

EC TASK TEAM ON THE GLOBAL
FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES
(ECTT-GFCS)

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**Resolutions taken by Congress XVI on the Global Framework for
Climate Services**

**Resolution 47 (Cg-XVI)
RESPONSE TO THE *REPORT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL TASKFORCE FOR THE
GLOBAL
FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES* (WMO-No. 1065)**

THE CONGRESS,

Noting:

- (1) The decision of the World Climate Conference-3 to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS),
- (2) The *Report of the Intergovernmental Meeting for the High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework of Climate Services* (WMO-No. 1052), which was held in Geneva on 11 and 12 January 2010,

Welcoming the *Report of the High-level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services* (WMO-No. 1065),

Considering the findings and recommendations of the High-level Taskforce,

Decides:

- (1) To endorse the broad thrust of the High-level Taskforce's Report;
- (2) To accept the intent of Recommendation 1, with the understanding that the international community would make, consistent with its ability to do so, a significant investment in the implementation of the GFCS;
- (3) To note with interest Recommendation 2, thereby encouraging the use of the eight principles provided by the Taskforce as a guide for decision-making in the implementation of the Framework;
- (4) In response to Recommendation 3:
 - (a) To entrust the Executive Council with the responsibility of developing proposals, with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, including other United Nations bodies, for consideration by an Extraordinary World Meteorological Congress. These proposals are to address:
 - (i) The development of the draft implementation plan for the GFCS;

(ii) The establishment of the draft terms of reference and rules of procedure for the GFCS Intergovernmental Board and its substructures based on the draft implementation plan;

(b) To request the Secretary-General

(i) To support the work of the Executive Council as it develops the draft implementation plan, which would include, inter alia, details of the ongoing Secretariat support arrangements;

(ii) To organize an Extraordinary World Meteorological Congress in 2012 with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including other United Nations bodies, to review and adopt the draft implementation plan for the GFCS for subsequent consideration by the GFCS Intergovernmental Board, and to adopt the terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Intergovernmental Board;

(5) To accept Recommendation 4, particularly supporting the rapid implementation of projects at the national and regional levels, possibly including, but not limited to the Report's "Fast-Track projects", which are aimed at increasing the capacity of developing countries to provide climate services and ensuring that such proposed capacity-developing projects are of high priority and meet clearly identified requirements;

(6) To proceed with Option A of Recommendation 5 as contained in Chapter 10 of the Taskforce Report, to implement the GFCS, amended to reflect the agreement that the Intergovernmental Board of the Framework will be accountable to the World Meteorological Congress and that the management committee structures, which may be accountable to the Intergovernmental Board, will be decided upon completion of the drafting of the implementation plan;

(7) To establish the GFCS Secretariat within WMO;

Strongly urges Members:

(1) To continue to make their expertise available during the development and implementation of the GFCS;

(2) To strengthen their own capacity to meet national climate services needs;

(3) To make maximum use of national, regional and global capabilities to collect and exchange data and products, to generate climate information and to provide climate services;

(4) To make voluntary contributions of the resources needed to continue the implementation of the GFCS;

Calls on other United Nations system entities, as well as all relevant regional and international organizations and entities, whether governmental or non-governmental, to give strong support to the implementation of the GFCS through participation in its working mechanisms and contribution of expertise and resources to its programmes, projects and activities;

Requests the Executive Council:

(1) To take necessary actions for the Global Framework for Climate Services to become an effective operational entity in 2012–2015 and beyond;

- (2) To give high priority to ensuring effective overall coordination of the Framework;
- (3) To review relevant resolutions and structures of WMO with a view to ensuring effective implementation of the GFCS;

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (1) To convey the gratitude of Congress to the members of the High-level Taskforce for their outstanding work and for consulting broadly and producing a high-quality and well-balanced report in such a short time;
- (2) To continue to draw fully on the advice and assistance of climate experts and users of climate services in the further development of the Framework.

Resolution 48 (Cg-XVI)
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE SERVICES

THE CONGRESS,

Noting:

- (1) The *Report of the High-Level Taskforce for the Global Framework for Climate Services* (WMO-No. 1065),
- (2) The urgent need to put in place improved climate services for all, but most particularly for climate-vulnerable developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, land-locked developing countries and small island developing States, where climate services are also often weakest,

Considering:

- (1) That internal working methods for the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), particularly for communications and for debating and deciding on implementation priorities, including for the observations, information systems, research and capacity-building components, need to be established,
- (2) That mechanisms are needed to strengthen the global cooperative system for collecting observations, for processing and exchanging data and products, and for using climate related information,
- (3) That projects that target the needs of developing countries, particularly those currently least able to provide climate services, must be designed and implemented,
- (4) That strategies for external communications, resource mobilization and capacity-building programmes for the Framework need to be developed,
- (5) That targets need to be set and procedures established for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the Framework,

Decides to support and facilitate the implementation of the GFCS as a priority of the Organization in the sixteenth financial period;

Requests Members:

- (1) To assist in the development of the implementation plan for GFCS by further developing national and regional requirements for climate services so that capacity development projects can be designed and implemented;
- (2) To facilitate coordination and collaboration among various institutions within their countries as required for the generation and use of climate services through appropriate legal and institutional arrangements;
- (3) To provide adequate resources to the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) for strengthening weather, climate and water data networks and recruiting experts with new technical skills required for generating and delivering climate services;

- (4) To support research in climate science at national, regional and global levels to improve the understanding of climate systems and to promote the delivery of better climate services;

Urges NMHSs:

- (1) To develop partnerships with relevant intermediary organizations and specialized sectoral institutions within the countries, including the establishment of National Climate Outlook Forums (NCOFs)/National Climate User Platforms;
- (2) To collaborate with universities, climate research institutions, and regional and national training centres to continuously improve the technical skills for developing climate services and serving the needs of various users;
- (3) To continue to improve the technical skills of the staff within their institutions through regular training;

Requests the Executive Council:

- (1) To provide support for, and guidance to, the process of developing the detailed implementation plan and monitoring of its implementation through appropriate working mechanisms;
- (2) To review Annex 1 – Data and products to be exchanged without charge and with no conditions on use, to Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) – WMO policy and practice for the exchange of meteorological and related data and products including guidelines on relationships in commercial meteorological activities, with a view to ensuring that the climate data and products needed for the GFCS climate services are included therein;
- (3) To review the role and operation of NMHSs, specifically addressing the needs of GFCS;

Invites the regional associations:

- (1) To regularly review and prioritize the need for climate services within their Regions and encourage collaboration with regional user sectors;
- (2) To encourage regional collaboration so as to enable the building of regional institutions such as Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) and collaborative mechanisms such as Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs) for sharing climate data and products, and developing climate information and services;
- (3) To improve coordination of ongoing activities among Regions;

Invites the technical commissions:

- (1) To regularly review the technical needs of the Framework as they relate to the activities and competencies of the respective commissions, guide establishment and improvement of procedures and processes on technical matters to support GFCS operations, and assist with the implementation of the Framework to the extent possible;
- (2) To improve coordination of ongoing activities relevant to the Framework within and among technical commissions;

Requests the Secretary-General to put in place arrangements through which the WMO Secretariat can provide a high level of support to the regional associations, technical commissions, WMO Programmes and co-sponsored programmes as they make their important contributions to the Global Framework for Climate Services.
