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 SECOND MEETING OF THE  
RA VI MANAGEMENT GROUP

ITEM 4.3

GENEVA, 17-18 FEBRUARY 2010

Original: ENGLISH

**RA-VI Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership****Concept for the Establishment of Task Teams, Draft Version 11 February 2010**

Chair:	Axel Thomalla – Germany (nominated)
Vice-Chair:	Keith Groves – UK (nominated)
Core Members:	
TT on Service Appl. and Improv.	Keith Groves – (UK, available for nomination)
TT on Media and Communication	Lucasz Legutko – (Poland, available for nomination)
TT on Warning Services	N.N. (someone from Austria?)
TT on Socio Economic Benefits	N.N. (Finland requested)
TT on DRR and Cooperation	N.N. (someone from SEE)
TT/Coordinator on EU and Partnership	N.N.

**1) Task Team on Service Applications and Improvement****Concept:**

It is important that the products and services provided by National Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services (NHMSs) are those required by the users and not those that the NMHSs think they require. Improving services in the Region and assessing the needs of the public and the different user groups are ongoing tasks. Furthermore, the methods and results of verification should be taken into account to create reliable and user-oriented forecasts and warning services. The learning through doing concept (LTD) provides a training method which could help to improve the capacity in service delivery in the field of user-provider relationship. Proposals and recommendations should be developed showing how the LTD concept could be introduced for related projects or initiatives in the Region.

**Proposed Tasks:**

- Explore weather, climate and water-related service delivery needs in RAVI NMHSs and advise on how to meet the users needs
- Introduce the “Learning Through Doing” (LTD) concept in Region VI (user/provider relationship)
- Advise on objective verification methods

- Keep under review the regional developments in aeronautical and marine meteorology

**Draft deliverables:**

- (i) Keep the region informed on weather-related service delivery needs
- (ii) Develop documentation and advice on the implementation of best practices in the Region, containing information on:
  - Liaison between NMHSs and the media and other agencies involved in the dissemination of forecasts and warnings;
  - Co-operation of NMHSs and civil protection authorities during crisis situations;
- (iii) Review LTD concept
- (iv) Develop proposals and recommendations for possible LTD projects in the Region
- (v) Share experience and develop recommendations for RA VI on how to benefit from procedures for verification of public forecasts including warnings in a PWS perspective
- (vi) To report to and liaise with the CAeM MG and AVIMET on progress and issues associated with the implementation of user, regulatory and regional ATM requirements;
- (vii) To report to and liaise with JCOMM on progress and issues associated with the implementation of user, regulatory and regional marine requirements.

**2) Task Team on Media and Communication**

**Concept:**

The most important task of NHMSs is to provide reliable and effective weather information and related products and services to ensure the safety of life, protection of property and the well being of their citizens. To achieve this objective it is imperative that there be effective cooperation between a given National Meteorological Service and local, national and international media. As the media is the most important source of information for the public to learn about science and technology helping science journalists to produce factual, intelligible and timely information is critically important to society. Furthermore, media has a prominent role in influencing stakeholders and public perception. As a consequence, an efficient and successful communication strategy is indispensable for a modern NHMS. During the RAVI MHEWS Training Workshop in Pula (October 2009) it became apparent that some Services especially in the developing part of the region would appreciate to obtain guidance on this issue.

**Proposed Tasks:**

- Improve communication technologies
- Improve NMHS communication with media and the public
- Explore how to measure public perception

**Draft deliverables:**

- (i) Address the question of how to deal with the media in order to ensure better and more accurate communication of probabilistic forecasts
- (ii) Develop a communication guideline which can be used as a template for heightening the visibility of NMHSs within the Region
- (iii) Develop recommendations for a proactive press relations concept with special emphasis on modern communication technologies
- (iv) Address the question on how to optimize the communication strategies of NMHSs in countries with developing weather markets
- (v) Share experience on how to measure public perception of both warnings and forecasts, with the aim to provide guidance and advice to the Members

### 3) Task Team on Warning Services

#### **Concept:**

Since the general public and disaster management authorities expect to be warned of any natural disaster and severe weather situation, the issuance of timely warnings is a core task of highest priority for every NHMS. The EUMETNET Programme EMMA developed METEOALARM which provides a unique platform to inform the public about expected severe weather phenomena in about 20 European countries. Even though warning criteria refer to national regulations and experiences and differ from country to country a cross-border exchange of warnings between neighbouring countries will improve the forecast and warning process. In the light of this it should be assessed whether additional RA VI Members are able and willing to join METEOALARM. In addition, a better understanding and usage of RSMC guidance products, (freely) available ECMWF forecasts and severe weather guidance will lead to an enhancement of the warning management capabilities especially in the less developed parts of the region.

#### **Proposed Tasks:**

- Monitor cross-border exchange of warnings
- Examine how to extend Meteoalarm to all RAVI Members and other WMO Regions
- Analyse possible improvements of warning capabilities

#### **Draft deliverables:**

Continue to monitor METEOALARM (EMMA) developments to be able

(i) to ensure cross-border exchange of warnings on a continuous basis and

(ii) to advise on how to best include Meteoalarm cross border advisory capabilities.

