

Submitted by: Secretary-General 6.II.2018

CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY REPORTS: (I) RA VI PRESIDENT; (II) CHAIRPERSONS OF THE WORKING GROUPS AND LEADER OF THE TASK TEAM ON REGIONAL OPERATING PLAN (III) WMO REPRESENTATIVE FOR EUROPE

(I) RA VI PRESIDENT

Elected by the Regional Association VI at its sixteenth session.

Performed his duties following the Regulation 167 of the WMO General Regulations, with due account being taken of the deliverables outlined in the RA VI Operating Plan.

Deliverables:

- Presided over the meetings of the Management Group of RA VI, as well as several other meetings e.g. meetings of the Presidents of Regional Associations and the Task Team on Policy as a part of the Expert Group on GMAS of the EC WG DRR;
- Guided and coordinated the activities of the association and its working groups between sessions of the association:
- Presented the views of the association to Congress at its regular sixteenth session (May-June 2015) and to the Executive Council at its sessions: EC-66 (June 2014), EC-67 (June 2015), EC-68 (June 2016), EC-69 (May 2017);
- Represented the association in sessions of other WMO constituent bodies;
- Conducted, either directly or through the Secretary-General on behalf of the association, correspondence on matters relating to the activities of the association;

Activities and achievements in RA VI

- (a) The successful implementation and performance of the new structure of the subsidiary bodies:
 - Management Group,
 - three Working Groups, and
 - a number of Task Teams.

This action-oriented working mechanism contributed to the effective work throughout the intersessional period, and to delivery of the expected outcomes;

- (b) Establishment of the RA VI Operating Plan (2012–2015) with a continuous review/update process, and the execution of the Operating Plan following the adoption by Cg-XVI of the WMO Strategic Plan (2012–2015). Development of a new RA VI Operating Plan (2016–2019) that is harmonized with the WMO Strategic Plan 2016–2019. This Operating Plan covers two consecutive periods: (2015–2017) and (2018–2019), in order to facilitate proper performance of the RA VI subsidiary bodies. Active involvement in development of the WMO Strategic Plan 2020-2023 and the process of the WMO Reform;
- (c) The progress in the implementation of the regional elements of the GFCS such as: the successful adoption of the operating plan of the RA VI RCC-Network; the implementation of pilot activities in introducing of Climate Watch Services in the Region; achieved sustainability of the (1) South-East European COF (SEECOF), (2) further expansion of the

RA VI RCOFs by the establishment of the North-Eurasia COF (NEACOF) with the participation of RA VI and RA II Members, and (3) establishment of a Mediterranean COF (MEDCOF) interregional cooperation between RA VI and RA I with the bridging collaboration with SEECOF and North African COF (PRESANORD);

- (d) The significant progress in the implementation of WIS including: establishment of an effective mechanism for monitoring the WIS implementation through a regional focal point (provided by the DWD, Germany); putting into operation of the planned GISCs in RA VI by the respective host countries; designation of the National Centres and WIS focal points by the Members; deployment of the new RMDCN led by ECMWF along with the steady progress with the migration to the table-driven code forms by the majority of the RA VI Members;
- (e) The preparation of the RA VI WIGOS Implementation Plan for regional and national WIGOS-related activities; Eurasian cooperation on WIGOS between RA VI and RA II has been successfully initiated; Turkish State Meteorological Service, in collaboration with WMO, had developed an online web based WMO Radar Database recognized as a critical tool in the provision of WIGOS radar related metadata;
- (f) Interregional collaboration involving three regional associations (RA VI, RA I, RA II) has been established by setting up of the first Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre on Atmospheric Sand and Dust Forecast for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe, hosted by Spain, through the joint partnership of the AEMET and the Barcelona Supercomputer Centre;
- (g) The sustainability of the RA VI Hydrology Forum as a platform for hydrologists within the Region to discuss matters of common concern;
- (h) The progress in developing methodologies, sharing experience and engaging Members in conducting analysis of the socio-economic benefits (SEB) and followed-up by Task Team on SEB, inter alia producing several articles, and contributing to the WMO handbook on Cost-Benefit Analysis for Weather, Climate and Hydrological Services; furthermore, various Members are involved in socioeconomic analysis regarding the promotion of climate services as part of COPERNICUS C3S, EU H2020 and Joint Programming Initiative Climate ERA4CS.
- (i) Continuous DRR capacity development activities through: (1) the completion of a two phased project for the Western Balkans and Turkey with financial support from the European Commission DG for Enlargement, and in close collaboration with the UNDP (in phase one) and with the UNISDR (in phase two); (2) the two Flash Flood Guidance Systems projects for the South Eastern Europe, Black Sea and Middle East, in cooperation with NOAA and financial support from USAID; (3) project in the Middle East (Jordan and Lebanon) for provision of services in support of water management, DRR and adaptation to climate change that was financially supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; (4) WMO collaboration with UNHCR during the refugee crisis in Europe through provision of meteorological support, including direct collaboration with operational forecasters from countries on route of refugees; (5) Establishment of a RA VI focal point on DRR following decision of Cg-17.
- (j) Initiative for closer collaboration on multi-hazard early warnings in South East Europe (SEE) was put forward following ICSEED deliberations during the Cg-17 and other informal meetings. Jointly with SEE Members WMO initiated development of a South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System (SEE-MHEWS-A) with initial support from the U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance. With broad participation of experts from a range of RA VI Members a detailed Implementation Plan was developed. The Plan provides guidelines for development of the technical part of the system and for all activities necessary to

establish advisory system operations by mid-2023. The financial support for the second phase of the SEE-MHEWS-A project was approved soon after completion of the first phase.

