

XV Session of RA VI – Action List

ITEM	TEXT OF PARAGRAPH OF XV RA VI REPORT AND ACTION REQUIRED	Resp. RA VI	Resp. WMO	Target date	STATUS
3.5	The Association noted that Resolution 11 (EC-LX) of the WMO Executive Council urged the regional associations to prepare , in addition to the Regional Strategic Plans, related Operating Plans that would feed to the WMO Strategic Plan . To that end, the RA VI Strategic Plan includes as Annex C an Action Plan intended to facilitate the implementation. The Association requested the Management Group to develop further the Action Plan with clearly identified work packages and deliverables, as well as, with reference to the necessary human and financial resources.	MG			
3.6	The Association recognized the implementation of the RA VI Strategic Plan as a highest priority task for the coming intersessional period and emphasized that all RA VI Members should work closely together towards achieving the established expected results. To support the implementation, the Members were encouraged to develop their national Action Plans in line with the Regional Strategic Plan. The Association agreed that the strategic planning process should continue during the intersessional period in view of the need to align the Regional Strategic Plan with the new WMO Strategic Plan (2012–2015) to be adopted by the Sixteenth WMO Congress in 2011.	Members MG		WMO Cg- XVI 2011	
3.7	The Association gave full support to the priority issues outlined by the president. It agreed that the systems for observing, recording and reporting of the weather, water resources, ocean, climate and related natural environment should be the subject of continuing improvement and optimization with the aim to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. The Association therefore should rapidly advance the implementation of the WMO Information System (WIS). Also, RA VI should take a leading role in the further development of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and thereby support the WIGOS Pilot Projects and, if appropriate, develop a WIGOS Demonstration Programme for the Region. The Association should become a major contributor to the Global Framework of Climate Services (GFCS). The GFCS should build on the experiences gained from the pre-operational production phase of the RA VI Regional Climate Centres (RCC). In this regard, the Association felt that high priority should be given to the implementation of the RA VI RCC Network.	RA VI; MG WG/CH WG/TDI			
3.8	The Association appreciated the progress made by the NMHSs in the Region with regard to the improved understanding of the needs for hydrometeorological products and services of governmental bodies, economic sectors, media and the general public. To advance further this understanding, the Members should foster new processes and sustain a fruitful dialogue between the weather, water and climate information providers and the users' community. In this regard, the Association should foster studies to demonstrate the socio-economic benefits of meteorological, hydrological and related services to the public, decision-makers and specialized users.	Members			
3.11	In order to meet the increasing demand for more comprehensive services, capacity-building efforts should be strengthened. The Region should capitalize on the already existing WMO Training Centres and on the training opportunities provided by the ECMWF, EUMETSAT and other partners. In addition, the Association should foster the use of electronic training facilities, e.g. EUMETCAL.	MG			

3.12	In order to meet the coming challenges related to the implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan, the Association should establish an adequate work structure consisting of the optimum number of subsidiary bodies focused on key activities and related expected results. The work programmes of these bodies should contain specific deliverables with assigned target dates. The work structure should be flexible to address emerging issues.	MG			
3.13	The WMO Regional Office for Europe should continue playing an important role in the overall work of the Association. The coordination functions of the Office, as the interface between the Members and the WMO Secretariat, should be enhanced and a better use of the available IT opportunities should be explored and utilized.		DRA (ROE)		
4.1.1	The Association noted that the Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) had achieved significant results and benefits for developing countries, underpinned by the GDPFS. It delivered improved warning services through the Public Weather Service (PWS), as shown, for example, in one project in southern Africa and also anticipated through another project for the South Pacific Islands (RA V). The Association requested the relevant RA VI working group to consider developing a SWFDP regional project as a method for enhancing the GDPFS and PWS and further contributing to disaster risk reduction goals in affected countries.	WG/TDI; WG/SDP			
4.1.3	The Association requested Members to provide status information on their respective NWP forecasting systems to the annual report of the “WMO Technical Progress Report on GDPFS including NWP Research”. It was informed that the Secretariat was presently awaiting receipt of submissions for the year 2008. Members were encouraged to include also information on areas of specialized NWP applications, such as, sea-state, air quality, and other environmental predictions.	Members WG/TDI			
4.1.4	The Association encouraged centres providing regional products to make those available at sufficiently high resolution so as to be of benefit to small countries. The Association also noted that some regional products exchanged within the Region did not extend sufficiently far eastwards to encompass those parts of the Region that lie in Central Asia, the Middle East and at times the Balkans, and encouraged Members developing regional products to make them usable for all countries in the Region.	Members hosting centres providing regional products			
4.1.5	The Association noted the significant progress made by Global Producing Centres (GPC) of Long-Range Forecasts, including in RA VI, GPCs Exeter, Moscow, Toulouse, and ECMWF, designated as part of the GDPFS, and requested these centres to collaborate with regional and national climate information and prediction centres to meet their needs. The Association encouraged all GPCs to contribute to the Multi-Model Ensembles (MME) efforts at the Lead Centre for Multi-Model Ensembles, jointly operated by GPC Washington and GPC Seoul, which in turn makes available standard MME products to all WMO Members. The Association further noted with appreciation the progress of the Eurosip multi-model ensemble forecast system, which combines output from Global Producing Centres Exeter, Toulouse and the ECMWF.	Members hosting the GPCs			

