010 along with other recommendation on restructuring as required.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no any other business for discussion in the meeting.

6. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

The chairman expressed his gratitude to the Secretariat for organizing and supporting the meeting. In the meantime, he particularly thanked Ms Marjorie McGuirk who had prepared the 'Position Paper' for consideration by the Group and recognized the Paper as a main contribution of the EC-WG-CWE to the work of the High-Level Task Force in the IGM meeting.

The extraordinary session of the EC-WG-CWE closed at 12h35 on Friday 23 October 2009. The Group directed that the 3rd meeting of the ECWG-CWE would be fixed by the Secretariat after consultations with members around February/March 2010.

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GUIDANCE FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE DRAFT POSITION PAPER

The EC Working Group on Climate and Related Weather, Water and Environmental Matters in its extraordinary meeting from 21-23 October, 2009 while discussing the Draft Position Paper under Agenda Item 3, provided following guidance for the further development of the Position Paper.

General Comments

1. WMO, through this position paper, needs to be statesman-like. The initial section should not present WMO's vision of the GFCS but, based on years and extent of our experience, should present the overall vision. The first section needs to be seen positively by GFCS partners, save the TF time, and be bold in that WMO is well positioned to undertake a major role in implementation of the Framework working with Partners. Give the big picture first, then the details of WMO's contributions;
2. This paper should articulate what WMO needs from the High-Level Task Force (HLT), in terms of resources for priority improvements in our capabilities, and transfer of technology etc.;
3. WMO should articulate clearly what we can do (are capable of), but with a realistic identification of challenges and gaps. Articulate how the task force could help in meeting the challenges and filling the gaps;
4. The paper states reasonably well what needs to be done, but we need to articulate how it will be done;
5. The issues noted are all extremely important, but there is too much detail for the TF. There is need to even out the mixed level of detail, simplify the narrative as much as possible and move details to Annexes where required;
6. Examples used need to be balanced across the paper. Ask however what they will add to the taskforce's comprehension;
7. The paper needs to be clear on the needs within the Framework for user interaction and feedback;
8. The paper should include a new section on the role of NMSs in the GFCS that is referenced from near the beginning of the document;
9. The paper could benefit from having a timeline for full implementation of the GFCS, included as a type of annex. A plausible timeline from WMO perspective that will be used by TF for incorporation with work by other agencies;
10. There is need for consistency with HLT spelling throughout the document;
11. It is important that we not only provide the HLT with information, but also that we provide them with recommendations for action;
12. Rephrase "expectations from partners" throughout the document. Be assertive but not strident – instead of stating expectations from other agencies; state what would be useful in terms of partnerships;
13. Be clearer when we refer to NMSs, NHSs, and when we refer to both. (check WMO style manual for this) ;

14. Follow WMO style manual procedures especially with regard to use of acronyms, spelling them out, etc.;
15. The key message should be recorded in the introduction just as it is in the Statement of Purpose with regard to the dialogue between users and producers, and need to meet the needs of Adaptation. Use climate change not global warming, taking the IPCC definition to include variability.

Comments by sections

Statement of purpose

1. This is the first Statement the taskforce will read. Here, we have to talk of our strengths, and be bold, yet avoid patronizing tone. We do need WMO to be well positioned for the Framework;
2. We need to identify the key messages first;
3. Replace the term “argues”...need a better term. Make a more positive statement;
4. Paragraph 4, second sentence, in the spirit of being bold – it is also realized that climate has transitioned from science to public policy domain. Stop there. Bring up specific terms – mainstreaming climate into socio-economic plans.

Executive Summary

1. Develop an extensive summary (4-5 pages) leaving all technical information for the document;
2. Apply the statement from Section 4 number 1 Include a clear statement that WMO plans to respond constructively to the WCC-3 recommendations, as given in the conference statement, and indicate how we can do it.