- (k) RA VI European Conference on Meteorology for Aviation was held with a view to raise awareness among RA VI Members concerning current and future developments in Europe towards more efficient organization of the air traffic in the Region as formulated in the European Air Traffic Management Master Plan, as a key element of the European Single European Sky and related institutional and technological changes with impacts on the provision of MET service.
- (I) Active involvement of the Association, through its president, in the teamwork and partnership with the WMO constituent and subsidiary bodies along with the close collaboration with the WMO Secretariat, in particular the Regional Office for Europe; several initiatives for the improvement of the effective and efficient performance of WMO, in particular regarding the proposal for the amendment to the WMO General Regulations considering the role and responsibilities of the regional associations;
- (m) Initiative for issuing WMO/GCOS guidance or recommendation to Members in performing the transition process from manned to automatic observation stations to preserve homogenization of the referent climate stations.

Also, the RA VI president carried out such specific duties as:

- Member of the WMO Executive Council and EC Working groups (SOP, DRR),
- Member of ICG WIGOS and EC Focal Point for WIGOS,
- Member of the Implementation/Coordination Team on PWS of the CBS/OPAG-PWS ICT/PWSD and PWSD Coordinator on Regional Association Liaison,
- Chair of the Task Team on Policy of the GMAS Expert Group of the EC WG DRR,
- Chair of the Steering Committee of the SEE-MHEWS-A project.

In performing his duties the president was assisted by the RA VI vice-president, elected by the RA at its 16th session and by the Regional hydrological adviser, designated by the RA at its ordinary session in accordance with Regulation 33.

Also, the RA VI president was assisted by the RA VI Management Group and the WMO Regional Office for Europe.

Recommendations for the next intersession period:

- Continue to implement Regional WIGOS Centres as virtual centres, where a group
 of NMHSs would share the relevant tasks among them under the overall
 coordination of one of them;
- RWCs need not cover the Region as a whole; tasks could be shared between Regional WIGOS Centres covering subregions, with areas of responsibility aligned with existing geographic or linguistic boundaries within the Region;
- In RA VI, the existing EUMETNET activities could be strengthened and broadened to encompass several intended Regional WIGOS Centres functionalities at the WMO level;
- Facilitate the National WIGOS Implementation;
- The Members of the Eurasian subregion are invited to consider possible implementation of a MHEWS-A project, similar to the one being implemented in SEE;

- Establish a RWC for the Adriatic Sea area as a virtual centre and refine the functionalities of this centre. The proposed RWC will complement the existing WIS DCPC for the Adriatic Sea area and Croatia will be leading;
- Explore possibilities to establish a WMO-IOC Regional Marine Instrument Centre for the Adriatic Sea as a distributed centre where the service for instruments and measurements would be provided by the oceanographic institute(s) for oceanografic part and by the NMHS(s) for marine meteorological part.

(II) CHAIRPERSONS OF THE WORKING GROUPS, AND LEADER OF THE TASK TEAM ON REGIONAL OPERATING PLAN

Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation (WG TDI)

WG TDI is established by the Resolution 9 at the sixteenth session of RA VI, and performed under the work programme for the period 2013–2017 following the RA VI Operating Plan.

Deliverables:

- Reviewed and updated RA VI WIGOS Implementation Plan;
- Increased awareness and true understanding of the WIGOS among the Members in RA VI through workshops and trainings;
- Carried out data quality monitoring and displayed information on SYNOP and radiosonde data by using EUCOS portal under EUMETNET Observation Programme;
- Prepared draft concept for establishment of Regional WIGOS Centres in RA VI;
- Prepared and implemented concept and functions of virtual Regional WIGOS Centres;
- Prepared draft proposal for the radar data exchange and establishment of subregional radar networks in RA VI;
- Prepared template for a standard automatic observing station/measurement field together with suggestion for interaction of national and private partner networks for the WIGOS implementation at national level;
- Carried out assessment on the readiness, compliance and implementation of WIGOS among the Members;
- A survey on the traceability and capacity building needs in RA VI was carried out which indicates that one third in NMHSs require traceability assurance and trainings on metrology by RICs;
- Inter-laboratory comparison (ILC) for basic meteorological parameters (temperature, pressure, humidity) was organized with the participation of 18 NMHSs. The ILC was organized in accordance to ISO/IEC 17043 standard;
- The ILC report has been prepared, published and submitted to WMO to be published as a report on Instruments and Observing Methods;
- Workshops and training activities have been organized for capacity building and improving the data quality;
- A database on calibration and measurement capabilities of 21 NHMSs in RA VI was prepared and submitted to the WMO Secretariat for the WMO Country Profile Database;
- Migration to TDCF in RA VI has been monitored via the reports from focal points, and support has been provided to focal points in case of any request. (Migration to TDCF has been fulfilled as for Synop: 80 %; Temp: 79 % Pilot: 50 %; Climat: 49 % in RA VI);