4.1.6	<p>The Association urged its Members to continue to contribute to the joint CBS-CCI efforts, in order to ensure successful implementation and operation of Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) and to foster improved coordination of all relevant aspects of climate information and prediction services (monthly, seasonal and longer-term). The Association urged all GPCs to continue and reinforce their inputs to RCCs and Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs) (including data products and predictions, as well as guidance on their effective use), and to provide verification information and advice.</p>	Members; GPCs			
4.1.7	<p>The Association, noting the concern expressed by EC-LXI about ICAO studies on the feasibility of regionalized SIGMET issuance, requested the Secretary-General to keep the Region informed of the planned feasibility study. The Association concurred with EC-LXI that improved coordination and exchange of data relevant to aviation warnings, such as weather radar data, lightning detection and special air reports, would be a pre-requisite for the development of regionally harmonized, seamless warnings as required by ICAO and the aviation industry.</p>		Secretary-General		
4.1.8	<p>Concerning the special situation in the Single European Sky (SES) area, the Association concurred with the Council recommendation that the NMHSs and other aviation meteorological service providers involved, whatever their organizational affiliation and structure, should develop and implement a joint solution for the SIGMET coordination, taking due account of the development of relevant SES Functional Airspace Blocks.</p>	Members			
4.1.13	<p>The Association recalled the expansion of the wave forecast verification scheme to include validation against remotely sensed data, including wave spectra and surface vector wind. It noted with appreciation that JCOMM had established collaborating arrangements with ESA in support of this scheme through the GlobWave project. The Association encouraged its Members to disseminate the data and make maximum use of the verification scheme applications for marine forecasting purposes.</p>	Members			
4.1.16	<p>The Association appreciated the efforts of Members in the successful MAP D-PHASE Project, including the seamless use of nowcasting, high-resolution research models and operational forecast models in both deterministic and ensemble modes. The Association noted the novel efforts on multi-scale verification on a web portal for users and in the driving of hydrological ensemble models by radar precipitation estimates and numerical weather prediction systems. The Association requested that future WMO projects related to flooding in the Region should consider adapting these approaches developed in the MAP D-PHASE.</p>	WG/CH			
4.1.17	<p>The Association welcomed the over-arching strategy developed by CAS through WWRP (including THORPEX), in collaboration with WCRP, to enable the WMO make progress in implementing seamless weather and climate predictions. It encouraged Members, in accordance with the report of the EC Task Team on research aspects of an enhanced climate, weather, water and environmental prediction framework (EC-RTT), to strengthen the cooperation between the weather, climate, water and air quality communities to accelerate the development of environmental predictions, and to facilitate technological transfer between research and service delivery.</p>	Members	CAS		

4.1.18	<p>The Association thanked the many scientists who had contributed, and continued to contribute, their expertise to the ongoing success of the THORPEX programme within the World Weather Research Programme. The Association was particularly pleased with Members involvement from the Region in: (i) the development of the THORPEX Interactive Grand Global Ensemble (TIGGE), which was now providing valuable data for research on ensemble prediction; (ii) the success with the IPY-THORPEX project cluster; and (iii) the completion of the field phases for T-PARC. The Association urged the continued involvement of operational and research scientists from the Region in new and ongoing THORPEX efforts such as:</p> <p>(a) The establishment of the Year of Tropical Convection (YOTC project);</p> <p>(b) Preparations, in autumn 2010 or 2011, for an international field experiment (the THORPEX North Atlantic Waveguide and Downstream impact Experiment – T NAWDEX, to be held in 2012 at the same time as HYMEX) to study disturbances on the North Atlantic waveguide and their downstream impacts over Europe;</p> <p>(c) The continuation of TIGGE research and new efforts such as Forecast Demonstration Projects exploring the concept of a Global Interactive Forecast System (GIFS) and TIGGE-LAM (a limited area modelling version of TIGGE).</p>	Members			
4.1.19	<p>The Association noted that the leadership role of France, Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom in THORPEX, through their continuing financial contributions to the THORPEX Trust Fund. In this regard, the Association urged more Members to commit support to the THORPEX Trust Fund and all Members to consider providing a more effective international structure for European THORPEX activities that includes the establishment of effective links to major regional efforts related to numerical weather prediction.</p>	Members			
4.1.24	<p>The Association gratefully acknowledged the participation of Members of the Region in the IPY-THORPEX cluster, and encouraged a THORPEX Polar project as a legacy of the IPY to continue a focus on improved understanding and prediction of high impact weather over polar regions, the impact of polar process on the global circulation, and advances in data assimilation over polar regions.</p>	Members			
4.2.2.5	<p>The Association appreciated the efforts of the Joint CCI/WCRP-CLIVAR/JCOMM Expert Team of Climate Detection and Indices (ETCCDI) to promote cooperative development of indices on extremes and welcomed the plan to develop guidelines on “Extremes in a changing climate”. It urged Members to promote the use of ETCCDI software and knowledge by NMHSS, Universities and Research Centres and continue their technical and scientific support to the ETCCDI work and projects.</p>	Members			
4.2.2.7	<p>The Association also noted that the outcome of GCOS Regional Workshop for Eastern and Central Europe held in April 2005 on improving observing systems for climate. The Regional Action Plan, published in December 2005, is still pending for implementation. It further supported SBSTA 23 conclusion and urged those Members that have not already done so, to designate GCOS national coordinators and GCOS national focal points.</p>	Members			