Section 1 - Introduction

1. Begin with WCC-3 statement that stresses importance of climate services. This first paragraph should start with the WCC-3, not the IPCC;
2. Define climate services upfront in terms of the required user focus that it involves the consumption, which makes the climate services fundamentally different from Weather services. Make WMO’s role more positive in providing climate services – the traditional data services qualify as climate service. Reflect the contribution we have had from NMSs over time;
3. Stress that climate services must be a seamless transition from weather services –that positions NMHSs as the only agencies that can provide seamless services. But do not give the impression that we can do it now to any great extent, or in isolation. Try to strike the balance. The uncertainty in seamless predictions also needs to be addressed;
4. Show that we definitely have had some climate services – started WCASP 30 years ago, then CLIPS. Some regions have been doing services for decades for others this is

new. We will strengthen services where they exist, and we will launch services where they have not yet begun;

5. Add decadal, inter and intra annual refer to history (paragraph 2);
6. Add data processing to computers and something on the physical processes and their predictability (paragraph 3);
7. Distinguish risk reduction from risk management, by including a footnote (paragraph 4);
8. Fig 1 should be extended to longer time scales or replaced with input from Australia that has the same information from user perspective.

Section 2 - The Concept of the Global Framework for Climate Services

1. Try to capture in a big picture sense in accordance with the outcomes of WCC-3, especially the expert segment;
2. The flow in terms of telling a story needs to improve with a better structure to it (paragraph 11, 12, 13 restructure);
3. The arrow used in section 2 is unidirectional – it sends the wrong message. Use a cycle not uni-directional arrow. Need to reflect throughout this paper the two-way interactions with users, feedback, dialogue, etc.(paragraph 6);
4. To meet this goal there is a need to ‘further’ develop... (paragraph 6);
5. Add reliability, as one of the attributes of climate services and use quality assurance instead of assurance of quality. (paragraph 10);
6. The capacity building is too hidden in the text. We need these to be clear, to help us get more resources. Need to insert RCCs as part of the network (paragraph 12);
7. Paragraph 13 Undersells WMO’s role as specialized agency and needs to be strengthened;
8. This paper needs real examples, telling a story of our strengths, and the need after that to bring everyone up to that speed. We do not want to dwell on what we cannot do. Much better to use concrete examples of what we can do. Need to provide cutting edge, real examples;
9. Need WMO to use strong language on what is needed. We need to talk about phases. Steps forward – do we need 2, 3, 4, or more phases to transition to service delivery? May not give the impression that WMO NMHSs are the best placed to do all this;
10. Box 1 is very good example. Adaptation to sea-level rise is better than services for SLR;
11. Box 2 Fisheries – too optimistic on what we can do. WMO will not have services like this for decades. The box is important to demonstrate cooperation, but why not better pick climate extremes that have a much bigger impact on society.

Section 3 - Observations and Monitoring

1. It is important to refer to original GCOS concept (intended, present and future capacity) noting also its special UNFCCC role. At the same time importance of other contributing network systems or programs should also be reflected, recognizing the desire to bring these other networks into strong partnership under GCOS;
2. WIGOS integrates inter alia all the WMO contributions to GCOS and is important to be shown as the basis of all observations within WMO. We need to reflect WIGOS better in this document. Labels aside, we need to highlight the need for observations, and WMO's experience in observations;
3. Capture the thought that products evolve from observations;
4. Acknowledge new requirements with climate change, how to meet the shortcomings: new observations monitoring for drought, dust storms, climate events, phonological, socio-economic, etc. We need to highlight the barriers to implementation including funding;
5. It is important to mention that WMO is recognized by ISO as a body which sets standards (section 3.1.1);
6. Characteristics of climate data need to be highlighted consistently: high quality data is not equal to homogeneity (sections 3.1 and 3.2);
7. Paragraph 17 hits the right tone and we need to extend balance expressed here throughout the document;
8. In Box 3 bullet 2 update numbers and in bullet 5 include success items from Technical Commissions. Under commitments modify number bullet 10 as it is impractical to expect that all WMO observations can adhere to climate requirements. Monitoring also needs mention in the Box 3;
9. Data sharing through GTS is a unique capability that was developed by the meteorological community for the world and is very much understated. Mention that quite a lot countries do not adhere to open data policies. Also mention problems with telecoms, access to which are hindrance in data sharing (paragraph 21);
10. Paragraph 25 mostly stresses on hard copy– make sentence more clear that we cannot go forward without digitization of the base data;
11. Use updated copy of fig. 3 and modify the caption;
12. Climate watches fall under CSIS and therefore should be shifted to CSIS (section 3.4), as such the section should be renamed Observations and not Observations and Monitoring.