- Status of RMTN has been monitored and required support was provided to the members to be connected to RMDCN;
- Contribution was provided to multicast issues of RMDCN;
- Contribution was provided to IPV6 issues of RMDCN;
- The list of WIS focal points and regular contacts was updated (Albania, Lebanon, Syria missing);
- A survey on the assessment of the achieved, ongoing and planned activities regarding WIS implementation by NMHSs in RA VI was applied;
- A SWOT analysis of WIS operation in RA VI has been done;
- Data discovery/Metadata of WIS is well developed in RA VI;
- Improvements and new development in global weather models has been monitored;
- Improvements and new development in local area weather model has been monitored;
- Radar networks for radar data exchange has been analysed;
- Availability of lightning data (e.g. the UK Met Office long range lightning data available via Eumetcast) has been analysed;
- RMTN RMDCN WIS Monitoring has been carried out;
- Annually the RMTN scheme (including RMDCN) was updated, taking into account comments and suggestions from those centers responsible for RTH;
- Organized and contributed to the events listed in the Annex below.

Recommendations for the next intersessional period:

- Task teams should be structured and strengthened with required expertise and full coverage of the Region;
- The activities (e.g. workshops, training conferences, etc.) should be continued for increasing the awareness on WIGOS;
- RWCs should be designed and established with a view to cover whole region and to meet the requirements;
- RBON with new concept based on the regional requirements should be developed and established;
- The Members should be encouraged for exchanging radar data and establishment of sub-regional radar networks for a better and effective utilization of weather radars;
- The utilization of RICs should be encouraged and new RICs nominations should be supported;
- Supervision of migration to table driven code forms (MTDCF) should be maintained during the next period;
- If a strong task team on MTDCF could not be established in the next period, the task team should be downgraded to a Rapporteur;
- Task Team on RMDCN can be dismissed and await for next concept from CBS;
- For WIS issues, the working mechanism, based on a single focal point/rapporteur, should be complemented by a closer cooperation with CBS ETs (OPAG-ISS) to ensure better communication from/to the Member States;
- The evolution of the WIS should take into account the weaknesses demonstrated so far. A more balanced trade-off between WIS concept (the vision) and WIS capacity (the real world) is necessary to drive the system from a niche expertise to a shared knowledge;
- The efforts should facilitate the implementation and the development of the WIS across the Programs and the works of Technical Commissions of WMO (including

- JCOMM), avoiding duplicated and independent similar initiatives. WIS should be perceived as a real common infrastructure;
- Rapporteur on WIS should observe activities regarding WIS 2.0 with cloud technologies to be developed by CBS;
- Capacity building activities should be supported and organized;
- Cooperation with other Regions should be improved.

Working Group on Climate and Hydrology (WG CH)

WG CH is established by the Resolution 10 at the sixteenth session of RA VI, and performed under the work programme for the period 2013–2017 following the RA VI Operating Plan,

Deliverables:

- Draft Operation Plan of the RCC network;
- Climate Watch Advisories for RA VI;
- Website for NMHSs of WMO RA VI (Europe) with protected access to present and past Climate Watch Advisories;
- The guidance document for Climate Watch Implementation (WMO Bulletin 65, 28-31);
- An overview document of ongoing and planned projects and activities in RA VI focused on transboundary hydrological cooperation in the river basins of the Rhine, Moselle/Saar, Sava and Danube;
- An article in MeteoWorld promoting open data policies (case of Israel open data policy);
- Contributed to WaterML2.0 and a WIGOS metadata profile;
- Submission of a proposal to a European Commission tender call from the ECMWF related to the collection and processing of in-situ observations;
- Contributed to the deliverables of the WMO Commission on Climatology, and in particular: (1) Guidance on RCCs and RCOFs operations, (2) a Concept note and technical guidance on National Climate Outlook Forums, (3) the Climate Service Toolkit and (4) the CSIS operations and coordination meetings;
- Significant economic benefits of agrometeorological services were proved, as per the case studies;
- METEOALARM warnings for agriculture of available NMHSs were evaluated;
- Organized and contributed to the events listed in the Annex below;
- Final report of the Working Group on Climate and Hydrology for the intersessional period 2013-2017.

Recommendations for the next intersessional period:

- Strengthen the service dimension in RCC/RCOFs products, including needs for new products and including the linkage with the Hydrological side;
- Improve the feedback process and consequently the reactivity of the RCC and the RCOFs;
- There is a need for the RCC-Network and RCOFs to evolve towards more efficient climate services; Incorporate the C3S issues inside the RCC/RCOFs processes, including the impact on the governance;
- Take into account the CSIS aspects (e.g. help desk function, trainings, linkage with the UIP, ...);