4.2.4.2	The Association noted with deep appreciation that the Regional Climate Outlook Forum (RCOF) process has been initiated in the Region, with the organization of SEECOF-1 in Zagreb, Croatia, from 11 to 12 June 2008. The Association thanked the World Bank for its sponsorship of the event and the NMHSs of Croatia, Switzerland, Germany and Slovenia for their co-sponsorship and technical/logistic support. The Association agreed that the RA VI RCOF efforts need to be sustained in the longer term as required, and urged the Drought Management Centre for South-eastern Europe (DMCSEE), South-east European Virtual Climate Change Centre (SEEVCCC) and Members in the subregion to further support the SEECOF process.	Members hosting DMCSEE and SEEVCCC			
4.2.4.3	Noting with appreciation the WMO WCRP IPY Workshop on CLIPS in Polar Regions (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 8–11 September 2008), and the agreement to work towards the establishment of a Polar Climate Outlook Forum (PCOF), the Association urged all Members with interests in the Polar Regions to actively contribute to the relevant efforts to identify the priority user requirements for climate information in these regions.	Members			
4.2.4.3	Noting with appreciation the WMO WCRP IPY Workshop on CLIPS in Polar Regions (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, 8–11 September 2008), and the agreement to work towards the establishment of a Polar Climate Outlook Forum (PCOF), the Association urged all Members with interests in the Polar Regions to actively contribute to the relevant efforts to identify the priority user requirements for climate information in these regions.	Members			
4.2.4.4	The Association expressed appreciation to Members contributing to developing consensus-based updates of El Niño and La Niña issued by WMO. In addition, the Association urged expansion of this process by the CCI and WCRP CLIVAR to include development of updates on other major oscillations that affect climate of the Region.		CCI WCRP CLIVAR		
4.2.4.5	The Association urged all Members in the Region to optimally utilize the products of the network of Global Producing Centres for Long-range Forecasts (GPCs) and the associated Lead Centres, and urged CCI and CBS to promote and guide the uptake of GPC products within RCC, RCOF and NMHS activities for operational climate prediction.	Members	CCI CBS		
4.2.5.3	The Association emphasized on the need to give priority to the establishment of a full-scale RA VI RCC-Network in accordance with the procedures applicable for the designation of RCCs , providing appropriate flexibility to take into account national and regional priorities and capabilities. Accordingly, the Association adopted Resolution 1 (XV-RA VI) – Establishment of a Regional Climate Centre Network in Regional Association VI (Europe) , identifying the content, structure and functions of the RCC-Network nodes in the Region. It also noted the suggestion made by Greece for the establishment of interregional RCCs, including the possibility of an RA I and RA VI network for the Mediterranean region. The Association welcomed the offer of Germany to organise a workshop on Implementation of RCCs with special focus on climate monitoring and climate watch implementation in RA VI in 2010.	WG/CH, Germany			

4.2.6.1	The Association noted with appreciation that RA VI had actively contributed to CLIPS training activities. Members recognized the special and ongoing technical training needs of developing countries in the Region for the provision of a full range of climate predictions and assessments. The Association agreed that the current components of the CLIPS Curriculum needed to be further developed into complete, self-contained modules that could be integrated into regular training activities , and urged Members, CCI and the new RA VI Working Group on Climate and Hydrology to formulate a coordinated strategy to meet this need.	WG/CH	CCI, CLW		
4.2.7.3	The Association recognized the benefits to the Region of the establishment and sustained operation of global and regional mechanisms for climate (e.g., GPCs, RCCs, RCOFs), for improving capability of Members to support adaptation to climate variability and change, in particular to engage in and improve user liaison and development and delivery of products and services to users at national and local scales. The Association therefore urged the Secretary General to strongly promote these mechanisms as part of the overall WMO initiative.		Secretary-General		
4.2.7.6	Recognizing the need to establish a baseline for the extent to which WMO Members are currently engaged in sector-specific activities relevant to Adaptation to Climate Variability and Change, the Association appreciated the on-line survey launched in October 2008 by the WMO Secretariat. The Association noted that the outcomes of the survey would address key gaps and build on current strengths of efforts for adaptation measures. The Association urged all Members to provide the required inputs to make the results comprehensive.	Members			
4.2.8.2	The Association endorsed the overarching outcome of WCC-3 in the form of a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). The Association urged Members to strongly support the follow-up actions of WCC-3, particularly with regard to the further development and implementation of GFCS.	WG/CH			
4.4.4	The Association urged Members to update in a timely and regular manner the designation of their National Focal Points (NFP) on both the RBSN/RBCN (GSN and GUAN) and Weather Reporting, Publication No. 9, Volume A (Observing Stations). It also requested that Members, through their NFPs, make sure that Volume A correctly describes respective national observing stations.	Members NFPs		in a timely and regular manner	
4.4.5	The Association endorsed the proposal from WG-PIW and WG-CRM to set up a Task Team on the redesign of the RBSN/RBCN. The Task Team should be composed of experts from IOS and the climate area and should review user requirements for the basic synoptic and climate observing network of all WMO Programmes, network design activities by EUCOS and NMHSs of the Region and results from Observing System Experiments (OSEs). The Task Team would develop a revised design of RBSN/RBCN, which could be proposed as a WIGOS Demonstration Project of RA VI. It should liaise with CBS-OPAG-IOS and CCI-OPAG Climate Data and Data Management, and report to the RA VI Management Group via the Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation (WG TDI).	MG WG/TDI			