Section 4 - Research, modeling and prediction

1. Include a clear statement that WMO plans to respond constructively to the WCC-3 recommendations, as given in the conference statement, and indicate how we can do it;
2. Acknowledge that the WCIRP was set up as a part of the WCP to look at impacts, and the WCP component on impacts has been led by UNEP;

3. There is an issue with modeling versus modeling research – this could be clarified. Focus is model development that serves climate services. It is agreed that all operational activities of modeling and prediction should be in section 5 (CSIS);
4. Add highlights of the Mitchell report to EC-LXI (2009) on the Research Task Team;
5. This section is in reasonable shape. However, more should be said about uncertainty;
6. State WCRP's leadership role (WMO flagship, in partnership with IOC and ICSU) more boldly up front, as a co-sponsored, international, well established body, representing the international framework for climate research. State their original purpose/goal;
7. Recommend to the HLT that WCRP should be requested to facilitate research in the areas reflecting more responsive to user requirements (recognizing at the same time that the WCRP community of researchers is made of volunteers);
8. Use wording in paragraphs 45, 49, 50 and 57 to craft recommendations to the HLT;
9. Highlight recommendations from WCC-3 on research here;
10. The paper should indicate the concept of seamless prediction over not just time (e.g. weather to climate), but also across disciplines (paragraph 51);
11. Consider including the Trenberth diagram (section 4);
12. Add a paragraph on transfer of research to operations (i.e. routinely available as required) with a reference to the applications commissions, especially the CCI, to facilitate this, as recommended by the 2008 WCRP review (section 4);
13. Use TOGA as an example and how it led to the present ability to predict El Nino as a boxed research example;
14. Box 4 has a good set of future challenges, covering most of the key issues.

Section 5 - Climate Services Information System

1. This is the most important component for WMO, and the section should adequately highlight the strengths of long experience of WMO in systematically addressing the development of the required mechanisms;
2. The infrastructure for delivery is the main feature in this component; articulate better the end-to-end architecture required for operational GFCS, with WMO's network of NMHSs at the national level as a good model;
3. Getting the people the right climate information inputs they need for the important decisions they have to make is the challenge we have not yet been able to adequately address. This aspect needs to be explicitly brought out in this section;
4. Monitoring products, climate data diagnostics, climate watches, etc. belong in CSIS. The relevant aspects from Section 3.4 on Monitoring Climate Events need to be moved to Section 5;
5. The three components listed for climate services actually constitute climate information; make appropriate rephrasing (paragraph 60);

6. Extending the network of GPCs to cover all climatic regions? Needs rephrasing (Box 5);
7. The section should start with a clear articulation of WMO's long experience in implementing WCASP, WCDMP, etc., in addition to the current description of CLIPS project activities. However, while highlighting the accomplishments, care should also be taken to indicate that there are several outstanding challenges, particularly from the user perspective (Section 5.1, add new opening paragraph);
8. There is need to stress the foundations built through WCASP, but say that the needs for climate services are now so much greater around the world than originally perceived, and that there is a need for a quantum jump in building the required systems and mechanisms (Section 5.1, add new paragraph);
9. Update the RCOFs map. Some COFs (e.g., Northeast Brazil) are not included. Also include the polar RCOF;
10. Provide a more compelling argument in favor of the GPC-RCC-RCOF-NMHS framework that WMO has painstakingly put together. Do not undersell ourselves in this area (Section 5.3, paragraph 69);
11. Add a schematic showing global to local flow of climate information (Section 5.4, add figure, possibly the one used in the GFCS Concept Note considered by WIOC);
12. GPCs and RCCs are good, but we need to say how these will evolve and expand in near future, to form the backbones of GFCS. We need not confine to seasonal prediction within these entities; indicate future possibility of the provision of decadal predictions and longer scale projections (Section 5.3, add new paragraph);
13. There will be huge demand for climate information for adaptation, which was not anticipated two decades ago. We need not confine ourselves to just providing the information, but indicate how efforts will be made to make the information actionable (Section 5.3, add new paragraph);
14. Fix Melbourne's location in Fig. 5 (Section 5.3);
15. Operationalizing research advances needs to be better articulated, including pushing the limits of predictability (Section 5.3, add new paragraph);
16. User access to information needs to be better articulated (Section 5.4, paragraph 73);
17. Reference may be provided to Espoo Report. (Section 5.6).