- Improve the visibility of the RCC and RCOFs activities (outreach);
- The introduction of the climate change dimension into the RCC/RCOFs portfolio need further discussion, especially regarding country needs and specificities;
- Coordination with existing WMO Technical Commissions is crucial, to avoid duplication and optimize the use of resources (especially the volunteers);
- Follow-up to the potential evolution in the structures of the Technical Commissions;
- The development and implementation of the seamless concept of Data Processing and Forecasting System(with the 2019 target);
- There are no guidelines available for economic evaluation of agrometeorological services and products, which should be further addressed in future activities;
- Agrometeorology should approach the whole agri food chain upstream the field (seed industry, chemical industry, machinery industry and so on) and downstream (storage, food processing, wholesale and retail trade). Furthermore, agrometeorological activities should involve not only agrometeorological services but also private subjects (farmers, industries, agronomists, etc.). This is particularly important in order to avoid lack of agrometeorological information in case of reduction in public funds;
- For purposes of agriculture management, more days should be taken into account when issuing warnings on Meteoalarm. Development of specific warnings is relevant;
- More intensive exchange of information between NMHSs and agrometeorological networks is needed to reduce agrometeorological data gaps;
- Expertise and data base of NMHSs is of crucial importance for filling the gaps in AWS data;
- Demands for agrometeorological services based on Sentinel data ought to be placed to Copernicus Programme, stimulating in this way, creation of value added services for farmers:
- Make available the satellite data related to soil and biosphere conditions;
- Enhance the cooperation with the hydrological institutes and expert teams on drought; Research Institutions, Universities, ministries, weather and hydrological services (both private and public sector) and addressed stakeholders have better to interact and cooperate in interdisciplinary manner in order to improve and implement agrometeorological methods at the stakeholder level;
- There is a need to force regionalized, tailored, up-to date services for various stakeholder groups and sectors;
- Use of scientific conferences for following actual research activities, not only in the field of (agro)meteorology but in related research fields such as hydrology, agronomy, plant protection, remote sensing, agricultural technology development etc.;
- A common platform should be established for organizing Know-How/Best practice exchange, cooperation in implementing operational applications, supporting data exchange, gap filling for i.e. agromet. purposes;
- The proposal on the possible future working structure of the Working Group on Climate and Hydrology within the Working structure of RA VI has been submitted to the Management Group of RA VI and the RA VI president through the Final report.

Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership (WG SDP)

WG SDP is established by the Resolution 11 at the sixteenth session of RA VI, and performed under the work programme for the period 2013–2017 following the RA VI Operating Plan.

Deliverables:

- Contributed to the preparation and realization of RA VI Conference on Aviation Meteorology (ECMA 2015);
- Supported CAeM ET-CCP to establish an European network of aviation experts;
- Drafted a template for a newsletter on aeronautical meteorology;
- Organized a joint WMO EMS EUMETNET Communication workshop for public relations personnel at NHMSs each year back to back with the EMS meeting;
- Established a network of public relations personnel at NHMSs;
- Monitored and analysed Social Economic Benefit (SEB) studies in the region;
- Compiled a summary report of SEB studies and lessons learnt;
- Several sessions on Socio-Economic Benefits and closely related themes were staged in the annual EMS meetings;
- Contributed to the World Bank/WMO supported SEB course in Zagreb (2015);
- Contributed to the Valuing Weather and Climate: Economic Assessment of Meteorological and Hydrological Services, 2015 (WMO-No.1153);
- Supported several EU co-funded studies with respect to SEB aspects of climate services;
- Monitored developments with regard to relevant EU activities;
- Annual and ad-hoc Reporting to the community based on the annual Roadmaps released by the EU (H2020, roadmaps, advice mechanism, Copernicus, ...);
- Provided information note to international advisors on the Copernicus programme;
- Supported WMO RA VI workshop on RCC implementation on the potential of the Copernicus Climate Change Service;
- Conducted a survey to Members gathering practices for warning services and impact based warning verification;
- Analysed the best practices of weather warning in RA VI as well as the possibilities to mentor the staff of the colleague NMHSs and reported on it;
- Drafted a proposal for twinning activities in the Region;
- Developed a recommendation on impact based warning verification;
- Reported on how CAP will be utilized for warning data exchange;
- Organized and contributed to the events listed in the Annex below.

Recommendations for the next intersessional period:

- A future working bodies of the Region should concentrate on a coordinating role between TCs and Programmes supporting ROE in its duty to gather information and create synergies and useful connections using existing initiatives rather than producing reports and duplicating efforts of existing WGs or OPAGs. This will strengthen the important connection between TC, RA VI and other international organizations so as to fulfil RA VI needs in line with its operational plan;
- Working bodies should have realistic goals and necessary support and financial resources should be secured. It makes no sense to compile a task wish list without securing at least a minimum financial support for carrying out the tasks. This is why it becomes more and more difficult to find volunteers:

- Strengthen the synergies between ongoing initiatives in the Region to optimize the available resources. A transparency and visibility on what is going on is necessary to avoid duplication;
- Continue to conduct studies on Socio-Economic Benefits of climate services and share the outcomes and lessons with Members; particularly relevant applications are: adaptation oriented climate services and large investments in infrastructure;
- Utilize the lessons in SEB studies to improve service development and to better link R&D and service provision internally in the NM(H)S;
- Analyse broad scoped radical changes and very large infrastructural investments;
- Consider a COST Action (EU funded) with regard to SEB, provided that also climate services are included in the proposal;
- The Regional Association should recall the importance of and make use of the Joint WMO/EUMETSAT/EUMETNET Liaison Office to the EU in Brussels;
- Regional Association should strive to complement existing coordination mechanisms (see above) rather than repeating information already provided through other channels;
- Establish a pilot twinning project on warning services;
- Establish proper mechanisms so as to keep the Region informed about aeronautical meteorology developments, in particular on ICAO GANP, Met Panel, Single European Sky / SESAR.