4.4.10	The Association noted the activities carried out by the expert Working Group on Hydrology (WGH) related to the initiation of a joint effort with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) on international standards for hydrological observations and processing, aimed at the compatibility of monitoring results within the framework of the EU Water Framework Directive. It also noted the WMO/FAO framework to develop standards for terrestrial climate-related observations. It is necessary to make an assessment of terrestrial water cycle observations (e.g. snow and ice, surface water and river discharge, soil moisture and ground water) to identify major gaps and development needs in the context of the WIGOS system. This assessment should take into account general WIGOS objectives, technical and scientific aspects and service delivery. Within RA VI, the assessment should be organized in cooperation between working groups (or other bodies) that are responsible for WIGOS development on one hand and hydrology on the other.	WG/TDI WG/CH			
4.4.12	The Association noted that based on the report, Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW): Background, Concept, Status, Next Steps, EC-LXI had requested the preparation of a GCW implementation strategy for consideration by the Sixteenth WMO Congress in 2011. The Association encouraged Members to actively participate in those efforts and provide direct and in-kind contributions to support PORS activities and next step of GCW development.	Members		by the Sixteenth WMO Congress in 2011	
4.4.18	The Association noted that the Executive Council had adopted revised Terms of Reference (ToRs) for Regional Instrument Centres (RICs) and Regional Radiation Centres (RRCs) and that the WMO Congress and Executive Council had requested regional associations to further strengthen RICs/RRCs and to initiate the process of continuous evaluation of RICs and RRCs under their responsibility to verify their capabilities and performance. The Association requested its Members who operate RICs to declare their level of capability under the new ToRs and those who operate RICs and RRCs to carry out periodic evaluations, in liaison with CIMO, if appropriate, and to report their outcomes to the next session of the Association. Taking into account the high level of performance of its RICs and RRCs, the Association requested them to organize capacity-building activities with a view of sharing their knowledge with other Members, in particular, with regard to the procedures to be used for the calibration of meteorological and environmental instruments, and that to consider inviting trainees from RICs of developing countries to help them strengthen their capacities.	RICs RRCs		2010-2013 Report to XVI RA VI	
4.4.22	The Association noted the valuable contributions from RA VI Members and EUMETNET to the development of the Vision for the GOS in 2025, which was approved by EC-LXI. The Association requested its Members to support CBS in developing a new version of the Implementation Plan for Evolution of Space and Surface-Based Sub-systems of the GOS that would incorporate the Vision for the GOS in 2025.	Members	CBS		
4.4.23	Noting the valuable conclusions and recommendations from the Fourth Workshop on the Impact of Various Observing Systems on NWP approved by CBS-XIV, the Association requested major RA VI NWP Centres to continue observing and simulation experiments in order to contribute to the fifth workshop planned in 2012.	RA VI NWP Centres			

4.4.42	<p>The Association noted with appreciation the Integrated Meteorological and Hydrological Network (IMHN) WDP initiated by the Russian Federation and requested that its newly established Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation (WG TDI) collaborate closely with the Russian Federation in the implementation of this WDP. The Association also requested the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring to inform regularly the president of the Association on the progress of the implementation of its WDP.</p>	WG/TDI Russian Federation			
4.4.43	<p>With reference to paragraph 4.4.5 above, the Association agreed to propose a WDP aimed at developing a revised design of RBSN/RBCN for RA VI.</p>	WG/TDI			
4.5.1.3	<p>The Association noted the considerable progress that occurred in the development of WIS and, in particular, the major steps taken towards the implementation of the first operational Global Information System Centre (GISC) in 2009. It expressed great appreciation for the development efforts made by some RA VI Members through participation in national and/or international pilot projects including the considerable investment in the establishment of an RA VI VGISC. It emphasized that all these experiences should be shared among Members planning to be GISCs and/or Data Collection or Production Centres (DCPCs). It urged RA VI Members to focus special efforts and resources on further development of the following key projects:</p> <p>(a) Implementation of operational GISCs: 2009–2011;</p> <p>(b) Implementation of DCPCs, i.e., WIS interfaces at centres with agreed international responsibilities within WMO Programmes for collecting and/or generating related data and products: 2009–2011.</p> <p>The Association emphasized the crucial importance of effective communication and outreach efforts to ensure that the NMHSs understand the WIS and the benefits it would provide to all potential user groups and entities. It urged the Secretariat and the Members involved in the early phase of WIS implementation to invest special efforts to this effect. It requested the Management Group to consider the establishment of a Task Team on WIS Implementation, to address topics related to the Regional Meteorological Data Communication Network, Integrated Global Data Dissemination Service, VGISC and capacity-building, under the Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation.</p>	MG Members			
4.5.1.4	<p>The Association noted the progress made in the development of the comprehensive WIS Project Plan, including an Implementation Plan. It urged RA VI Members and the technical commissions to provide early interaction and contribution at the regional level to the development and consolidation of the WIS Project Plan and WIS Implementation Plan. It expressed its deep appreciation to Members and organizations that had contributed to the WIS Trust Fund. Noting the financial and human resources that were further needed for ensuring the proper development of WIS, the Association invited RA VI Members and partner organizations to continue contributing to the WIS Trust Fund. In noting the contributions made by seconded staff, even for a limited duration, to WMO as a whole as well as to individual Members, the Association encouraged Members to provide suitable staff to the Secretariat through secondments.</p>	Members	Technical Commissions		