Section 6 - User Interface Programme

1. The principles of QMF are relevant to the User interface programme;
2. Include the two diagrams shown by D/CLW on User Interface Programme for the water and disaster reduction programs at the global, regional and national levels as examples (Paragraph 86);
3. It is important to highlight the role of NMHSs as service providers in the national level mechanisms (Section 6.1);
4. Emphasize the interface mechanisms at the national level between climate service providers and sub-groups in different sectors such as agriculture, water, health etc. (Section 6.1);
5. Examples such as the Multidisciplinary Working Group on Agricultural Meteorology at the national level established by the Meteorological Service of Mali to better serve the farming community with appropriate products and services could be cited as annex;
6. With respect to the UIP, the 'UN Delivering as one' is an important message/link. WMO could contribute to UN Knowledge Database (web address to be supplied by Pres. CCL) (Paragraph 97);
7. The heading of section 6.4 should be changed to "Communication", instead of the current heading which emphasizes partnerships with media only. The climate information, where probabilistic in nature, will present a challenge of communicating probability to stakeholder groups and this challenge needs to be addressed. Utilize the lessons from the Espoo conference here;
8. Add text to reinforce the capacity of NMHSs to more effectively communicate with the media (Section 6.4);
9. Delete the example of "Data and Information Services for Cryosphere" in Box 6. WCRP can provide much better examples;
10. A suggestion was made to include the Guide for Climatological Practices in Box 6, but this can go to Annex 6 on WMO Technical Commissions as new point 4;
11. Canvas the possibility of a name change from User Interface Programme to consider adding the word climate;
12. The principles of engagement in the user interface should be described.

Separate section on the Role of NMSs in implementing the Framework needs to be included here.

Section 7 - Capacity Building

1. Downplay the VCP which is an ad-hoc mechanism and stress more on Resource Mobilization for the implementation of the Framework (Paragraph 104);
2. Need to bring in climatological functions and trainings into the traditional training and education programmes. Distinction between weather and climatological functions and trainings need to be downplayed (paragraph 105). There is an opportunity to bring the seamless approach into the training;

3. A brief paragraph on ClimDev initiative and how it contributes to capacity building needs to be included (paragraph in section 7.5);
4. Add emphasis to the fact that training of user communities is needed to make sure that climate services are efficiently applied (paragraphs 109 and 110);
5. Reformulate last sentence in paragraph 110;
6. Universities can greatly enhance the capacity building efforts at the national level: needs to be emphasized (section 7.4);
7. Add text to highlight the role of national research and development institutions at national and local levels (paragraph 111);
8. Add a bullet under commitments reading: "Enlightenment of NMSs to the Frameworks and the role they are expected to play therein".

Section 8 - Governance

1. Given that services will be conducted within countries, a governance model that only included UN agencies might exclude national interests;
2. Introduce an introductory paragraph giving the functions that the governance mechanism will be expected to perform;
3. Each of the options should include pros and cons of the options (as an Annex??);
4. Include reference to the former Coordinating Committee for the World Climate Programme and the Inter Agency Committee for the Climate Agenda;
5. The existing governance mechanisms for various components and their relevance to the overall governance may be explained in this section (or in the respective sections) The user interface might be best done on a sectoral basis and that we should point out what kind of mechanisms could be there to include sectoral communities in the International arena. It will take WMO working with UN partners further;
6. Option 1 should be described as WCRP/GCOS model.

ANNEXES

Annex 3: Climate Timeline

There was general acceptance of the Timeline – which identifies what WMO has done for services over time. Marine records are long – 1853 in Brussels is relevant and should be on timeline. IPCC Working Group 1 can be used as reference here.

Annex 6: WMO Technical Commissions

- Include the gist of CCI functions
- Include a Box on the Commissions in Section 5

Annex 7: Add an annex on WIGOS.

Table 1: Add text on UN delivering as one, and instead of the list as given, add the climate-relevancy of each agency listed as per the document provided at the PTC 2009 by D/CER.

Table 2: WMO Working Together

- Needs tidying
- Include GCOS, WCRP, GEOSS and IPCC MOUs in accordance with the office of External Relations.

Map: There was a general acceptance of the Map showing easily understood examples of components of climate services across the globe written in a way that is suitable for a non-technical audience.

