



**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

**Intergovernmental Meeting for the  
High-level Taskforce for the  
Global Framework for Climate Services**

**Geneva  
11-12 January 2010**

**Report**

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# **REPORT OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL TASKFORCE FOR THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES**

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) held the Intergovernmental Meeting for the High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services at the Geneva International Conference Centre (CICG) from 11 to 12 January 2010, under the chairpersonship of Dr A.I. Bedritsky, President of WMO. The list of participants is given in Appendix A to this report.

## **1. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING** (*agenda item 1*)

### **1.1 OPENING OF THE MEETING** (*agenda item 1.1*)

**1.1.1** The President of WMO, Dr A.I. Bedritsky, opened the Meeting on Monday, 11 January 2010 at 3:10 p.m. at the International Conference Centre of Geneva and welcomed all participants.

**1.1.2** The President recalled that the Meeting was convened by request of the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3) with the mandate to approve the terms of reference and to endorse the composition of a High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services, as defined in the WCC-3 Declaration.

**1.1.3** The President emphasized that the Organization had worked with governments and international organizations to limit the negative impacts of weather and climate on society. WMO had always played a significant role in climate science, observations, predictions and services. The Organization's Programmes, in particular the World Climate Programme, the World Climate Research Programme and the Global Climate Observing System, had greatly furthered the understanding by the public and governments of climate change as a complex, global problem. WMO had made important contributions to the assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and to the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. WMO is currently implementing an international initiative formulated at WCC-3 on the development of a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). WMO Programmes and infrastructure created over the years for observations, predictions and advisories, developed and maintained by the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), as well as international research coordinated by WMO, form the foundation of the GFCS. WMO, in partnership with other international organizations, had been active in developing guides for the generation of climate products and their use in various sectors and regions, including for adaptation to both climate change and climate variability. The WCC-3 participants urged WMO to develop more relevant and meaningful climate products and services that people and economies require, especially in changing climate. It is very important to undertake this work in a good spirit of cooperation among governments, the scientific community, operational forecasters and users of climate information. All relevant elements of the UN system, other partner organizations and scientific and educational institutions should be involved in the GFCS, and good coordination should be established among all actors to maximize the economic benefits that flow from it.

**1.1.4** The Secretary-General welcomed the participants. He recalled the mandate of the Meeting and thanked representatives of governments that had contributed to the formulation of the terms of reference in preparing for this Meeting. He emphasized that the objectives of the GFCS, along with its scientific and technical aspects, will be a system to deliver new and highly relevant climate products to all Members.

### **1.2 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** (*agenda item 1.2*)

The Meeting approved the proposed agenda given in Appendix B to this report.

### **1.3 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING METHODS** (*agenda item 1.3*)

**1.3.1** The following working committees were established in accordance with the provisions of Regulations 24, 27 and 30 of the General Regulations:

(a) **Committee of the Whole**

Chairperson: Dr A.I. Bedritsky, President of WMO.

The Committee discussed agenda item 2.1.

(b) **Drafting Committee**

The Drafting Committee elected co-chairpersons: Mr D. Goetze (Canada) and Mrs S.W.B. Harijono (Indonesia).

The Committee drafted text of the decision on agenda item 2.1.

**1.3.2** The Meeting approved the report on credentials submitted by the Secretary-General.

**1.3.3** The Meeting noted that no minutes would be prepared and that audio recordings of plenary meetings would be made and retained for the record.

**1.3.4** **The Meeting** decided not to establish a time limit for the distribution of documents prior to discussion at plenary.

**1.4** **PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE MEETING** (*agenda item 1.4*)

The Meeting decided on working hours and agreed on the tentative work plan.

**2.** **HIGH-LEVEL TASKFORCE FOR THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES**  
(*agenda item 2*)

**2.1** **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE TASKFORCE** (*agenda item 2.1*)

**2.1.1** The Intergovernmental Meeting approved the terms of reference of the High-level Taskforce as given in Annex 1 to this report.

**2.1.2** The Intergovernmental Meeting discussed a proposal by a group of countries and expressed the opinion that this proposal, as given in Annex 2, be taken into consideration by the Taskforce.