4.5.1.5	The Association noted that WIGOS was crucially dependant upon effective WIS support and services, e.g., the specialized data collection means, the generation, collection, management and handling of related metadata and the distribution of and access to the data. It invited RA VI Members to contribute, in coordination with ICG-WIS, the EC Working Group on WIGOS-WIS and relevant activities of the technical commissions, to ensure that the WIS elements and components required for the implementation of the WIGOS pilot projects were developed and coordinated to meet the respective aims and requirements of those projects.	Members			
4.5.1.7	The Association noted the considerable contribution of Members involved in the RA VI VGISC Project and stressed that the support and involvement of all Members in the Region in the WIS development was a crucial factor for ensuring a successful implementation and a shared ownership of the system. It requested its relevant regional working group to take a leading role in the regional WIS planning and development. It emphasized the need for capacity-building in developing countries to enable them to participate in WIS, taking into account the capabilities, opportunities and constraints of the NMHSs of developing countries. Noting the high value of WIS pilot projects, the Association urged its relevant working groups, with the support and coordination of the ICG-WIS, to develop and promote pilot projects that facilitate the introduction of WIS functions and services. It invited NMHSs from developed countries, and in particular those participating in the early phase of WIS implementation, to support and assist in these initiatives.	WG/TDI Members			
4.5.1.8	Noting the progress made in specifying WIS requirements from WMO Programmes, as reviewed in the 'Report on the WIS Rolling Review of Requirements', the Association urged its relevant working groups to actively contribute to the refinement of WIS Rolling Review of Requirements to ensure that the regional programmes requirements on WIS would be taken into account.	WG/TDI			
4.5.1.10	With respect to the Data Discovery, Access and Retrieval services, based on request/reply "pull" mechanism operated essentially through the Internet, that were the salient extension of services that would be provided by WIS, the Association agreed that CBS and the ICG-WIS should urgently develop recommended procedures and practices, based on international standards and current technologies, for adequate authentication and authorization mechanisms to enable and manage the use of the service, at national and international levels, by authorized users.		CBC, ICG-WIS	urgent	

4.5.2.2	<p>CBS-XIV noted that about ten per cent of the surface and upper-air reports from the RBSN stations were received in BUFR form at MTN centres in 2008. EC-LVI noted the continued slow progress in the migration process. As shown by the reports regularly distributed by the Rapporteur on the Regional TDCF Migration Plan, the situation in Region VI was better than in other Regions, but the migration process has not yet been completed. The improved situation in Region VI was particularly due to the active role of the rapporteur in the coordination of the migration process. The Association endorsed the version 1 of the RA VI Regional TDCF Migration Plan recommended by the Working Group on Planning and Implementation of the WWW (WG-PIW) in Region VI. With a view to finalizing and implementing the national plans for the migration in accordance with this regional plan, the Association requested that a Task Team on Regional Migration to TDCF (TT-RMTDCF) be established under the Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation (see agenda item 5.2):</p> <p>(a) To keep updated the Regional Plan for the migration to TDCF;</p> <p>(b) To advise Members of the Region on all aspects related to the migration strategy;</p> <p>(c) To actively support training activities on TDCF in the Region;</p> <p>(d) To liaise with the CBS OPAG-ISS/IPET-DRC.</p>	MG WG/TDI			
4.5.3.6	<p>The last session of the RMDCN Steering Group (Vienna, 2008) noted that several questions concerning the future RMDCN still required attention, such as, the new services that could be offered by the RMDCN and how these services could be implemented, the implementation and operation of the WIS, the impact of the future GISCs and DCPCs on the RMDCN in term of performance and traffic pattern and the need to prepare with ECMWF a new procurement for the RMDCN. The meeting discussed the composition of the Steering Group and recommended that it should take into account the WIS organization and include representatives of known potential GISCs, DCPCs and NCs. Experts from WIS Centres located in other Regions connected to the RMDCN could be invited to assist to the group. Taking into account these considerations, the session requested the Management Group to reinstate the functions of the RMDCN Steering Group should be assigned to a relevant Task Team under the Working Group on TDI.</p>	MG WG/TDI			
4.5.3.12	<p>With respect to the use of the Internet, the Association re-affirmed the importance of CBS updated technical guidance for the efficient use of the Internet with minimized operational and security risks. It emphasized the increasingly important role of the Internet for access to and delivery of a wide range of data and products and for complementing the GTS. With particular importance for smaller NMHSs, the Internet provides the means to use the WIS Data Discovery, Access and Retrieval service. The Association urged all NMCs to implement the required facilities for accessing the Internet, including VPN connections with other WWW centres, in particular the RTHs.</p>	Members			

