

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

**Eighth Session of the RA IV Management Group**

**New  
Orleans**

**23 January 2012**

**FINAL REPORT**



**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION**

**RA IV MANAGEMENT GROUP  
Meeting No. 8**

**(New Orleans, United States of America, 23 January 2012)**

The eighth meeting of the Regional Association IV Management Group was held on 23 January 2012 from 13:30 to 15:30 hours with attendance by:

Mr. Arthur Rolle – Chairman and President of RA IV

Mr. Tyrone Sutherland – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Fred Sambula – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Glendell DeSouza – British Caribbean Territories

Mr. Michael Crowe – Canada

Mr. Bruce Angle – Canada

Ms. Melanie Itzkovitch – Canada

Ms. Heather Aucoin – Canada

Ms. Diane Campbell – Canada

Mr. Juan Carlos Fallas Sojo – Costa Rica

Mr. Luis Garcia – El Salvador

Mr. Adrian Vazquez – Mexico

Mr. Jack Hayes – United States of America

Ms. Caroline Corvington – United States of America

Ms. Courtney Draggon – United States of America

Mr. Bill Read – United States of America

Mr. Lixion Avila – United States of America

Mr. Jaimie Rhome – United States of America

Mr. Fred Branski – United States of America

Mr. Dan Beardsley – United States of America

Mr. Iftikhar Jamil – United States of America

Mr. Oscar Arango – WMO

Ms. Mary Power – WMO

## **1. APPROVAL OF THE SEVENTH MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING REPORT**

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

## **2. RA IV ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF WMO PRIORITIES**

### **2.1 Aviation report**

2.1.1 Two workshops were held in the region mainly for English speaking countries and another one held in Mexico under ICAO auspices mainly for Spanish speaking countries.

2.1.2 A Meeting on competency assessment was held in Barbados funded by the USA. It was also reported that CIMH has started an online continuing development programme for English speaking countries.

2.1.3 It was strongly emphasized that, for future work, all efforts should be needed so that every country is QMS ready for implementation by November 2012.

2.1.4 Mr. Glendell DeSouza informed that a table showing the status of implementation of all 21 countries involved would be provided to the Management Group at a later date.

### **2.2 WIGOS/WIS**

2.2.1 The meeting was informed that It was expected to have a more detailed implementation plan by 2013. It had to be decided if the responsibility of developing the implementation plan is given to the task team.

2.2.2 National focal points will need to be identified to follow WIGOS activities so that they can contribute in the formulation of the regional plan.

2.2.3 The regional plan needs to have a link with CBS.

2.2.4 The President of CBS explained the work currently being carried out from the CBS side and the planned interaction with the WMO Regions through specific projects.

2.2.5 Countries are filling gaps and modernizing their infrastructures but it will be necessary to take special attention to standards if successful contributions to WIS are expected. (

2.2.6 The United States delegation indicated that they would contribute some ideas regarding WIS/WIGOS and the way to move forward to be presented at the MG meeting in Geneva.

2.2.7 Teleconference on WIGOS will need to be set up.

## **2.3 CAPACITY BUILDING (HAITI)**

2.3.1 Training for 7 forecasters ended in May and rotation has continued in Martinique

2.3.2 No news from MINIUSTAH tender for aviation services has been received. Proposal made by WMO and UK Met Office made outside the tender.

2.3.3 Based on the teleconference held in December 2011, little progress has been made with regards to AWS, EMWIN, and FFGS is not being applied. It is clear that a technical representative is needed in the country if progress is expected.

2.3.4 It was indicated that more efficient ways to effectively cooperate with Haiti are needed. It was suggested that the Secretary General of WMO will need to get directly involved.

## **2.4 DRR**

2.4.1 A brief report with regards to the side meeting held in Cayman Islands was provided.

2.4.2 Report on gaps in the region has been completed.

2.4.3 Important to have DRR managers attend the Hurricane Committee or at least the first day, but funding will need to be identified if Members want to continue this practice. For the time being, it is suggested that Dr. Golnaraghi continue maintaining the link already established.

## **2.5 GFCS**

2.5.1 A brief presentation on developments after WMO Congress in 2011 was made by Canada.

2.5.2 A suggestion is made in the sense of establishing a GFCS Task Team for RA IV. Charge and goals to be defined later on.

2.5.3 Mr. Tyrone Sutherland reported on the request made by CIMH to become a Regional Climate Center.

2.5.4 Mexico informed about the actions being currently carried out by them to create a Regional Climate Center in that country. All Central American countries and Mexico presidents have already signed an agreement to create this center. Funds have already been secured for the infrastructure and at least two first years of the functioning of the center.

2.5.5 The President of RA IV summarized the situation by saying that the region is considering three RCCs: CIMH, Mexico and another one grouping Costa Rica, Cuba and Dominican Republic.

## **3 REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND SOP**

3.1 A Matrix was prepared based on the regional operational plan.

3.2 Through the President, countries have been polled and a summary also prepared.

3.3 Circular to be resent to countries that have not responded. Deadline February 10, 2012.

**4. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

6.1 The session closed at 15:30 hours on 23 January 2012.

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