The Task Team on Regional Operating Plan (TT ROP)

TT ROP is established, by the Management Group of RA VI, immediately after the sixteenth session of RA VI, in Helsinki in September 2013. TT ROP performed under the work programme for the period 2013–2017 following the RA VI Operating Plan.

Deliverables:

- Support to the Management Group in ensuring continuity of the strategic planning process and developing coordinated regional inputs for the WMO Strategic Plan and related Operating Plan;
- Formulated the priorities of the Region for inputs to the new WMO Strategic Plan 2016 2019, based on the outcome and actions recorded at the RA VI session;
- Worked out the regional Key Objectives as well as Key Performance Indicators, taking into account the program of the RA VI Working Groups and the WMO SP;
- Formed the base for the Operation Plan of the Region for 2016 2019;
- Provided inputs to the WMO SP 2016 2019, upon request;
- Support to the Management Group in the planning of the Regional Conference, planned in connection with the 17th session of RA VI; and
- Gathered the regional perspective for the WMO Strategic Plan 2020 2023.

(III) WMO REPRESENTATIVE FOR EUROPE

Regional Office for Europe in its work followed the Terms of reference for the Regional Office for Europe and NMHSs' priorities, as agreed by the Association at its 16th session, namely:

- (a) Coping with issues related to the economic conditions affecting the NMHSs: constant pressure for budget and staff cuts, insufficient qualified personnel, and difficulties to maintain and sustain basic functions due to lack of resources;
- (b) Enhancement of climate services implementation of GFCS at regional and national level;
- (c) Implementation of WIGOS and WIS (noting that WIS implementation has already been in progress), including focus on concrete and urgent needs related to the maintenance and improvement of the observing systems and the quality of observations;
- (d) Enhancement of services: PWS, DRR/EWS, aviation and related services as well as demonstration and communication of the resulting social and economic benefits;
- (e) Enhanced international cooperation and partnership: raising the effectiveness and efficiency of the regional activities, building common position on issues like data policy, commercialization and public/private sector relationships;

Deliverables:

 Support to the RA VI president, vice-president, hydrological advisor, working groups and task teams;

Advocacy missions:

- Increase of the visibility and contribute to development of collaboration and partnership in/with:
 - Albania meetings with the Permanent Representative, and Ministry of Interior;
 - Armenia meeting with the Deputy Minister of Interior;
 - Belarus meeting with the Minister of Environment in Minsk; meetings with the Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva; meetings with the PR and NMHS of Belarus senior management team;
 - Georgia meeting with the Minister of Agriculture;
 - Bosnia and Herzegovina Informal Conference of SEE NMHSs' Directors and Press Conference at the Government premises;
 - Greece meetings with the PR of Greece; meeting with Hellenic Aid/Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SEE-MHEWS-A Project Workshop on Observations and IT technologies;
 - Israel WMO Mission on the occasion of the 80th anniversary;
 - Croatia Informal Conference of SEE NMHSs' Directors (2016), 1st Steering Committee meeting and media event related to SEE-MHEWS-A Project; Meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the PR and Director of NMHS of Croatia to work on setting up of the WMO Project Office in Zagreb;
 - Italy meeting with CIMA Research Foundation, and the Italian Civil Protection Department;
 - Hungary Conference on climate related matters; SEE-MHEWS-A Project Numerical Modelling Workshop;

- Moldova meeting with Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva;
- Slovenia 2nd Steering Committee meeting of SEE-MHEWS-A Project and meeting with Drought Management Center for SEE;
- Serbia Informal Conference of SEE NMHSs' Directors (2017);
- Turkey meeting with Permanent Representative and senior management team of Turkish State Meteorological Service;
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia SEE-MHEWS-A Project Forecasters Workshop;
- ECMWF meeting with DG on SEE-MHEWS collaboration;
- European Severe Storm Laboratory (ESSL) meeting on collaboration in Education and Training of Operational Forecasters in SEE;
- Russian Federation meeting with PR of Russian Federation, RA VI president and EUMETNET ED on Meteoalarm and MeteoAlert collaboration and subsequent conclusion of Agreement on collaboration between EUMETNET and Hydrometcenter of Russia; meeting with Interstate Council of Hydrometeorology of Commonwealth of Independent States.

Resource mobilization for projects:

Regional Office for Europe contributed, jointly with the partners from Western Europe (NMS or R&D institutions), to development of projects which are being implemented in South East Europe. These are as follows:

- Jointly with the Italian Civil Protection Department, ECMWF, DHMZ, REC, and CIMA Research Foundation - development and implementation of a Programme for Improving National Early Warning System and Flood Prevention in Albania (PRONEWS, a European Commission Project for Albania - grant worth 2.2 million EUR);
- Development, resource mobilisation (USAID) and initiation of the SEE-MHEWS-A Project (grant worth 580,000 USD);
- Development, resource mobilisation (World Bank) of a second phase of SEE-MHEWS-A project (start of implementation in 2018, grant worth 1,500,000 USD).