4.5.3.14	<p>The Association agreed on the following amendments to the Manual on the GTS, Volume II, Region VI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To delete the circuits Moscow–Helsinki, Sofia–Ankara, Sofia–Athens, Sofia–Larnaca, Baku–Tbilisi, Kiev–Kishinev and Kiev–Minsk from the RMTN plan; • To add the circuits Moscow–Almaty, Moscow–Bucharest, Moscow–Kishinev, Offenbach–Belgrade, Sofia–Podgorica and Sofia–Sarajevo into the RMTN plan; • To include Kazakhstan in the zone of responsibility of WMC/RTH Moscow; • To delete “Serbia and Montenegro” from the zone of responsibility of RTH Sofia; • To include Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro in the zone of responsibility of RTH Sofia; • To include the satellite distribution system EUMETCast/BMD-RA-VI into the RMTN plan. 		WMO Secretariat (OBS)		
4.5.3.15	<p>The Association agreed that the RTT and radio-facsimile broadcasts operated in Region VI were no longer required for the distribution of data and products in the Region, in particular due to the fact that the Region was covered by several satellite distribution systems. The Association recommended the deletion of all references to these RTT and radio-facsimile broadcasts in the Manual on the GTS, Volume II, Region VI, in particular in paragraphs 3.7.4 and 3.9 of Part I.</p>		WMO Secretariat (OBS)		
4.5.3.17	<p>With respect to the development of Tsunami Early Warning Systems in several sea and ocean rims (e.g. Caribbean, North Atlantic, Mediterranean), under the mandate of the UNESCO/IOC and in coordination with WMO, EC-LXI re-affirmed the effective capabilities of the WIS-GTS, including the essential operational role of NMCs of NMHSs, as a crucial WMO contribution to the effective exchange and distribution of early warning and related data. EC-LXI was informed of the benefits of using the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP, ITU Recommendation X.1303), which was a content standard designed for all-hazards and all-media public alerting, for the dissemination of weather, climate and water related alerts and warnings. EC-LXI concurred with CBS that wide implementation of CAP would contribute to and facilitate the support of a virtual all hazards network within the WIS-GTS. The Association invited RA VI Members to ensure that the implementation of CAP would bring benefits to all user communities.</p>	Members WG/TDI			

4.5.3.18	<p>The Association acknowledged the distribution of space-based data and products in near real-time through Digital Video Broadcast (DVB) systems within the Integrated Global Data Dissemination Service (IGDDS), as an essential operational component of the WIS architecture. It expressed its appreciation to EUMETSAT for expanding the EUMETCast service over the Region and providing efficient access to a wide range of satellite data and products from EUMETSAT and other operational and R&D satellite operators, as well as to non-satellite data and products from several WMO Members. It also welcomed the MITRA service operated by the Russian Federation over Region VI and part of Region II. The Association stressed the need to ensure end-to-end robustness of these systems and recalled the complementary role in this respect of the GTS and of the Internet to meet the various operational and other needs. It highlighted the need to adopt the WIS metadata standards in order to ensure full interoperability within the WIS and the GEOSS. The Association further noted that the DVB-S dissemination means promoted through IGDDS had the potential to serve a wide range of applications and welcomed the expansion of this concept to other Societal Benefit Areas through the GeoNetCast initiative. It requested the Management Group to consider the establishment of a subgroup on IGDDS as part of a relevant Task Team under the Working Group on TDI.</p>	MG WG/TDI			
4.5.3.20	<p>The Association supported the continuous efforts made in improving Operational Information Services, and encouraged NMHSs in Region VI to access the updated WWW operational information, including WMO Publications Nos. 9 and 47, and monitoring results on the WMO Web server for its use, review and updating. The Association particularly stressed the need to mitigate the deficiencies in updating the Volumes C.2 and D of WMO Publication No. 9, in particular as regards the transmission programmes of satellite distribution systems. It also urged RTHs and other WIS centres to join the pre-operational phase of the Integrated WWW monitoring (IWM), as developed by CBS.</p>	Members WG/TDI			
4.5.3.21	<p>The Association urged Members to further increase their efforts in providing monthly surface reports from all CLIMAT stations in a timely and regular manner as stipulated by WMO regulation standards and practices, as well as, their cooperation in providing historical daily data sets needed for the compilation of the World Weather Records Data Sets.</p>	Members WG/CH			
4.5.4.2	<p>The Association reiterated the importance of the WMO Data Rescue project (DARE) in safeguarding, digitizing and making available historical climate archives for the benefit of the Members in the Region as well as globally. It called on all Members to continue their efforts in accelerating the digitization process of old climate records. In addition, the Association encouraged both existing and future Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) to provide, where acceptable to Members, an alternative secure database system for duplication of Members' data as recommended by CCI. The Association took note with appreciation of the progress in rescuing and digitizing historical climate records in the Region.</p>	Members WG/CH RCCs			
4.5.4.4	<p>The Association noted with appreciation the involvement of the majority of NMHSs in the Mediterranean region in MEDARE and their strong technical support and commitment by providing experts membership in its working structure. The Association urged Members to continue their support to MEDARE and participate actively in collecting the necessary climate metadata needed for the initiative. It also urged Members to work collectively with the Secretariat in order to develop an optimal mechanism for sharing data and information on historical climate records in accordance with WMO Resolution 40 (Cg-XII), as well as, on data exchange and for building technical capacity in the countries in need within the Greater Mediterranean Region.</p>	Members WG/CH	WMO Secretariat (CLW, ROE)		

