

Reported at the Workshop on Public Weather Services

1. Greetings

Good (morning) ladies, gentlemen, and WMO experts. I am Truong Thanh Nguyen— director of Weather and Disaster Broadcast Center, Vietnam Television (VTV for short). Currently, our center is the leading organization in VN for producing programs about weather and disasters.

2. Milestones of Weather programs

Firstly, let me introduce you some milestones of weather programs.

In 1995, Vietnamese audiences began to watch weather forecasts on the television without the appearance of Master of Ceremonies.

According to user demands, in 2003, the first weather forecast bulletins was on air with the appearance of MC, and since then, the information about the weather has been public more and more diversified.

Up till now, weather programs are not only simple bulletins with forecasting information about rainy or sunny weather but also aims to serve more life activities, for examples tourism, agriculture, traffic, fishing, etc. VTV has developed 17 bulletins with MC and 30 non-MC ones which are broadcasted on VTV channels, including VTV1, VTV3, VTV4, VTV5, VTV8 and VTV9. Please watch the following short clip to have the general view about the diversity of our current weather programs.

3. Programs about weather disasters and how to prevent

Besides above bulletins that I have mentioned, as soon as disasters occur, we also increase the coverage of disaster warnings and forecasts which are updated and broadcasted every 30 minutes to 1 hour with the guidance of MC, understandable graphics, and live videos from scenes. We also broadcast relevant educated films that give guiding information for saving lives and properties efficiently.

In 2014, we were awarded for excellent bulletins by European Meteorological Society about Typhoon Haiyan.

Now you are invited to watch a short clip compiling the weather reports about Hurricane Haiyan we made

4. Co-operating Activities

These results have been due to the tight cooperation and communication between VTV and National Center for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting (NCHMF) which has lasted for 23 years. From the beginning, the exchanging information was just forecasting about temperature, rainy or sunny weather. Then, along with the needs of the audiences and climate change conditions, we have been gradually working on the development of weather bulletin formats which are friendly and essential for livelihood. As a result, forecasting bulletins for next three days, seven days, marine weather, heavy rainfall, landslide, cold surge, seasonal forecasts and breaking news was born.

5. Specific cooperating activities

- NCHMF provides daily weather forecasting bulletins consisting of weather forecasting for land, marine, and abroad cities.
- NCHMF provides extreme weather forecasts.
- NCHMF experts analyze more detail about extreme weather events, and daily weather conditions as well as special weather phenomena in order to have the origin, developing process, appearance frequencies of the events with more understandable language instead of scientific concepts.
- Whenever extreme weathers occur, NCHMF increases the observing frequencies, such as observing the temperature at 06:00 am in heavy cold days to advise provincial and municipal education departments on whether or not to allow students to drop out of schools.
- NCHMF provides other ordered bulletins such as sub-regional weather forecasts where important events happens or forecasting bulletins for crucial events like New Year's Eve, Tet holiday, etc.
- NCHMF provides observed data of 187 meteorological stations across the country.
- NCHMF provides numerical forecasting products, high resolution satellite imagery, radar images as input to weather graphic programs.

6. Proposed Activities to enhance the cooperation

Followings are proposed activities in order to enhance the cooperation between two centers:

- Strictly monitoring the evolution of Hydro-Meteorological situations throughout the country to detect and predict timely severe weather events, especially in case of flood, flashflood, and landslide to give information to people in the fastest way.

Weather and Disaster Broadcast Center, Vietnam Television

- As soon as extreme weather events occur, it is essential to contact the Weather and Disaster Broadcast Center to increase the coordination in the delivery of rapid weather alerts on air and alerts people as quickly as possible.
- Forecasting and warning of extreme weather conditions should be carried out more detailed and specific.
- For tropical cyclone warnings, heavy rainfall forecasts, it is necessary to improve the forecasting quality, narrow the warning areas so that the forecast information is closest to the reality. Besides, in case of heavy rain, it is necessary to provide quantitative data, and if possible, to indicate which time period, which areas could be affected. Then the preventing process would be easier.

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