Organization of work in the Regional Office for Europe (ROE) and in RA VI sub-regions:

- Working with countries during the Cg-17 on possible modalities for establishment of the WMO Eurasian Office in Minsk for Russian speaking countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Decision on Cg-17 was adopted). Negotiations with Belarus pursued and Host country agreement was submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus for approval;
- Several projects focused on the South-East Europe and limited capacities of WMO Regional Office for Europe to manage and steer this work revealed the need to establish the WMO Project Office for South-East Europe, which is being established in Zagreb, Croatia. Initial agreement with the NMHS of Croatia was signed and the Host country agreement between WMO and Croatia is submitted to Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Croatia for approval;
- Working on the staffing of the ROE through hiring the expert based on the extra budgetary resources (PRONEWS European Commission project and SEE-MHEWS-A Project);
- Finnish Meteorological Institute secondment of an expert to Regional Office for Europe to support the preparations of the RA VI Regional Conference and Session;
- Collaboration with other WMO departments in organizing workshops/meetings in RA VI;

- Collaboration with WMO technical departments and external R&D institutions on formulating the project proposals;
- Establishing the collaboration between the Western European and South-East European NMHSs under the framework of SEE-MHEWS Initiative;
- Coordinated jointly with the WMO/WDS/DRR office and UK Met Office the meteorological support to the UNHCR during the refugee crisis in Europe: Initiated the network of shift forecasters of NMHSs in countries on route of refugees over Mediterranean and SEE region towards Western Europe;
- Contributed to the work of the EC WG DRR, through its GMAS Policy and Expert teams with SEE-MHEWS-A as a pilot GMAS project;
- From October 2016 actively involved in setting-up the collaboration between EUMETNET/Meteoalarm and ROSHYDROMET/MeteoAlert systems, which was the initial step towards the GMAS concept. Memorandum on Cooperation between the EUMETNET EIG and Hydrometeorological Center of Russia signed in July 2017;
- Meeting with the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development to advocate further for the support for SEE-MHEWS and other initiatives in RA VI;
- Organized events listed in the Annex below.

Recommendations for the next intersessional period:

- Monitoring and evaluation reports of WMO to be shared with Members through International Advisers Network (INTAD-6);
- Regional Association is invited to use the INTAD-6 network at initial stage of project developments and for coordination of any other matters;
- Regional Office for Europe in collaboration with the WMO/IT department to make available the ongoing developments in the collaboration tools and portals to all RA VI Members;
- INTAD-6 network of RA VI may wish to organise regular collaboration and coordination teleconferences focusing on present and proposed future activities;
- Regional Office for Europe should enhance the collaboration and cooperation network with the Regional Offices for Europe of other UN agencies;
- Regional Association VI to become the leader in transregional cooperation;
- Engaging further in project preparations jointly with WMO technical departments and interested NMHS and/or R&D institutions, and by doing so establish closer links between developed and developing NMHSs of RA VI;
- RA VI may wish to consider seconding NMHS experts and interns to WMO/ROE to energize the WMO Regional Office for Europe;
- RA VI may consider its working arrangements in such way to leverage the existing potentials and on-going activities of its Informal Conferences of NMHS Directors in RA VI sub-regions: ICWED, ICCED, ICSEED, CIS/ICH and/or Eurasian grouping.

The	List	of	activities	supporte	ed by	the Region	onal Asso	ciation	VI is	given in	the Ann	ex.
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Annex: 1

Annex to INF.2.1

List of activities supported by the Regional Association VI in the intersessional period 2013-2017

(1) RA VI Constituent and Subsidiary Bodies meetings

2013

- RA VI sixteenth session, September, Helsinki, Finland
- RA VI Management Group, September, Helsinki, Finland
- RCC Network Coordination meeting, October, Moscow, Russian Federation

2014

- Second meeting of the Management Group of RA VI, May, Tallinn, Estonia
- RA VI Working Group on Climate & Hydrology, September, Warsaw, Poland
- 2nd RA VI Hydrology Forum, September, Warsaw, Poland
- First meeting of RA VI Working Group on Technical Development and Implementation, November, Offenbach, Germany
- First meeting of RA VI Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership, December, Offenbach, Germany

2015

- Third Meeting of the Management Group of RA VI, April, Istanbul, Turkey
- Joint Meeting of the RA VI Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation and Task Team on WMO Integrated Global Observing System, September, Istanbul, Turkey

2016

- Second meeting of RA VI Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership, February, Offenbach, Germany
- RA VI Task Team on WIGOS Implementation, Third Meeting, June, Belgrade, Serbia
- RA VI Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation, Third Meeting, June, Belgrade, Serbia
- Meeting of the RA VI Working Group on Agrometeorology, November, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Third RA VI Hydrology Forum, September, Oslo, Norway
- Sixteen session of the Commission on Basic Systems, Side Meeting on Regional and Inter-regional EWS/MHEWS, November, Guangzhou, China

2017

- Sixteenth Session of the Regional Association II, February, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
- Seventieth Session Of Regional Association IV, March, San José, Costa Rica
- Fifth meeting of the RA VI Management Group, April, Vilnius, Lithuania

- Joint meeting of the Presidents of Regional Associations and the Presidents of Technical Commissions, January 2018, January. Geneva, Switzerland
- Meeting of the Presidents of Regional Associations, January. Geneva, Switzerland