**2.1.3** The Intergovernmental Meeting noted that governments and relevant organizations may submit their views to the Taskforce for its consideration, by 15 April 2010.

**2.2** **COMPOSITION OF THE TASKFORCE** (*agenda item 2.2*)

The Intergovernmental Meeting endorsed the composition of the High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services proposed by the Secretary-General of WMO as given in Annex 3 to this report. Should any of the proposed members no longer be available or willing to serve in the Taskforce since preliminary consultations, the Secretary-General of WMO was authorized to select suitable replacements with due consideration given to expertise, geographical and gender balance.

**3. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING** (*agenda item 3*)

**3.1** The Intergovernmental Meeting expressed its appreciation to the interpreters for their cooperation and willingness to work extra time until the end of the Meeting, which enabled the Meeting to conclude its business with full interpretation in all official WMO languages.

**3.2** The meeting closed on Tuesday, 12 January 2010 at 22:03 p.m.

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## ANNEX 1

### **Terms of Reference for the High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services**

#### **Preamble**

The High Level Declaration adopted by the WCC-3 decided to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to strengthen the production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services. The Declaration requested the Secretary-General of the WMO to convene an Intergovernmental Meeting of Member States of WMO to approve the terms of reference and to endorse the composition of a High-level Taskforce (HLT) of independent advisers. The Declaration further decided that the Taskforce should prepare a report, including recommendations for proposed elements of the GFCS as well as for the next steps to develop and implement the GFCS.

#### **Scope of work**

The HLT will undertake its work in accordance with the WCC-3 Declaration and will:

1. Develop the components of GFCS and define the roles, responsibilities, and capabilities of the elements within the GFCS and clearly illustrate how it will assist the integration of climate information and services into national planning, policy and programmes for, among others, water resource management and development, health and public safety, energy generation and distribution, agriculture and food security, land and forestry management, desertification, eco-system protection, sustainable development and poverty reduction, taking into account the special needs of Africa, Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs);
2. Develop options for governance of the GFCS, ensuring its intergovernmental nature, and provide the reasoning for the preferred option(s);
3. Outline of a plan for the implementation of the GFCS, which includes:
  - Ensuring the central role of national governments;
  - Proposing a range of options for immediate and longer-term actions to realize the GFCS;
  - Specifying measurable indicators, with timelines, for the actions necessary to implement the elements of the GFCS;
  - Estimates of costs of implementation of these options, with clear indications of the financial resources and enhanced technological capabilities required, and their likely sources, to ensure effective global implementation; and,
  - A strategy for capacity building in developing countries, particularly those of the African countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Countries (SIDS) and Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs);
4. Make findings and propose next steps in relation to:
  - i. The role of the UN system and other relevant stakeholders, as well as the mechanisms for their contributions;
  - ii. Approaches to global data policy (addressing data gaps, ownership, data protection, confidentiality, exchange, applications, and usage), that would lead to enhanced capability of the GFCS, taking into account Resolution 40 of the Twelfth WMO Congress and Resolution 25 of the Thirteenth WMO Congress;



- iii. Improving systematic in situ observations and monitoring of climate especially in data-sparse areas, in order to increase data availability, including for research and prediction;
  - iv. Approaches for reviewing the implementation of the GFCS;
  - v. Strategies for building capacity in developing countries in accordance with their needs and priorities, including their access to global and regional climate models output and the underlying technology embedded in the models, and their ability to independently develop/improve in-country climate services capacity; and,
  - vi. A strategy for promoting a common global understanding of the GFCS and for coherent and coordinated messaging and information sharing;
5. Determine its own rules of procedure with consensus on the guiding principle for decision taking;
  6. Be open and transparent in its functioning, making publicly available, including through the WMO Website, the following:
    - A report of each meeting held, including a list of participants;
    - Any submissions received; and,
    - Any “White Papers” generated as a part of its research activities.

### **Support for the Taskforce**

Secretariat support will be provided by WMO, which will host its secretariat and seek funding and other support for its work.

