

# Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress

Geneva

25 May–12 June 2015

Abridged final report with resolutions

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## Resolution 51 (Cg-17)

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME

THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS,

**Noting** Resolution 31 (Cg-XVI) – Education and Training Programme,

**Considering:**

- (1) That education and training in meteorology, hydrology, climatology and related disciplines is a major cross-cutting activity of WMO that has made, and has the potential to continue to make, positive impacts on the products and services provided by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs),
- (2) That high-quality, initial and ongoing education and training of staff are critical to ensuring the required effectiveness of NMHSs and thus fundamental to the successful implementation of the various WMO Programmes,
- (3) That each of the high-priority areas identified in the WMO Strategic Plan 2016–2019 has elements related to education and training,
- (4) That the need for specialists in the application of meteorology, climatology and hydrology in support of the United Nations sustainable development goals and social and economic progress remains acute in many developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States,

- (5) That the Education and Training Programme (ETRP) is a component of the WMO Capacity Development Strategy that assists NMHSs in their human resources development with due attention to their development status and to gender equity,

**Noting** that whilst WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs) are the backbone of the institutions providing education and training for Members, many other WMO recognized centres such as Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), Global Information System Centres (GISCs), Regional Instrument Centres (RICs) and the WMO-Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) Virtual Laboratory for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology (VLab) all provide specialist education and training to Members,

**Decides:**

- (1) That the major thrust of the Education and Training Programme should continue to be directed towards assisting the NMHSs of Members to develop competent and qualified staff by ensuring the availability of quality-assured education and training opportunities to enable them to effectively meet their relevant national, regional and international obligations and challenges;
- (2) That the main strategy of the Programme to achieve this goal is to collaborate with national and international partners, WMO-RTCs, training institutions, schools, universities, media, and public and private sectors in order to assist NMHSs to meet their education and training needs using traditional and distance-learning methods in the most cost-effective manner;
- (3) That special emphasis should be placed on promoting and supporting the exchange and sharing of training publications and resources, training approaches and expertise between Members;
- (4) That the Programme should contribute to the WMO Strategy for Service Delivery, the WMO Capacity Development Strategy and the Global Framework for Climate Services;

**Urges** Members:

- (1) To collaborate in, and give all possible support to, the implementation of the WMO education and training activities, in particular by sharing national education and training opportunities and resources with other Members;
- (2) To strengthen their national capacity in the attainment of self-sufficiency in meeting their education and training needs and be gender-sensitive in developing and delivering their human resources programmes, including through enhanced application of distance learning;
- (3) To make maximum use of the training opportunities offered by the WMO-RTCs for the training of personnel and to support those centres to become more efficient and focused on meeting regional education and training needs and the needs of other Regions under request;
- (4) To ensure that their recruitment and continuous professional development activities take into account the qualification and competency requirements outlined in the *Technical Regulations* (WMO-No. 49), Volume I;

**Urges** Members hosting WMO Centres such as RCCs, GISCs, RICs and the component institutions of the WMO-CGMS VLab to continue their contribution and support for education and training of Members in line with the goals and objectives of the ETRP;

**Invites** the presidents of regional associations and technical commissions:

- (1) To regularly review the education and training needs within their Regions or commissions including needs assessment and training requirements, peer-review monitoring and evaluation, with the aim of prioritizing regional and specialized training needs of Members;
- (2) To ensure that RTCs have a regional outlook, particularly in the selection and delivery of meteorological, climatological and hydrological courses;
- (3) To improve coordination of ongoing activities within and between Regions and within relevant subject areas;
- (4) To encourage and support dialogues between WMO-RTCs, the countries hosting WMO-RTCs and their respective regional associations as required, under the revised Executive Council criteria for the recognition and reconfirmation of WMO RTCs, with the objective to further develop those centres within the context of addressing the needs of Members in the WMO high-priority areas;

**Requests** the technical commissions to give high priority to the development and review of competence standards and requirements within the area of responsibility of each of the commissions, in conjunction with the ETRP, with the aim of ensuring that the service needs of Members continue to be linked with the technical standards, requirements and recommendations of the commissions through education and training;

**Requests** the Executive Council:

- (1) To take all necessary actions to enable the Education and Training Programme to meet its objectives under the WMO Strategic Plan 2016–2019 and beyond;
- (2) To give high priority to ensuring effective overall coordination and leadership of the Programme and ensure that WMO standards are maintained;
- (3) To continue to draw fully on the advice and assistance of experts in meteorological, climatological and hydrological education and training in the further development of the Programme;
- (4) To further elaborate on the proposal to undertake a feasibility study into the WMO Global Campus involving a consortium of RTCs, NMHSs and other institutions developing and delivering courses to assist Members in meeting their education and training requirements, particularly the consideration of strengthening the ability of RTCs to contribute to and benefit from the WMO Global Campus;
- (5) To continue to develop, supported by the Programme, more detailed guidance on competency assessment to assist Members to adapt, implement and assess the competence standards and requirements in a consistent manner;

**Requests** the Secretary-General:

- (1) To support education and training activities as one of the top WMO priority areas;
- (2) To continue to collaborate closely with Members and facilitate collaboration between Members to ensure the effective implementation of the WMO education and training activities;
- (3) To continue to provide assistance and advice on the education and training, and qualification and competence requirements, of NMHS staff, as well as on the training tools, materials and methodologies suitable for use by WMO-RTCs and national training institutions of NMHSs, particularly those from developing countries;

- (4) To maintain close liaison with the Standing Conference of Heads of Training Institutions in all areas of interest to education and training development and delivery, particularly with respect to the effective use of distance-learning technologies;
- (5) To support the promotion of varied training solutions and methods in education and training through the provision of the necessary resources for their implementation and further development of the WMO Global Campus feasibility study;
- (6) To support the requests of Members for education and training assistance in meteorology and hydrology, including through multilateral arrangements;
- (7) To undertake active mobilization of extrabudgetary resources so as to meet the growing demand for education and training fellowships.

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**Note:** This resolution replaces Resolution 31 (Cg-XVI), which is no longer in force.

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