(2) Conferences and Specialized Fora

2013

- RA VI Regional Conference, September, Helsinki, Finland
- NEACOF-5, November, Moscow, Russian Federation
- SEECOF-10, November, Belgrade, Serbia
- MEDCOF-1, November, Belgrade, Serbia

2014

- WMO/NOAA NWS International Session, February, Atlanta, Georgia, USA
- Opening ceremony of the first Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre on Atmospheric Sand and Dust Forecast for Northern Africa, Middle East and Europe, June, Madrid, Spain
- Regional Forum on Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, October, Ankara, Turkey
- Third Session of Mediterranean COF, November, Antalya, Turkey
- 12th session of South East European COF, November, Antalya, Turkey
- 20th Conference of the Parties, UNFCCC, December, Lima, Peru

2015

- WMO/NOAA NWS International Session, Phoenix, Arizona, January, USA
- WMO Symposium on MHEWS at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, March, Sendai, Japan
- LAS Forum on Capacity Development of Meteorology and Climate Services in the LAS Region, Jeddah, April, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- European Conference on Meteorology for Aviation, October, Vienna, Austria
- Mediterranean Climate Outlook Forum, October, Madrid, Spain
- GEO-XII, November, Mexico City, Mexico
- 21th Conference of the Parties, UNFCCC, November/December, Paris, France

2016

- WMO/NOAA NWS International Session, January 2016, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
- 16th EMS Annual Meeting & 11th European Conference on Applied Climatology, September, Trieste, Italy
- RA VI Hydrology Forum, September, Oslo, Norway
- Regional Conference on South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, October, Zagreb, Croatia
- Seventh session of the Mediterranean Climate Outlook Forum, November, Rome, Italy
- Sixteenth session of South East European COF, November, Rome, Italy
- Izaña Observatory centenary celebration, April, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain

- WMO/NOAA NWS International Session, January, Seattle, Washington, USA
- Multi-Hazard Early Warning Conference at the UNISDR 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, May, Cancun, Mexico
- Final Conference of the Phase I of the project "SEE-MHEWS-A", June, Ljubljana, Slovenia

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- Ninth session of the Mediterranean Climate Outlook Forum, November, Zagreb, Croatia
- Eighteenth session of South East European COF, November, Zagreb, Croatia
- Thirteenth session of North Eurasian Climate Outlook Forum, November, Moscow, Russian Federation
- EUMETNET 19th Assembly meeting, November, Budapest, Hungary

(3) Meetings, Workshops and Training Courses

2013

- Training on long-range forecasting, November, Belgrade, Serbia
- Training Workshop on Application of remote sensing data for drought monitoring, November, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2014

- CG-WIGOS-3, February, Geneva, Switzerland
- Workshop on DAWBEE Satellite Now casting Applications, March, Darmstadt, Germany
- Meeting on Enhancing Hydrological Data Management and Exchange Procedures in the Sava River Basin, April, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- On-the-job training on severe weather forecasting, May, Bucharest, Romania
- Second meeting of the Design Team on Regional Multi-Hazard Early Warning System, September, Durres, Albania
- Flood losses assessment training, May, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Insurance Workshop for NMHSs, October, Ankara
- A training workshop on communication, October, Prague, Czech Republic
- Regional Consultation meeting with SEE Key Stakeholders, November, Antalya, Turkey

- ICG-WIGOS-4, February, Geneva, Switzerland
- Meeting of the Task Team on SEB, March, Dublin, Ireland
- South East European Flash Flood Guidance System Steering Committee meeting, March-April, Skopje, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Workshop on Drought Management Center SEE future activities, April, Bucharest, Romania
- Planning workshop on the establishment of a regional flash flood guidance system for Central Asia, May, Ankara, Turkey
- MedCOF Scoping Meeting, June, Madrid, Spain
- Training Workshop for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services on Designing Socio-Economic Benefits Studies of Meteorological/Hydrological Services and Products for Members of Regional Association VI, June-July, Zagreb
- First Central Asia Region Flash Flood Guidance system Steering Committee Meeting, September, Astana, Kazakhstan
- Common Alerting Protocol Jump-Start Workshop and CAP Implementation Workshop, September, Rome, Italy
- INTAD-6 Workshop on Strengthening Cooperation among NMHSs and WMO, September, Alanya, Turkey

- WMO Training Development Workshop for Region VI, September –October, Warsaw, Poland
- Regional Consultation meeting on climate services in the North-Eurasian countries,
 October, Sochi, Russian Federation
- 37th meeting of the European Working Group on Limited Area Modelling and 22nd Short Range Numerical Weather Prediction meetings, October, Belgrade,
- RA VI Training Workshop on WMO Integrated Global Observing System, November, Belgrade, Serbia
- Workshop on Flood Risk Management measures & links to EU WFD, November, Zagreb, Croatia
- First Expert Meeting and Workshop on the health impact of airborne dust for Africa/Middle-East, November, Amman, Jordan
- MEDARE Homogenization Workshop in support to Climate Watch activities, December, Tortosa, Spain
- CBS/OPAG-PWS ICT/PWS, December, Dublin, Ireland

