

**REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV (NORTH
AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND
THE CARIBBEAN)**

Fifth Session of the RA IV Management Group

Geneva

8 June 2010

FINAL REPORT



**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION**

**RA IV MANAGEMENT GROUP
Meeting No. 5**

(Geneva, Switzerland, 8 June 2010)

The fifth meeting of the Regional Association IV Management Group was held on 8 June 2010 from 17:30 to 18:30 hours with attendance by:

Mr. Arthur Rolle – Chairman and President of RA IV

Mr. Eduardo Planos – RA IV Hydrological Adviser

Mr. David Grimes – Canada

Mr. Bruce Angle – Canada

Mr. Michael Crowe – Canada

Mr. Jack Hayes – United States of America

Mr. Dan Thompson – United States of America

Mr. Fred Branski – United States of America

Ms. Caroline Corvington – United States of America

Mr. Tyrone Sutherland – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Fred Sambula – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Glendell DeSouza – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. David Farrell – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Juan Carlos Fallas Sojo – Costa Rica

Mr. Miguel Rabiolo – WMO

Mr. Oscar Arango – WMO

Mr. Andres Orias - WMO

The following issues were discussed:

1. Approval of the Fourth Management Group meeting report
2. Confirmation of task team members
3. Selection of task team chairs
4. Status of task teams projects
5. Vacant Vice-President post in RA IV
6. Work plan for remainder of 2010
7. Update on Haiti
8. ICAO/WMO requirements from a regional perspective
9. Hydrology meeting of experts and proposals for task team.
10. Satellite matters.

APPROVAL OF THE FOURTH MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING REPORT

1. No comments were received with regards to the minutes of the fourth Management Group meeting and therefore, it was approved.

CONFIRMATION OF TASK TEAM MEMBERS

2. The lists of members of the already established task teams were reviewed and the following corrections and/or amendments were included:

- **WIGOS Task Team:** the following members were included: Mr. Albert Jones (Belize), Mr. Rex Reed (USA) and Mr. Michel Rosengauss (Mexico). Mrs. Luz Graciela de Calzadilla (Panama) was excluded since she is no longer with the NMHS and the President of RA IV will be contacting Panama to request a new representative.
- **Strategic Operational Plan Task Team:** Ms. Marie Lovern (USA) will replace Ms. Courtney Draggon (USA).
- **Management Group:** Mr. Bill Reed (NOAA/NHC) will be included in the list since the Director of the NHC is an ex-officio Member of the Management Group. The list of Members will be

modified to show only Permanent Representatives. Support staff will be included in a separate list.

3. The corrected lists will be circulated to all Members of RA IV.

SELECTION OF TASK TEAM CHAIRS

4. The Management Group appointed task team chairs as follows:

- **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR):** Mr. Juan Carlos Fallas Sojo (Costa Rica)
- **WIGOS:** Two co-chairs were appointed: Mr. Dave Helms (USA) and Mr. Glendell DeSouza (BCT).
- **Aeronautical Meteorology:** Mr. Michael Graf (USA).

STATUS OF TASK TEAM PROJECTS

5. **Strategic Operational Plan**

- With regards to the Strategic Operational Plan, Canada submitted two documents: an outline and a spread sheet with inputs required by WMO to be included in the operational budget.
- A draft version of the SOP was sent for comments to all RA IV Members and inputs from Members and task teams will be sought during the next three years.

6. **Aeronautical Meteorology**

- The task team has been urging Members to get certified. A meeting in Jamaica was held with participation of the Caribbean Members to go through the process of developing a QMS.
- The Management Group requested the task team to request the results from the project in Tanzania.
- The Management Group requested Mr. Glendell DeSouza the documents from the meeting in Jamaica so that they can be made available for Central America countries.

VACANT VICE-PRESIDENT POST IN RA IV

7. The Management Group was informed of the present situation after Mrs. Luz Graciela de Calzadilla ceased to be the Director of the Panama NMS and Vice-President of RA IV. In this respect, the Management Group requested the President of RA IV that a letter be sent to RA IV Spanish speaking Members proposing candidates for the Vice-Presidency.

WORK PLAN FOR REMAINDER OF 2010

8. The Management Group, through the President of RA IV, will request the chairs of the task teams to submit work plans for the rest of 2010.

UPDATE ON HAITI

9. The Management Group was informed of the several activities that have been carried out to support Haiti after the 12 January 2010 devastating earthquake. Some of these are as follows:

- French speaking forecasters are already in Martinique to support the Haiti NMS.
- 50000 weather radio receivers were donated by Canada. Transmission facilities are being set up in Haiti for this purpose.
- MétéoFrance has provided workstations and housing for them.
- A web site was developed for forecasting purposes and will be made public in the near future.
- Site survey for 7 automatic weather stations was finished on 5 June 2010.
- A Flood Forecasting Guidance System similar, but not as robust, as the one currently operational in Central America will be installed in Haiti.

HYDROLOGY MEETING OF EXPERTS AND PROPOSALS FOR TASK TEAM

10. The possibility of taking advantage of the CODIS meeting in Mexico (5 to 7 July 2010) to have the Hydrology meeting of experts was discussed. However, it was indicated that the participants would

not be the same and therefore, the proposal was rejected.

11. The Management Group analyzed the request for funding for the hydrology meeting of experts and indicated that it was necessary to clearly define its objectives and that the outcomes of the proposed meeting be beneficial for the Region in order to give its approval to this initiative.

12. In this regard, the Management Group requested the RA IV Hydrological Adviser, Mr. Eduardo Planos, to work with the representatives from the USGS and CIMH, in order to submit, in one week, a plan for the meeting of experts and expected outcomes.

SATELLITE MATTERS

13. The Management Group was informed that a consultative meeting on satellites is held every year in order to get satellite providers together. However, the profile of the meeting has kept lowering and some initiatives are needed to raise the level of the meeting again. Among the possible ways to achieve this, would be to have the meeting every other year in Geneva after the Executive Council. Members of the Management Group were requested to keep this in mind when the issue is discussed during the current EC.