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## ANNEX 2

A group of countries<sup>1</sup>, including the African Block, has requested that the High Level Taskforce take account of the **General Principles** and address the **Factors** listed below when undertaking its work:

### General Principles

1. National governments shall play a central role in all aspects relating to the GFCS including its development, operation, governance and usage;
2. The GFCS must have an equitable, balanced and transparent inter-governmental structure responsible to the WMO Congress;
3. The GFCS must be consistent with the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol particularly with regard to the principle of equity and “Common But Differentiated Responsibilities” as well as the provision by developed to developing countries of financial resources, transfer of technology and capacity building. The implementation of the GFCS shall depend upon full implementation of these commitments by developed countries;
4. National governments retain ownership of the data collected and generated in relation to the GFCS with its sharing and application to be intergovernmentally agreed upon in a data protection agreement. Further, provision of data should not result in any new commitment or obligations for developing countries including under the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol as well as any subsequent agreements or processes; and,
5. Noting that the GFCS will be critically dependent on significant enhancement of the Climate Prediction so as to be able to develop the appropriate Climate Services, the primary focus of the GFCS should be on enhancing prediction ability, particularly through the development of national capacities in developing countries.

### Factors to be addressed in completing the work of the HLT

#### A. Global Prediction Capability:

I) Existing, global capacity to deliver climate prediction, *inter alia in the following areas:*

- (a) Ability/capacity in terms of time (months/seasonal) and spatial scales;
- (b) Data Collection (parameters) for Climate Prediction – on basis of what mandate (decision/resolution), by whom, standardisation of data, confidentiality, commercial usage, sharing amongst whom, on what basis, analysis by which institutions, governance structures, of such institutions, cost sharing or formula;
- (c) Technology and equipment used and provided by whom and at what cost; and,
- (d) The role of national meteorological institutions, regional and global institutions including the WMO;

II) Projected, global climate prediction capability, *inter alia in the following areas:*

- (a) Ability/capacity in terms of time (seasonal, interannual and decadal) and spatial scales;
- (b) Time line for capacity increases – indicative (achievable by);
- (c) Additional, upgraded technological inputs and equipments required and their cost;

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<sup>1</sup> The LMG could list the countries here if it chose to.

- (d) New institutions/facilities at what level – global, regional, national – and governance structure and costs. The opportunities for representative participation in such global and regional institutions or facilities by scientists from developing countries;
- (e) Data Collection for Climate Prediction – additional parameters to be collected, nature and extent, standardization, collection by, to be received by, to be analyzed by.
- (f) HLTF to suggest a separate agreement on GFCS climate prediction data which would address confidentiality issues including prohibition for use in other international instruments such as the UNFCCC as well as for commercial advantage by non-authorized recipients. The national governments would have ownership of data and the analysis resulting there from.
- (g) Capacity building and funding requirements;
- (h) Applications/Climate Services on basis of enhanced global prediction ability to be achieved; and,
- (i) Indicators/benchmarks for review of the success of implementation;

## B. Global climate services/applications

### I) Existing global climate services/applications

- (a) Applications/climate services offered, to whom, at what cost
  - (b) The role of national meteorological institutions, regional and global institutions including the WMO;
  - (c) Data Collection (parameters) for Climate services – on basis of what mandate (decision/resolution), by whom, standardisation of data, confidentiality, commercial usage, sharing amongst whom, on what basis, analysis by which institutions, governance structures, of such institutions, cost sharing or formula;
  - (d) Technology and equipment used and provided by whom and at what cost;
  - (e) Projected global climate services/applications
  - (f) National governments to be provided with a global climate prediction model which is on an enhanced time and spatial scale for refining and application at national micro-spatial levels. The national governments would apply the global model at the national level in accordance with their needs and priorities based on relevant data that they would collect and hold at national level. It would be up to national governments to approach any regional or international institution for assistance in provision of climate services on basis of relevant sectoral data provided by national governments;
  - (g) Templates for data collections by national governments in specific fields/sectors that would benefit from enhanced climate prediction abilities applied across extended time and micro-spatial scales;
  - (h) Capacity building for national governments to develop applications/services and cost estimates thereof;
  - (i) HLTF to suggest a separate agreement on GFCS climate services data which would address confidentiality issues including prohibition for use in other international instruments such as the UNFCCC as well as for commercial advantage by non-authorized recipients. The national governments would have ownership of data and the analysis resulting there from.
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## ANNEX 3

