**Priorities of Regional Associations for the period 2016-2019**

***RA I***

* Strengthening capacity of the WMO offices in the Region in order to serve Members more effectively;
* Strengthening the AMCOMET Secretariat;
* Capacity Development (Human Capital, Infrastructure Development, Institutional transformation of NMHSs into autonomous entities);
* Aeronautical Meteorological Services for the Aviation Industry;
* Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) at the national level;
* Service delivery of customer tailored information;
* Representation of RA I in the Executive Council: Increase the number of seats for RA I (Africa) from 9 to 10 based on the number of Members;
* WIGOS/WIS implementation.

***RA II***

* **Improvement of Early Warning System (EWS) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** to meet the increasing demands for effective and more accurate location- and time-specific forecasts for stakeholders to issue early warning and render emergency services;
* **Implementation of WIGOS and WIS including GISC** to maintain and improve real-time observing systems including META data, the quality and quantity of observations (particularly in mountains, deserts and oceans), improve communication and information sharing, telecommunication and IT infrastructures and database management, regional and national implementation of WIGOS;
* **Enhancement of Hydrological, Aviation and public weather services** for the development of the capacity for adequate services in support of public weather services, aviation, and hydrology, including nowcast, short and medium-range forecast;
* **Strengthening of Climate Services including GFCS** for improved climate services including climate change, variability and prediction services; and the implementation of GFCS at national and regional levels;
  + **Capacity Development** in terms of budget and staffing resource deficiencies, education and training needs, twinning of experts and modeling such as NWP;
  + **Improvement of Quality Management System (QMS)** in terms of training and education in support of implementation of personnel qualification, competency and QMS to leverage cost-recovery systems to improve aviation services;
  + **Enhancement of Scientific Research** including joint research in meteorological observing system, satellite meteorology, radar meteorology, data assimilation, atmospheric and oceanic processes, modelling and climate change;
  + **Enhancing Cooperation and Partnerships** to improve the provision of meteorological services, outreach to the community, encouraging engagement with local/national/regional governments, raising the effectiveness and efficiency of meteorological activities, building consensus on issues like data policy, commercialization and public/private sector relationships, etc.; and
  + **Strengthening good governance** including legal and technical regulations, developing and/or strengthening standard operating procedures SOP.

***RA III***

* WIGOS/WIS
* Impact-based forecasts for DRR
* Capacity Development for NMHSs
* GFCS matters
* Initiatives such as WHYCOS and the Oiapoche HYCOS projects

***RA IV***

Many of the **key priorities** for 2016 – 2019 are **continuing** from the previous period and are based on the regional **consensus**

* GFCS: There should be a focus on the technological transfer of climate research and know-how into services that benefit users as well as other partners and stakeholders that are critical to the delivery of effective climate services. Special attention should be accorded to the establishment of effective networks of Regional Climate Centres.
* DRR: Partnerships with national and regional stakeholders to identify evolving hydrometeorological and climate risks and develop appropriate, cost-effective, sustainable solutions and mechanisms to reduce these risks will be key to the DRR agenda.
* WIGOS: WIGOS implementation should remain as an ongoing priority activity, including its implications for WIS and the resulting evolution and ongoing maintenance requirements for the WIS platform.
* Capacity development: There should be a continued focus on capacity-building in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and least developed countries (LDCs).
* Aviation and marine meteorology: Continuous and sustained attention will be required to meet the needs of these important sectors, particularly in terms of ongoing implementation and maintenance of quality management systems and human resource competencies and in light of the trend towards regionalization of services.
* Research: Special attention should be accorded to technological transfer of research into products and services that contribute to key outcomes. Critical areas in this regard are seamless prediction on all timescales and research related to polar and coastal zones.

***RA V***

Future Priorities:

* Implementation of **WIGOS and WIS**
* **Capacity Building**
* Enhancement of **Hydrological and Meteorological Services**
* Strengthening of **Regional Climate Services** **(RCC and N-RCOF)**
* Strengthening of **SWFDP** and **CIFDP**
* Implementation and Maintenance of **QMS**
* Improvement of **Service Delivery**
* Enhancement of **Partnership**

The Association, during its 16th Session of the Regional Association V in Jakarta, Indonesia, 2-8 May 2014, discussed and agreed on the following **four priorities for the Region for the period 2016-2019**:

* Maintenance and improvement of observations and telecommunications networks at the regional and national level through completion of the implementation of WIS and WIGOS
* Delivery of improved climate services through the establishment of the optimum network of RCCs to sustainably implement the GFCS
* Implement effective education and training programs that build the capability of NMHSs in resource management, advocacy and outreach, and NWP utilization
* Achievement by all Members of the standards required for Quality Management and staff competencies, with a focus on aviation and marine meteorology

***RA VI***

Many of the **key priorities** for 2016 – 2019 are **continuing** from the previous period and are based on the regional **consensus**, *output of the 16th RA VI Session*

* Coping with issues related to the **economic conditions** affectingthe NMHSs
* Demonstration and communication of the **value of the NMHSs** to decision makers / Government

*High importance in the current economic conditions*

* Implementation of **WIGOS** and **WIS** - paricularly focusing on the
  + *maintenance*and*improvement*of the *observing**systems*
  + *quality*of*observations*
* Enhancement of Climate Services - **implementation** of **GFCS** at **regional** and **national level**
* Securing **climate data homogeneity** in the transition process from *conventional*to*automatic*meteorological station performance
* Enhancement of Services: **PWS**, **DRR** / **EWS**, **aviation** and related services
* Building common regional **position** and **activities** on data policy, commercialization and public / private sector relationships
* Enhancement of **regional cooperation** and **partnership** with
  + **EMI** entities *(EUMETSAT, EUMETNET, ECMWF, ECOMET)* and **European Commission***,* in particular related to the
    - INSPIRE and PSI Directive
    - Copernicus
    - Horizon 2020
  + **EUROCONTROL**
  + **ICH/CIS**on the harmonization with **EMI** entities (MI of RA VI)
* **Enhancement** of **interregional** cooperation and partnership, in particular with RA I and RA II

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