4.5.5.2	The Association recognized and appreciated the scope of the effort during the International Polar Year to advance understanding and prediction of the components of the Earth System. It requested that RA VI Members continue to exchange appropriate IPY data sets and legacy measurements through the GTS and to archive observations, given that many of the special measurement campaigns were of short duration.	Members			
4.5.5.4	The Association invited the UK Met Office to continue representing RA VI in the INSPIRE work programme and requested the Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation to keep the development of the INSPIRE initiative under review; the establishment of a Task Team on INSPIRE under the WG/TDI was recommended in this regard. Noting that the INSPIRE Directive framework was being passed into national legislations of EU Member countries, it recommended to develop wider expertise in the technical standards underpinning WIS and INSPIRE. The Association also encouraged Members to involve individual experts and their NMHSs as Legally Mandated Organizations (LMOs) and establish a consensus approach through international groups such as EUMETNET and RA VI, which would be recognized as Spatial Data Interest Communities (SDICs).	WG/TDI UK Members			
4.6.2	The Association noted the outcomes of the country-level fact-finding DRR survey conducted in 2006 with 92 per cent response from RA VI, providing a benchmark of NMHSs' capacities, requirements and priorities to support disaster risk management. The Association requested that the results of the survey should be one of the main drivers for the development of the WMO national and regional DRR-related projects undertaken by WMO Programmes, constituent bodies and in cooperation with external partners.		WMO Secretariat (DRR, ROE)		

4.6.4	<p>The results of the country-level survey in RA VI confirmed that over 42 per cent of NMHSs responding to the survey requested guidance on standard methodologies for monitoring, archiving, analysis and mapping of hazards. The Association was informed of initiatives of the Commission for Hydrology (CHy), the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM), the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) and the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) (in collaboration with the Commission for Climatology (CCI) and the Commission for Atmospheric Sciences (CAS)) in developing such guidelines for floods, droughts, storm surges and other meteorological hazards, respectively. The Association was informed of the request of EC-LXI that good practices approach should be followed at the first stage of the work of the technical commissions towards the development of standard methodologies on hazard data, metadata and mapping tools. In this regard, the Association:</p> <p>(a) Emphasized that the guidelines developed by the technical commissions should first be tested and operationalized through national risk assessment and DRR pilots, as appropriate;</p> <p>(b) Noted that guidelines for drought and flood hazard data analysis were being implemented through a WMO/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partnership project funded by the European Commission DG Enlargement for seven countries in South-eastern Europe, under the framework of the "South Eastern Europe Disaster Risk Management and Adaptation Programme (SEEDRMAP)," involving the World Bank, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), WMO and UNDP;</p> <p>(c) Encouraged Members to ensure that their NMHSs establish mechanisms and methodologies for the provision and sharing of meteorological, hydrological, climate hazard data and metadata, analyses, value-added information and technical expertise;</p> <p>(d) Agreed to work with technical commissions and other relevant agencies in matters related to hazards analysis to support risk assessment in RA VI.</p>	Members	Technical Commissions		
4.6.6	<p>The Association noted that some Members were exploring plans for renewing their nuclear energy plants. In this context, NMHSs were requested to contribute hydrometeorological information for improving safety, selection of location and operations of nuclear facilities. Stressing on the need for continuing collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in relation to its current revision of their Safety Guide: "Meteorological and Hydrological Hazards in Site Evaluation for Nuclear Installations", the Association:</p> <p>(a) Urged Members to support the review and update of relevant WMO technical publications, and to arrange training on disaster risk reduction in this area;</p> <p>(b) Requested relevant technical commissions to address this matter, specifically with respect to reviewing WMO Technical Note No. 170.</p>	Members	Technical Commissions		

4.6.7	<p>The Association was informed that 84 per cent of disasters caused by natural hazards in RA VI were linked to meteorological-, hydrological-, and climate-related events. In reference to the outcomes of the country-level DRR survey, the Association noted that over 80 per cent of NMHSs in RA VI considered that upgrading and improving operational forecasting and warning services would enhance their disaster risk reduction capacity within their countries. In light of these needs, the Association:</p> <p>...</p> <p>h) Noted with interest the information provided by the Russian Federation relating to positive experiences in hail suppression using advanced rocket technology and recommended that the Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation studies the new opportunities in that field.</p>	WG/TDI			
4.6.8	<p>Following the request from the Executive Council at its fifty-seventh session, the Association was informed of demonstration projects with a multi-hazard approach and documented good practices, including: (i) the Bangladesh Cyclone Preparedness Programme; (ii) the Cuba Tropical Cyclone Early Warning System; (iii) the France Vigilance System; and (iv) the Shanghai Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and Emergency Preparedness Programme. It appreciated Members' efforts for the documentation of those four cases and the contributions of France for hosting the Second Experts' Symposium on Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS-II), in Toulouse, France, from 5 to 7 May 2009. The Symposium finalized the first guidelines on "Capacity Development in Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems, with Focus on Institutional Coordination, Collaboration and NMHSs," based on lessons learned from those documented good practices and other examples of end-to-end early warning systems. The Association:</p> <p>(a) Reiterated the need to ensure that the guidelines were utilized in training workshops for technical development projects to establish demand for information from NMHSs within the national early warning system and disaster risk management planning and preparedness, and to develop operational collaboration between the NMHSs and disaster management agencies at national level;</p> <p>(b) Noted the cooperation of developed countries in the Region and other Regions to share their good practices and lessons learned, as well as stressed benefits realized by those countries through their engagements in the process;</p> <p>(c) Requested that lessons learned from the application of the guidelines should be documented and shared to facilitate the scaling up to other countries;</p> <p>(d) Noted that the guidelines would be used in the multi-hazard early warning system training workshop in Pula, Croatia, 1–3 October 2009, as part of a WMO-UNDP project funded by the Directorate General Enlargement of the European Commission under SEEDRMAP;</p> <p>(e) Requested the Secretary-General to facilitate documentation of other good practices in multi-hazard early warning systems identified through MHEWS-II and urged its Members to engage partners to support documentation of the good practices, including transboundary collaboration in early warning systems.</p>	Members	WMO Secretariat (DRR)		