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Dr Ali Mohammad NOORIAN (Chairman)

Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran with WMO
First Vice-President of WMO
P.O. Box 13185-461
TEHRAN
Islamic Republic of Iran
Tel.: 98 21 22668830
Fax: 98 21 22668712
noorian@irimet.net
amnoorian@gmail.com

Dr A.C. ANUFOROM

Permanent Representative of Nigeria with WMO
Director General
Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET)
Plot 507 Pope John Paul II Street
Off Gana Street
Maitama District
PMB 615
GARKI ABUJA
Nigeria
Tel. 234 70 3405 4035 / 234 80 7752 8559
Fax 234 9 41 30710
tonycanuforum@yahoo.com

Dr Michel BÉLAND *

President of CAS
Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC)
Canadian Meteorological Centre
2121 Transcanadienne
DORVAL, QUÉBEC H9P 1J3
Canada
Tel. 1 514 421 4771
Fax: 1 514 421 2106
michel.beland@ec.gc.ca

Dr Pierre BESSEMOULIN *

Météo-France
Direction Générale
Senior Climate Advisor
President of CCI
42, Avenue Gaspard Coriolis
31057 Toulouse Cedex 1
FRANCE
Tel. +33 (0) 5 61 07 86 80
Fax: +33 (0) 5 61 07 83 09
Mobile +33 (0) 6 07 37 56 29
pierre.bessemoulin@meteo.fr

* EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr Sameer Abdullelah BUKHARI

Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia with WMO
Deputy to the President for Meteorological Affairs
Presidency of Meteorology and Environment (PME)
P.O. Box 1358
JEDDAH 21431
Saudi Arabia
Tel. 966 2653 6333
Fax 966 2651 8960
sbukhari@pme.gov.sa
dr_bukhari@yahoo.com

Prof. Victor E. CHUB

Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan with WMO
The Centre of Hydrometeorological Service at Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Minister, Director-General of Uzhydromet
72, K. Makhsufov Street
TASHKENT 100052
Uzbekistan
Tel. 998 71 2360758
Fax: 998 71 2332025
uzhymet@meteo.uz*

Mayor General FAP Wilar GAMARRA MOLINA

Permanent Representative of Peru with WMO
Servicio Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología (SENAMHI)
Jr. Cahuide 785, 4to. Piso
Casilla Postal 1308
LIMA 11
Peru
Tel.: 51 1 470 4085
Fax: 51 1 471 7287
wilargamarra@senamhi.gob.pe

Mr Wolfgang KUSCH

Permanent Representative of Germany with WMO
Deutscher Wetterdienst
Kaiserleistr. 29/35
D-63067 OFFENBACH
Germany
Tel.: 49 69 80624 202
Fax: 49 69 80624 130
wolfgang.kusch@dwd.de

Dr Antonio Divino MOURA

Permanent Representative of Brazil with
WMO
Third Vice-president of WMO
Instituto Nacional de Meteorología (INMET)
Eixo Monumental Via S-1 Sudoeste
BRASÍLIA, DF CEP 70680-900
Brazil
Tel.: 55 61 33 443333
Fax: 55 61 33 440700
diretor.inmet@inmet.gov.br

Mr Arthur W. ROLLE

Permanent Representative of Bahamas with
WMO
Department of Meteorology
P.O. Box N-8330
Seaban House
Crawford Street
NASSAU, N.P.
Bahamas
Tel.: 1242 356 3726
Fax: 1242 356 3739
rollearthur@gmail.com

Mr Bruce J. STEWART *

President of CHy
Assistant Director (Climate and Oceans)
Bureau of Meteorology
GPO Box 1289
MELBOURNE Victoria
Australia
Tel.: 61 (0) 3 9669 4179
Mobile 0419 305 409
Fax: 61 (0) 3 9669 4725
b.stewart@bom.gov.au

Mr YAP Kok Seng

Permanent Representative of Malaysia with
WMO
Director-General
Malaysian Meteorological Department
Ministry of Science, Technology &
Innovation
Jalan Sultan
46667 PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR
Malaysia
Tel.: 60 3 796 78001
Fax: 60 3 795 49372
yks@met.gov.my

Dr John ZILLMAN *

Chairman of GCOS Joint Steering
Committee
c/- GPO Box 1289
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Australia
Tel.: (03) 9669 4250
Mobile 0414 362 201
Fax: (03) 9669 4169
j.zillman@bom.gov.au

ADVISERS

Dr Ernest Asi AFIESIMAMA

(Advisor to Dr A. ANUFOROM,
PR of Nigeria with WMO)
Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET)
Plot 507 Pope John Paul II Street
Off Gana Street
Maitama District
PMB 615
GARKI ABUJA
Nigeria

