

“Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Jump-Start Workshop”

Nadi, Fiji

18 to 19 July 2017



1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the kind invitation of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS), the “Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Jump-Start Workshop”, was held at the Tanoa International Hotel, Nadi, Fiji, from 18 to 19 July 2017.

1.2 Ms. Miriam Andrioli, the WMO Secretariat representative and Chief of the WMO WDS/Service Delivery Div., thanked the Representatives of Permanent Secretaries from different Ministries present at the opening, the Permanent Representative (PR) of Fiji with WMO Mr. Ravind Kumar and the participants to the workshop on behalf of the Secretary-General Prof. Taalas, and provided information on the WMO Public Weather Services Programme’s important role as assistance and support provider on Service Delivery to WMO Member countries. Ms. Andrioli emphasized the main goal of such support was to help Members to keep abreast of the new developments and innovations related to all the stages of disaster management. Ms. Andrioli also highlighted the objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop. Mr Eliot Christian, international CAP expert, developer and responsible for the workshop training welcomed the representatives of the Fiji governmental and non-governmental

organizations present at the opening ceremony and the attendees to the workshop. Mr Kumar, PR of Fiji with WMO, welcomed the workshop and delivered a speech on the importance of modernizing the alerting system in his country by embracing new, state of the art methods. The attendees introduced themselves and gave a brief description of their national responsibilities and the main issues that were the subject of their focus in their national duties and responsibilities.

1.3 Representatives of the following Ministries attended the workshop: Foreign Affairs, Information, Disaster Management and Meteorological Services and Rural and Maritime. Also representatives from the Police Authority were present during the event.

The list of participants is contained in Appendix I to the report.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKSHOP

2.1 Working arrangements

The Meeting agreed on its working hours as from 0900 to 1700 hrs on Tuesday, July 18th, and from 0900 to 1630 hrs on Wednesday, July 19th 2017 with appropriate breaks for coffee and lunch.

2.2 The program of the workshop is attached as Appendix II to this report and included:

An introduction to the Common Alerting Protocol-CAP, its Components and Benefits, the worldwide WMO Capacity Development activities on support of CAP (training and implementation), among other issues. This presentation was delivered by Ms. Andrioli.

- (a) Mr. Christian ´s training included the following items:
 - (i) Features of CAP messages, Alerting Authorities, CAP-enabled Alerting Systems;
 - (ii) Implementing a source of CAP Alerts;
 - (iii) Publishing a CAP Alert News Feed;
 - (iv) Implementing Freeware for Creating and publishing CAP Alerts;
 - (v) Registering an WMO Official Alerting Authority.
- (b) Other particular issues were also discussed by the whole group such as the technical perspective on implementing CAP.
- (c) CAP Jump Start materials (lessons and CAP Editor freeware) were distributed on a USB drive among the participants by Mr. Christian.

3. REVIEW OF THE CURRENT STATE, OUTCOMES, THE WAY FORWARD

3.1 Mr. Viliame Vereivalu, FMS's representative, provided an overview and discussion on the current state of the alerting systems in Fiji.

In this regard, a First Meeting on the CAP format was organized at the end of the workshop with some important outcomes and recommendations such as the creation of a Technical Team to concentrate on the required infrastructure to run the CAP at national level along with the formation of an Alert Messaging Team that will provide a mechanism for the future delivery of the alerts (taking also into consideration the different languages spoken within the country). Each of the organizations involved in the alert national system will appoint a Focal Point for such Teams. In this regard, sample alerting messages were produced and delivered among the organizations attending the workshop on testing bases.

During the meeting it was highlighted the importance that the FMS and other stakeholders have their own CAP systems. The Police Authority representative expressed their preference in having first hand alerting information with the FMS as a source. It was put a motion that stakeholders like Fire, Water Authority, FEA, Police, Health, Fiji Roads, NDMO, Commissioner Western and Ministry of Information have their own CAP system and then later disseminate to NDMO. It was also decided that the Technical Team develop samples templates for CAP from other countries and design one for Fiji. Due dates for the completion of the tasks mentioned above were assigned to each Team.

4. OTHER ISSUES

The Representatives of the FMS express to the Chief of the SSD, the need of a TV Weather Presenter Training Workshop as a matter of urgency, given the fact that the institution has already finished arrangements for the purchase of TV weather software and the construction of TV studio facilities.

5. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

With closing remarks by the Fiji Meteorological Service representatives, the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) Jump-Start Workshop closed at 16:30 hours on Wednesday, 19 July 2017.

APPENDIX I

DETAILS OF TECHNICAL TEAM & ALERT MESSAGING TEAM

NAME	DEPT	E-MAIL	MOBILE
Shiu Chand	Police	shiu_chand@hotmail.com	9905881
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Miriam Andrioli	WMO	mandrioli@wmo.int	
Eliot Christian	WMO	eliot.j.christian@gmail.com	

APPENDIX II

CAP Jump Start materials (lessons and CAP Editor freeware) will be distributed on a USB drive during the session. The materials (400 MB) can also be downloaded [here](#). A laptop PC, with administrative privileges, is recommended for the hands-on lesson (CAP-204). Apache Tomcat and Java freeware are provided for Windows PCs; those with Apple or Unix PCs should pre-install Tomcat on their own.

Tuesday, 18 July 2017			
0900-0910	Opening remarks by host, Fiji Meteorological Service	TBD	10 minutes
0910-1010	CAP-101: Introducing Common Alerting Protocol 101.1 Opportunity and Challenge 101.2 Alerting Authorities 101.3 Benefits of CAP 101.4 Features of a CAP Message 101.5 CAP-enabled Alerting Systems 101.6 Education and Training on CAP	Eliot Christian	60 minutes
1010-1030	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		20 minutes
1030-1100	Overview and discussion on current state of alerting systems in Fiji	TBD	30 Minutes
1100-1140	CAP-105: Implementing a Source of CAP Alerts 105.1 Putting CAP Alert Files on a Public Internet Host 105.2 Validating CAP by Schema Version and Profile 105.3 Authorization/ Authentication of Users and Editors 105.4 Example of CAP Alert Sources 105.5 Dissemination Options Beyond Web Browser	Eliot Christian	40 Minutes
1140-1200	CAP-106: Publishing a CAP Alert News Feed 106.1 Introducing Real Simple Syndication (RSS) 106.2 CAP Alerts as News Items in an RSS News Feed 106.4 Finding and Subscribing to CAP Alert News Feeds 106.5 Examples of CAP Alert Feeds	Eliot Christian	20 Minutes
1200-1330	LUNCH BREAK		90 minutes
1330-1500	CAP-204: Implementing Freeware for Creating and Publishing CAP Alerts (hands-on) 204.1 Overview of Tool for Creating CAP Alerts 204.2 Components Required for Deploying Tool 204.3 Authorized Editors, Sample Alerts, RSS File, and Installed CAP Editor Application 204.4 Local Configuration of the Software	Eliot Christian	90 minutes

1500-1520	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		20 minutes
1520-1700	CAP-204: Implementing Freeware for Creating and Publishing CAP Alerts (continued) 204.5 Encryption Required in Real Life 204.6 Overview of Code in this Freeware	Participants, guided by Eliot Christian	100 minutes
1700	END OF FIRST DAY		
Wednesday, 19 July 2017			
0900-1010	Review of First Day Q & A on Freeware Implementation	Eliot Christian	70 minutes
1010-1030	CAP-102: Registering an Alerting Authority 102.1 Characterizing an Alerting Authority 102.2 Identifying Alerting Authorities and Alert Messages 102.3 Maintaining the Register of Alerting Authorities 102.4 Tracking Changes to Entries in the Register	Eliot Christian	20 Minutes
1030-1100	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 minutes
1100-1200	Technical Perspective on Implementing CAP	Participants, guided by Eliot Christian	60 Minutes
1200-1330	LUNCH BREAK		90 minutes
1330-1430	Practical Issues for Each Implementation Hosting Arrangements Test and Operational Systems Obtaining SSL Certificates Other Issues	Eliot Christian	60 Minutes
1430-1500	COFFEE / TEA BREAK		30 minutes
1500-1550	Next Steps for Implementing CAP in Fiji	Participants, guided by Eliot Christian	50 Minutes
1550-1600	Closing remarks by Fiji Meteorological Service	TBD	10 Minutes
1600	END OF CAP JUMP START		