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SECOND MEETING OF THE  
RA VI MANAGEMENT GROUP

ITEM 4.2

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GENEVA, 17-18 FEBRUARY 2010

**RA VI WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGY**

**PROPOSAL FOR NOMINATION OF MEMBERS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF  
TASK TEAMS**

**1. PROPOSED MEMBERS OF WG/CH**

**Co-chair for climate:**

Anahit Hovsepyan, Armenia

**Co-chair for hydrology:**

Markku Puupponen, Finland

**Core Members (Climate):**

Task leader (TT-RCC)  
ECSN partnership, DARE, RCC  
Climate Change  
RCOF (TT leader)  
Data Rescue (TT leader)  
Drought Management (TT leader)  
Agrometeorology (TT Leader)

Dmitry Kiktev, Russian Federation  
Aryan van Engelen, Netherlands  
Mathew Collins, UK  
Roxanna Bojariu, Romania  
Manola Brunet, Spain  
Ali Umran Komuscu, Turkey  
Stelios Pashiardis, Cyprus

**Core Members (Hydrology):**

Task leader (TT HMETRY)  
CHy AWG member  
CHy AWG member  
Task leader (TT FFV)  
Task leader (Climate and Water)  
Task leader (Water Resources Assessment)  
Task leader (TT WSD)  
Task leader (TT PEF)  
Task leader (TT HMWS)

Dominique Berod, Switzerland  
Zsuzsanna Buzas, Hungary  
Ann Calver, UK  
Ilmar Karro, Sweden  
Esko Kuusisto, Finland  
Antonio Mestre, Spain  
Giuseppina Monacelli, Italy  
Bogdan Ozga-Zielinski, Poland  
Caroline Wittwer, France

## **2. TASK TEAM - CLIMATE**

### **2.1 Task Team on Regional Climate Centres (TT/RCC)**

The structure and functions of RCCs shall meet general requirements described in the Guidance on Establishment and Designation of WMO RCCs. Nevertheless the RCCs vary from region to region. The RA VI RCC Network in its initial phase consists of 3 nodes: RA VI RCC node on climate data, RA VI RCC node on climate monitoring and RA VI RCC node on Long-Range Forecasting. Each node is composed of a consortium led by a lead institution(s).

The pilot RA VI RCC-Network will be implemented until the end of 2010 with the proposed initial structure (noting the consortia of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in each node, and lead centres). The official designation of the RA VI RCC Network is planned in the course of 2011.

According to the Resolution 1 (XV-RA VI) the RA VI Working Group on Climate and Hydrology shall assist the president of RA VI on all matters related to RCC implementation. With this purpose the Task team on RCC is proposed, it will coordinate and control RCC related activities in the Region and report to the RA VI President and the MG on the implementation of the RCC Network.

#### ***Proposed Terms of Reference of the TT/RCC***

- (1) To coordinate activities of the RA VI RCC-Network under the guidance of the President of RA VI and the RA VI Management Group;
- (2) To define and enliven the interfaces amongst the RCC nodes;
- (3) To enlarge the RCC Network services;
- (4) To consolidate the RCC Network services through 2010;
- (5) To monitor progress in implementation of RCC-services in RA-VI;
- (6) To analyse requirements and feedback on effectiveness, gaps and improvement of RCC-services in RA-VI, to address the identified issues;
- (7) To contribute to the analysis of RCC needs for global LRF products and to provide feedback to GPCs;
- (8) To compile and publish catalogue of available products and services provided via RA VI RCC-Network web-portal;
- (9) To contribute to WG CH annual progress reports;
- (10) To mandate the RA VI President to apply for official WMO designation of the RA VI RCC Network in 2011. To assist the President of RA VI on all matters related to RCC implementation.

#### ***Deliverables:***

- A statement on revised RCC requirements for the forthcoming ET ELRF meeting – 2010 (time and venue of the forthcoming ET ELRF meeting to be specified);
- Draft information letter on behalf of RA VI President, about the climate products made available via the RA-VI RCC-Network web-portal to RA-VI NMHSs - 2010;

- Draft letter of RA VI President addressed to WMO on the official designation of the RA-VI Network (According to Annex 5 of the WMO Guidance on Establishment and Designation of WMO Regional Climate Centres (RCCs)) - 2011.

***Proposed TT/RCC members:***

Stefan Rosner, Germany	Chair of TT
Aryan van Engelen, Netherlands	Lead RCC node on climate data
Stefan Rosner, Germany	Lead RCC node on climate monitoring
Jean Pierre Ceron (France), Dmitry Kiktev (RF)	Lead RCC node on LRF

**2.2 Task Team on Drought Management (TT/DM)**

It is stated in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that nearly all European regions are to be adversely affected by future impacts of climate change. These include for much of Europe, higher temperatures and more severe summer droughts, which are expected to reduce water availability and agricultural production, as well increase health risk due to heat-waves and the frequency of wildfires. In past decades the drought related damages have had considerable impact on the economy and welfare of several European countries, particularly in Mediterranean region and South Eastern Europe. Therefore the need to coordinate and facilitate drought management through drought risk assessment, monitoring and development of drought preparedness and mitigation measures became evident.