Mr Sergey MYAGKOV(Advisor to Prof.
CHUB, PR of Uzbekistan with WMO)
The Centre of Hydrometeorological Service
at Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of
Uzbekistan
Deputy Director NIGMI
72, K. Makhsumov Street
TASHKENT 100052
Uzbekistan
Tel.: 998 71 1358329
Fax: 998 71 2331150
nigmi@albatros.uz

ALTERNATES

Dr Mike GRAY(Alternate to Mr J. HIRST,
PR of UK with WMO)
Met Office
FitzRoy Road
Devon, EX1 3PB EXETER
U.K.
Tel.: +44 1392 886463

Prof. Miroslav MIETUS

(Alternate to Prof. OSTOJSKI,
PR of Poland with WMO)
Institute of Meteorology and
Water Management (IMGW)
Poland's Climate Monitoring Centre
ul. Podlesna 61
PL-01 673 WARSAW
Poland
Tel.: 48 22 5694316
Fax: 48 22 5694356
Miroslav.Mietus@imgw.pl

OBSERVERS

(Nominated by the PR of USA with WMO)

Ms Ko BARRETT

Deputy Director, Climate Program Office
NOAA Climate Program Office
1315 East-West Highway, Rm 12102
SILVER SPRING, MD 20910-3282
United States of America
Tel.: +1 301 734 1220
Fax: +1 301 713 0517
Ko.barrett@noaa.gov

Dr Thomas PETERSON

NOAA
National Climate Data Center/
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801-5001
United States of America
Tel 1 828 271 4287
Fax 1 828 271 4328
Thomas.C.Peterson@noaa.gov

IPCC SECRETARIAT

Dr Carolin ARNDT

Programme Officer
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
Change (IPCC)
c/o WMO, 7bis Avenue de la Paix
Case Postale No 2300, CH-1211 Geneva
Tel. +41 (0)22 730 8120
Fax +41 (0)22 730 8025
Email: CArndt@wmo.int
<http://www.ipcc.ch>

GCOS SECRETARIAT

Dr Carolin RICHTER

Director
Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
c/o WMO
Tel. +41 22 730 8275 / 730 8052
crichter@wmo.int

GEO SECRETARIAT

Mr Michel TANNER

Senior Program Officer
GEO
7bis Avenue de la Paix
Case postale 2300
CH-1211 GENEVA 2
Switzerland
Tel. 41 22 730 85 05
Fax: 41 22 730 85 20
mtanner@geosec.org

WMO SECRETARIAT

World Meteorological Organization
7bis, avenue de la Paix
Case postale No. 2300
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Mr Avinash C TYAGI

Director
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 83 55
Fax: 41 22 730 8043
atyagi@wmo.int

Dr M.V.K. SIVAKUMAR

Acting Director
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8380
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
msivakumar@wmo.int

Mr Amir H. DELJU

Senior Scientific Coordinator
Climate Coordination Activities (CCA)
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8360
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
adelju@wmo.int

Dr Rupa Kumar KOLLI

Chief
World Climate Applications & CLIPS
Division
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8377
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
rkolli@wmo.int

Mrs Leslie MALONE

Scientific Officer
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8220
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
lmalone@wmo.int

Dr B. NYENZI

Director
WCC-3 Department
Tel. +41 22 730 8273
Fax: +41 22 730 8042

bnyenzi@wmo.int

Dr Vladimir RYABININ

Scientific Officer
World Climate Research Programme
Tel. +41 22 730 8486
Fax +41 22 730 8036
vryabinin@wmo.int

Mr André KAMGA FOAMOUHOUE

Seconded Expert
World Climate Applications & CLIPS
Division
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8142
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
akamgafoamouhoue@wmo.int

Mr Peer HECHLER

Seconded Expert
World Climate Applications & CLIPS
Division
Climate Prediction and Adaptation Branch
(CLPA)
Climate and Water Department (CLW)
Tel.: 41 22 730 8302
Fax: 41 22 730 8042
phechler@wmo.int

Ms Marjorie McGUIRK

Seconded Expert to WMO Secretariat
NOAA
National Climate Data Center/
151 Patton Avenue
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801-5001
United States of America
Tel 1 828 271 4442
Fax 1 828 271 4328
Marjorie.McGuirk@noaa.gov

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1.1 Opening of the session

The extra-ordinary session of the EC Working Group on Climate and related Weather, Water and Environmental Matters (EC-WG-CWE) will open at the WMO Headquarters, Geneva, at 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday 21 October 2009.