- ICG-WIGOS-5, January, Geneva, Switzerland
- Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project Central Asia, Workshop on Forecasting and Public Weather Services for Forecasters and Users from Central Asia, February, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Copernicus Climate Change Service C3S User consultation workshop, March, Brussels, Belgium
- South East Europe Flash Flood Guidance System Follow up Operational Workshop, May, Zagreb, Croatia
- Regional training on Quality Management Framework for Blue Peace in Lebanon and Jordan, May, Beirut, Lebanon
- First Steering Committee Meeting of the Black Sea and Middle East Flash Flood Guidance System, June, Tbilisi, Georgia
- Second PannEx Workshop on the climate system of the Pannonian basin, June, Budapest, Hungary
- WIGOS Workshop for RA VI with focus on Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Observing Requirements, September, Split, Croatia
- Flooding in the Greater Horn of Africa, September, Wilton Park, United Kingdom
- RA VI Workshop on hydrological modelling, forecasting and warnings, September, Oslo, Norway
- Kick off meeting of the Interreg Central Europe Proline-CE (Best practices and management of river basins, September, Munich, Germany
- 28th Session of Interstate Council on Hydrometeorology of the Commonwealth of Independent States, October, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- Regional Stakeholders Workshop to Implement the WMO Strategy for Service Delivery for NMHSs in South-East Europe, October, Tirana, Albania
- Third Meeting of the Council of the South East European Consortium for Operational Weather Prediction, October, Belgrade, Serbia
- Workshop on RA VI RCC Implementation and RA VI RCC-Network Coordination meeting, October, Belgrade, Serbia
- Joint visit of SG and PRA VI to the European Commissioner, November, Brussels
- Pre-COF training, November, Rome, Italy
- EFAS Annual meeting, Sevilla, Spain

• Workshop on Agrometeorology for Farmers in Hotter, Drier and Wetter Future, November, Ljubljana, Slovenia

2017

- ICG-WIGOS-6, January, Geneva, Switzerland
- South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System, Forecaster's Workshop, February, Skopje, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- South-East European Multi-Hazard Early Warning Advisory System, Numerical Modelling Workshop, March, Budapest, Hungary
- Third PannEx workshop on the climate system of the Pannonian basin, March, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- Training Workshop on Satellite data and products for Drought Monitoring and Agrometeorology, April, Budapest, Hungary
- The second Steering Committee Meeting and Step 5 training, April, Amman, Jordan
- OSCAR/Surface Training Course in RA VI, May, Offenbach, Germany
- Multi-Agency meeting of the Istanbul Urban Flash Flood Early Warning System, August, Istanbul, Turkey
- Multi-Agency meeting of Harsit Riverine Routing of the Black Sea Flash Flood Guidance System, August, Trabzon, Turkey
- The Fifth European Communications Workshop for NMHSs, September, Dublin, Ireland
- South East Europe Flash Flood Guidance System Second Steering Committee Meeting, September, Podgorica, Montenegro
- International workshop on Middle East (Regional) Dust Sources and Their Impacts, October, Istanbul, Turkey
- Sixth Training Course on WMO Sand Dust Storm-WAS Products, October, Istanbul, Turkey
- Joint RA II and RA VI Workshop on WIGOS, October, Minsk, Republic of Belarus
- Central Asia Region Flash Flood Guidance System Follow-up Operational Workshop, October-November, Astana, Kazakhstan
- Regional Workshop on Aircraft meteorological Data Relay for Eastern Europe, December, Budapest, Hungary
- CBS/OPAG-PWS/ICT, November, Beijing, China

2018

• ICG-WIGOS-7, January, Geneva, Switzerland

(4) Other activities

2013

- IPA 2012 Project "Building Resilience in Western Balkans and Turkey" Kick-off Meeting/Steering Committee Meeting, September, Zagreb, Croatia
- INTAD-6 meeting, September, Helsinki, Finland

- 25th ICCED Meeting, March, Munich, Germany
- Informal Conference of South-East European Directors of NMHSs (ICSEED), April, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

- 13th ICSEED Session, April, Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Third WMO / UNISDR Project Steering Committee Meeting, October, Ankara, Turkey

2015

- 26th ICCED Meeting, April, Vienna, Austria
- Regional Pyrheliometer Comparisons of all WMO Regions, September, Davos, Switzerland
- 14th ICSEED Session, November 2015, Bucharest, Romania
- WMO-EUMETNET working visit of the WMO and EUMETNET delegation to the Republic of Belarus, December, Minsk, Republic of Belarus

2016

- 27th ICCED Meeting, April, Bucharest, Romania
- 15th Session ICSEED, October, Zagreb, Croatia
- WMO RA VI-Roshydromet-EUMETNET meeting, October, Moscow, Russian Federation

- 125th Anniversary of meteorological measurements and hydrometeorological service in Bosnia and Herzegovina, March, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 25th Anniversary of the establishment and work of the Rep Hydrom Service of the Rep of Srpska, April, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- 28th ICCED Meeting, April, Budapest, Hungary
- 80th Anniversary Celebration of the Israeli Meteorological Service, September, Bet Dagan, Israel
- 15th Session ICSEED, October, Belgrade, Serbia
- Sixteenth session of the Informal Conference of South-East European NMHSs Directors, October, Belgrade, Serbia