(iii) Analyse opportunities for extending METEOALARM to neighbouring countries of the Region

(iv) Analyse possible improvements of warning capabilities of NMHSs of the Region for the scope of RSMC guidance products for warning services and ECMWF forecast and severe weather guidance

In close liaison with EMMA METEOALARM, analyse

(v) opportunities and preconditions for RAVI Member to join METEOALARM

(vi) the willingness of potential NMHSs to join

(vii) possible partners to support the process

### 4) Task Team on Socio Economic Benefits

#### **Concept:**

Weather, climate, water and related phenomena have an impact on every member of society and every sector of the economy (see Madrid Conference, March 2007). Most meteorological core services refer to the statutory tasks and are therefore funded by the government. The evaluation of the socio-economic benefit (SEB) is of great importance since this enables NMHSs to inform governments and stakeholders generally about the immense societal benefits that flow from their investment in the global meteorological and hydrological infrastructure supporting the provision of meteorological and related services at the national level in every country. The Madrid action plan (MAP) therefore encourages the NMHSs and the social science research community to develop knowledge and methodologies for quantifying the benefits of the services provided by NMHSs within the various socio-economic sectors. In particular, it calls to develop new economic assessment techniques including especially techniques of economic assessment for developing and least developed countries. In recent years, studies on the SEB of NMHSs have been conducted in several

countries. The methods applied as well as the results vary widely depending on the question and sectors into which such studies are made. Based on such studies and the results obtained therefrom regional guidance and recommendations should be developed to find out how to measure the SEB and which methodologies should be used.

**Proposed Task:**

- Develop regional guidance on methodologies for assessing socio-economic benefits of Weather Climate and Water services

**Draft deliverables:**

- (i) Review Madrid Action Plan;
- (ii) Analyse and develop an overview over existing studies and methods for assessing socio-economic benefits in the Region
- (iii) Develop a guideline and recommendation on how to measure the socio-economic benefits in the Region

## **5) Task Team on DRR and Cooperation**

**Concept:**

The fact that 90% of disaster events in RA VI are caused by weather-, water- and climate-related hazards clearly shows the necessity to enhance the capabilities of RA VI Members in the areas of multi-hazard early warning and disaster preparedness. With this in mind, several model partnership projects have been developed under the DRR programme with World Bank, ISDR and UNDP in south-eastern Europe and the Caucasus region to enhance the building of DRR capacities on the basis of national developments and a regional co-operation model. To support and improve the process of implementation, it is reasonable to assess effectiveness of the models and provide the project teams with advice. In addition the Task Team should built on the WMO national DRR Survey conducted in 2006 and ongoing initiatives and provide recommendation for concrete areas of regional cooperation among NMHS and Disaster Risk Management networks. This should be coordinated in a crosscutting manner with WMO to help facilitate other relevant DRR projects and developments in the region.

**Proposed Task:**

- Support cooperation model projects with the World Bank, ISDR and UNDP (e.g. SEEDRMAP) in SEE and the Caucasus.
- Develop guidance materials and recommendation on these model projects for scaling up in RA VI and other regions that could benefit from RA VI experiences.
- Identify opportunities for development and utilization of Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate services to support various components of Disaster Risk Management.

**Draft deliverables:**

In liason with WG CH and WG TDI

- (i) Provide technical advice to the development of these model projects
- (ii) Review lessons' learnt from these projects
- (iii) Based on WMO national DRR survey develop recommendation to the RA VI Management Group for scaling up of these projects as relevant to other countries in RA VI
- (iv) Based on initiatives in the region and evaluation pertaining to basic system needs, weather, water and climate information and services, identification of key users, cooperation and service delivery aspects develop a documentation of examples for utilization of Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate services to support various component of Disaster Risk Management (Disaster/climate risk assessment, Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems,

Sectoral planning and the Insurance markets) and report how these examples can be scaled up for the benefit of the region.

## **6) Task Team (or Coordinator) on EU and Partnership**

### **Concept:**

The RA VI Technical Conference in Brussels (16-17 September 2009) aimed at improving the dialogue between the European Commission and international organisations, such as the UN and World Bank on the one hand and RA VI Members on the other. The goal was to discover opportunities for improving co-operation in current and future initiatives to be able to meet the needs of the Region, the Commission or other partners. To achieve this aim, such dialogue has to be continued and strengthened in the long term. This should be done in close liaison with EUMETRep by analysing ongoing EU initiatives and other partner projects with the aim of enhancing infrastructure and improving service provision especially in the less developed parts of the region.

### **Proposed Task:**

- Support participation in initiatives and projects supported by the European Union (EU), which provide opportunities for development and enhancement of the hydrometeorological infrastructure and services in the less developed parts of the Region
- Identify the needs and support the establishment of projects with EU, World Bank and other strategic partners

### **Draft deliverables:**

In liaison with EUMETRep

- (i) take into account results of RA VI TeCo in Brussels
- (ii) analyse and provide advice on existing EU-projects
- (iii) develop a regional scenario of partnership and make proposals for EU supported projects in the Region
- (iv) develop contacts and partnership with other UN organisation through the network of UN agencies represented in Brussels, e.g. the Informal network of UN agencies UNBT (for UN Brussels team).