



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Our ref.: OBS/OSD/IMO/IPC-XI

GENEVA, 9 March 2010

Annexes: 3 (available in English only)

Subject: Eleventh International Pyrheliometer Comparison (IPC-XI) and the conjointly planned Regional Pyrheliometer Comparisons (RPCs) at the World Radiation Centre, Davos, Switzerland, 27 September to 15 October 2010

Action required: Information on the intended participation in the IPC-XI/RPCs to be sent to the WMO Secretariat not later than **10 April 2010**

Dear Sir/Madam,

According to Resolution 13 (EC-XXXIV) of the Executive Council, International and Regional Pyrheliometer Comparisons (IPC and RPCs) should be carried out at five-yearly intervals to check the quality of the operated radiation standards against the instruments of the World Standard Group (WSG) and, for RPC, against the regional standard instruments. The purpose of these comparisons is to foster the comparability of radiation measurements throughout the world through traceability to the World Radiometric Reference.

I have pleasure in informing you that, at the kind invitation of Switzerland, the Eleventh International Pyrheliometer Comparison (IPC-XI) will be held at the World Radiation Centre (WRC) in Davos, Switzerland, from 27 September to 15 October 2010.

The IPC-XI is primarily intended for the calibration of standard pyrheliometers of all WMO Regional Radiation Centres (RRCs). National Standard Pyrheliometers that are maintained at National Radiation Centres (NRC) will also be compared against the WSG if the total number of instruments does not exceed the capacity of the Davos Centre.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6485)

cc: WRC Davos)
RRCs) (for information)

The WRC plans to organize a scientific symposium on meteorological radiometry and atmospheric radiation as well as a training course on radiation measurements focusing specifically on the needs of RRCs. RRCs will be expected to present a report on their activities in the last five years during the symposium and to attend the training course. It is planned to award a certificate of attendance to the participants on the training course. Space permitting, NRCs will also be welcome to attend the course.

The financial resources available to support participants are very limited. Taking this into account, I would like to urge you to consider meeting the travel and per diem expenses of the participant(s) from your Service.

Nevertheless, requests for financial assistance will be considered within limited resources available for the IPC. It is our target to support the participation of Regional Radiation Centres (RRCs) from some developing countries, and, if possible, also some National Radiation Centres from developing countries. With the kind help of the WRC Davos, special arrangements are being planned to minimize the local cost for accommodation and full board of participants.

Financial assistance for the transport of instruments cannot be provided by WMO.

Enclosed you will find three annexes as follows:

- Annex I List of WMO Regional Radiation Centres
- Annex II Questionnaire on the intended participation at the IPC and RRC Comparisons
- Annex III Questionnaire for Regional Radiation Centres planning to attend IPC-XI

If you wish to nominate a radiation expert and (a) pyrhelimeter instrument(s) to the IPC-XI/RPCs, you are kindly requested to return the completed questionnaires, attached in Annexes II and III (for RRCs only), at your earliest convenience but not later than **10 April 2010**.

Detailed information on the organization of the IPC-XI/RPCs and conditions for technical specifications of the standard pyrhelimeters proposed for participation will be sent by the Director of the World Radiation Centre to the nominated expert directly. The expert is required to confirm that those conditions are met. Additional information on local arrangements will be made available under: <http://intranet.pmodwrc.ch/ipcxi/index.html>

Yours faithfully



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General