An Inter-Regional Workshop on Indices and Early Warning Systems for Drought was held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln from 8 to 11 December, 2009. The workshop reviewed the drought indices currently in use in different regions of the world to explain meteorological, agricultural and hydrological droughts, assessed the capacity for collecting information on the impacts of drought, reviewed the current and emerging technologies for drought monitoring and finally discussed the need for commonly agreed standard indices for describing different types of droughts. The Workshop further emphasized the need for coordination between data monitoring agencies to facilitate effective decision making. The workshop came to a consensus that the Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) be used to characterize the meteorological droughts around the world.

The Task Team on Drought Management is aimed to provide drought monitoring, and assessment, taking into consideration recommendations and conclusions reached at the Lincoln workshop. It has been urged to apply integrated approaches to meteorological, hydrological and agricultural droughts. Therefore the strengthening of cooperation between meteorological and hydrological services at national and regional level is indispensable.

***Proposed Terms of Reference of the TT/DM***

- (1) To review and evaluate drought monitoring capacities in RA VI countries;

- (2) Make recommendations on addressing the needs for capacity building in RA VI countries, pertinent to drought monitoring;
- (3) To develop and provide guidelines on the implementation, use, and evaluation of Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI) in drought monitoring;
- (4) To explore and propose effective ways of exchanging drought information (alerts) among RA VI countries prior to expected and evolving dry conditions and during the periods of drought events, in order to provide valuable decision-making information for policy-makers;
- (5) To identify and report on the scope for, and implementation of integrated drought monitoring approach in RA VI countries with respect to water resources and agriculture;
- (6) To propose ways for ensuring effective cooperation of NHMSs with other international and regional bodies involved in drought assessment and mitigation, particularly through Drought Management Centre for South East Europe (DMC/SEE);
- (7) To submit reports in accordance with timetables established by the OPAG Chair and/or Management Group.

***Deliverables:***

- Develop a region-wide drought monitoring and assessment capability
- Liaise closely with hydrology sector on development of integrated drought management system

***Proposed TT/DM members:***

Chair: Ali Umran Komuscu, Turkey (from the list of nominated experts)

Members: Peter Bissolli, Germany  
 Dr. Giorgos Kallis, Spain  
 Gregor Gregoric, Slovenia

**2.3 Task Team on Data Rescue (TT/DARE)**

Data rescue and digitization of old climate records is still a challenging topic for many NMHSs in developing and least developed countries and needs further attention by the Members. It is necessary to increase the support and provide guidance to the Members to save the old climate records and make them available for research and applications in the digitized electronic format.

The Task Team on Data Rescue will assist in mobilizing resources and providing guidance on the data rescue efforts based on the identified needs of the Members in the Region.

***Proposed Terms of Reference:***

- (1) Inventorying available digital climate data through European NMHSs, repositories/projects (e.g. ECA&D, EMULATE, CIRCE) and Agencies (e.g. EUMENET, DWD);

- (2) Assessing/approaching historical data sources and holders counting with old climate data and targeting key records;
- (3) Mobilizing resources for undertaking integrated DARE projects, including digitization and homogenization;
- (4) Prioritizing and undertaking integrated DARE projects;
- (5) Developing high-quality and homogenized long climate records.

***Deliverables:***

Set up mechanisms similar to MEDARE (Mediterranean Data Rescue) initiative (or its extension to other sub-regions), with a Web-based data and metadata Portal.

***Proposed TT/DARE members:***

Chair: Manola Brunet, University Rovira i Virgili, Tarragona, Spain

Members: Aryan van Engelen, Netherlands  
Miroslaw Mietus, Poland

**2.4 Task Team on Regional Climate Outlook Forums (TT/RCOF)**

(Information to be provided at the meeting)

**2.5 Task Team on Agrometeorology (TT/AGM)**

(Information to be provided at the meeting)

### **3. TASK TEAMS – HYDROLOGY**

#### ***Background***

As the Working Group on Climate and Hydrology will only be able to meet annually or even more infrequently, it will be necessary to arrange joint meetings of all Task Leaders at the same time. This gives a strong motivation to include all Task Leaders into the Working Group. Also the objectives to act dynamically and have a good coordination between the hydrological, climate and other meteorological communities strongly support this concept. The role of European Commission for Hydrology AWG members is also extremely important from the point of view of effectiveness and regional and global coordination.

If it will be necessary to limit the travel costs covered by WMO, the first priority is to cover a part of the travel cost by using national funding.

If it will be necessary to limit the number of Core Group hydrology experts due to internal balance of the WG-CH, invitations to the actual Core Group meetings will be sent to a given number of experts, chosen from the above set.

#### **3.1 Task Team – Hydrometry (TT/HMETRY)**

TT Leader: Dominique Berod, Switzerland

#### **3.2 Task Team – Flood Forecasting and Warnings (TT/FFW)**

Task leader: Ilmar Karro, Sweden

#### **3.3 Task Team – Potential Extreme Floods (TT/PEF)**

Task leader: Bogdan Ozga-Zielinski, Poland

#### **3.4 Task Team – Water Scarcity and Drought (TT/WSD)**

Task leader: Giuseppina Monacelli, Italy

#### **3.5 Task team – Hydro-Meteorological Early Warning System (TT/HMEWS)**

Task leader: Caroline Wittwer, France