1.2 Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda will be submitted to the EC-WG-CWE for approval at the opening of the session and may be amended at any time in the course of the session.

1.3 Working arrangements

The session will run from 9:30 to 12:30 in the morning and 14:00 to 17:00 in the afternoon. The meeting will be conducted in English.

2. REVIEW OF THE OUTCOMES OF WCC-3 AND BRIEFING ON THE FOLLOW-UP ARRANGEMENTS

The EC-WG-CWE will be briefed by the Secretariat on the major outcomes of the WCC-3 and will be provided up-to-date information on follow up actions including the establishment of the taskforce, actions requested by EC-LXI on the WCC-3 post-process stage and further implications. ECWG-CWE would be invited to provide advice on the further course of action.

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

The Executive Council, has urged the Secretary-General to prepare a position paper with the concurrence of ECWG-CWE on how WMO Programmes should become core elements of the GFCS, especially through the unique capabilities and capacities of the NMHSs, and to actively promote these contributions as elements of the proposed GFCS. The detailed outline of the WMO position paper would be presented to the WG for its guidance.

4. WAY FORWARD

The working group will identify various actions required to be undertaken within WMO to align activities/programs in order to position itself to play its designated role in the GFCS.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Any other item(s) that members consider to be worthy of discussion will be taken up under this agenda item.

6. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

The extraordinary session of the EC-WG-CWE is scheduled to close in the afternoon on Friday 23 October 2009.

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**DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE HIGH LEVEL TASKFORCE FOR
THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES**

The High Level Declaration adopted by the WCC-3 decided that a Global Framework for Climate Services (the Framework) should be established to strengthen the production, availability, delivery and application of science-based prediction and services. The Declaration requested the Secretary-General of the WMO to convene an Intergovernmental Meeting of member states to approve the terms of reference for a High Level taskforce (HLT) and endorse the composition of the HLT. The Declaration further decided that the HLT should prepare a report, including recommendations, on proposed elements of the Framework.

Consistent with the outcomes of the WCC-3, including the WCC-3 Conference Statement and Declaration and the Brief Note referred to in Paragraph 3, the objectives of the Taskforce are to:

- 1) Further develop and refine the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of the basic elements within the Framework;
- 2) Develop options for governance of the Framework and provide the reasoning for the preferred option(s);
- 3) Outline a plan for the implementation of the Framework, which includes:
 - Proposing a range of strategies (including Conceptual Models) for immediate and longer-term actions to realize the Framework;
 - Specifying measurable indicators, with timelines, for the actions necessary to implement the elements of the Framework;
 - Estimates of costs of implementation
- 4) Undertake broad consultation on implementation strategies of the Framework with all governments ensuring that developing countries are fully represented, with UN agencies and international financial institutions (IFIs) , with a broad range of sectoral users of climate information, and with interested private sector organizations including appropriate non-governmental organizations (NGOs), business, and industry;
- 5) Promote a broad consensus on a blueprint for action by the UN system, International Financial Institutions and other international organizations, national governments, civil society and private sector organizations to move forward on implementing the elements of the Framework.
- 6) Recommend, *inter alia*:
 - (a) Mechanisms for coordinating future actions to implement the Framework that would involve contributions by the UN system, national governments and other relevant users and providers of climate services;
 - (b) Strategies for building capacity in developing countries;
 - (c) Strategies for resourcing the elements of the Framework at the international, regional and national levels with particular attention to the needs of developing countries; and,
 - (d) A strategy for promoting a common global understanding of the Framework and for coherent and coordinated messaging and information sharing.

Other important considerations

Taskforce Membership: The Taskforce will be composed of individuals who are independent of government but who have long experience in successfully dealing with complex issues of global significance including, but not only, those associated with climate change.

Consultations: The Taskforce will consult broadly with a range of experts, including with UN system partners and representatives from various communities interested in climate and climate services as well as policy and decision-makers, for information on the specific elements within the Framework and on the actions to implement these elements.

Support for the Taskforce: Secretariat support will be provided by WMO, which will host its secretariat and seek funding to support its work. Very senior experts may be associated to the process, in order to provide ongoing advice to the HLT in particular areas, for example, for the development of the User Interface Programme, the development of implementation costs for new components of the GFCS, etc.