**Tentative membership of the High-level Taskforce for the  
Global Framework for Climate Services**

1. Joaquim CHISSANO (Mozambique)
  2. Jan EGELAND (Norway)
  3. Angus FRIDAY (Grenada)
  4. Eugenia KALNAY (Ms) (Argentina/USA)
  5. Ricardo LAGOS (Chile)
  6. Julia MARTON-LEFEVRE (Ms) (Hungary/France/USA)
  7. Khotso MOKHELE (South Africa)
  8. Chiaki MUKAI (Ms) (Japan)
  9. Cristina NARBONA RUIZ (Ms) (Spain)
  10. Rajendra Singh PARODA (India)
  11. QIN Dahe (China)
  12. Emil SALIM (Indonesia)
  13. Mahmoud ABU-ZEID (Egypt)
  14. High-level representative of indigenous peoples\*
  15. High-level member from Pacific SIDS\*
  16. High-level economist\*
- 

\* Potential members to be confirmed



**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Ines Suznjevic (Ms) Delegate

**Brazil**

Rui Vasconcellos Delegate

**Bulgaria**

Tatyana Angelova (Ms) Delegate

**Burkina Faso**

Moussa Waongo Principal Delegate

**Burundi**

Bernard Ntahiraja Principal Delegate

**Canada**

Darren Goetze Principal Delegate

Johanne Forest (Ms) Delegate

**Chile**

Osvaldo Alvarez Delegate

Hassan Vicente Zeran Delegate

**China**

Shen Xiaonong Principal Delegate

Xu Xianghua Delegate

Wang Xiaoying Delegate

**Colombia**

Angelino Garzon Principal Delegate

Gedeon Jaramillo Delegate

**Congo**

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Martin Massoukina Kountima Delegate

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Carlos Garbanzo Delegate

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**Czech Republic**

Radim Tolasz Principal Delegate

**Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

Ri Jang Gon Principal Delegate

Kim Tong Hwan Delegate

**Denmark**

Anne Mette Jørgensen (Ms) Principal Delegate

**Ecuador**

Miguel Jarrin Delegate

**Egypt**

Mokhtar Omar Ibrahim Delegate

**Finland**

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Maria Hurtola (Ms) Delegate

Eero Lahtinen Delegate

**France**

Jacques Pellet Delegate

Marc Gillet Delegate

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Ibrahim Khraish	Representative
Baker M.B. Hijazi	Representative

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Keith Alverson	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)
Alexandre Vassiliev	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

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H.E. Ms Khadija Rachida Masri	African Union (AU)
Stijn Vermoote	European Commission (EC)
Carine Petit (Ms)	European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST)
Dennis Hart	European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (Eurocontrol)
Stephen Briggs	European Space Agency (ESA)
Ania Grobicki (Ms)	Global Water Partnership (GWP)
Samia Djacta (Ms)	Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
H.E. Saad Alfarargi	League of Arab States (LAS)
Youcef Tiliouant	League of Arab States (LAS)
Amadou Lamine Ndiaye	Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS)
H.E. Babacar Ba	Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
Aissata Kane (Ms)	Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)
Lesley Reynolds (Ms)	South Centre
Vicente Paolo Yu	South Centre

***Representatives of non-governmental organizations***

Bruce Sumner	Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry (HMEI)
David Rogers	Global Humanitarian Forum (GHF)
Joy Muller (Ms)	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

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## APPENDIX B

### AGENDA

- 1. Organization of the meeting**
    - 1.1 Opening of the meeting
    - 1.2 Approval of the agenda
    - 1.3 Establishment of the working methods
    - 1.4 Programme of work of the meeting
  
  - 2. High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services**
    - 2.1 Terms of reference of the taskforce
    - 2.2 Composition of the taskforce
  
  - 3. Closure of the meeting**
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