4.6.9	<p>The Association recognized the impacts of sand and dust storms on health, transportation, agriculture, and the environment. Thus, the Association noted with appreciation the progress in developing an Implementation Plan for the WMO project on Sand and Dust Storm Warning, Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS) and thanked Members of Region VI for their efforts to develop the regional SDS-WAS node for Northern Africa, the Middle East and Europe. The Association especially thanked Spain for hosting this regional centre and for capacity-building efforts that establishes new dust aerosol optical depth measurement sites in Northern Africa. Furthermore, the Association:</p> <p>(a) Urged Members with operational and/or research models that predict dust content to participate through contributing their forecast products to the regional node in a common format and by making them available to partners in real time;</p> <p>(b) Welcomed the developing partnership between the WMO and the European Space Agency to explore the potential for supporting the WMO SDS-WAS programme in satellite data assimilation, modelling and user-interface activities such as developing and then distributing in near real-time satellite data products tailored to the specific needs of the SDS-WAS community of practice;</p> <p>(c) Urged the cooperation of CAS and CBS so that a rapid transition from research to operational forecasting can occur and the real-time exchange of aerosol observations for data assimilation, nowcasting and verification can be expanded;</p> <p>(d) Supported the Secretariat plans for organizing workshops and training sessions for countries in the Region that are potentially impacted by sand and dust, but do not yet have adequate sand and dust forecasting information.</p>	Members	WMO Secretariat CAS, CBS		
4.6.11	<p>Recognizing that storm surges were not only caused by tropical cyclones but might also be originated by extra-tropical systems and other causes, the Association requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with UNESCO/IOC, to expand and facilitate the development of storm surge watch schemes for regions subject to extra-tropical systems, including parts of RA VI.</p>		Secretary-General in consultation with UNESCO/IOC		
4.6.12	<p>The Association recognized that sea-level observations were critical for enhancing storm surge forecasting and thus contribute to the storm surge watch schemes and tsunami prediction. It therefore requested that efforts be made by all concerned in the Region to ensure that in situ and remote sensed sea-level observations were routinely collected and disseminated via the GTS, in support of coastal marine hazard warning services, including in particular for storm surges and tsunamis.</p>	WG/TDI			
4.6.15	<p>The Association noted the strong linkage between the WMO Severe Weather Information Centre (SWIC) Website and METEOALARM and recognized the importance of this collaboration in contributing to cross-border exchange of warnings. It noted in particular that the SWIC Website had on its front page a prominent link to METEOALARM. It further welcomed the planned developments of METEOALARM as agreed upon during the EMMA Expert Meeting (Geneva, 2009) and requested that a relevant subsidiary body in the new work structure of RA VI in coordination with the Secretariat should ensure that the collaboration between SWIC and METEOALARM was maintained and enhanced.</p>	WG/SDP			

4.6.16	<p>The risks of economic damage associated with hydrometeorological and climate-related hazards can be hedged through weather-indexed and catastrophe insurance markets. The Association noted that several NMHSs in RA VI, such as, Météo-France and the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, have been successfully supporting these markets. The Association was also informed that the SEEDRMAP was also considering establishment of catastrophe insurance mechanisms in South-eastern Europe. In this regard, the Association:</p> <p>(a) Stressed the importance of the collaboration between WMO and agencies, such as the World Bank and World Food Programme (WFP), in developing an action plan to assist NMHSs in developing countries with serving these markets;</p> <p>(b) Requested its Members to regard the emerging requirement associated with these markets as an opportunity to build services through collaboration and provide relevant information to the Secretariat, as appropriate, to assist in determining further activities of WMO in this field;</p> <p>(c) Requested its Members to regard the emerging requirement associated with these markets as an opportunity to build services through collaboration and provide relevant information to the Secretariat, as appropriate, to assist in determining further activities of WMO in this field.</p>	Members WG/SDP			
4.6.17	<p>The Association stressed on the need for enhanced recognition of NMHSs' potential contributions to disaster risk management by their governments that would translate into resources for building and sustaining NMHSs capacities. The Association noted WMO strategic partnerships with agencies, such as the ISDR, UNDP and World Bank and key agencies that influenced national DRR planning and funding. The Association:</p> <p>(a) Requested the Secretary-General to continue efforts in development of partnership projects, noting that the NMHSs involved in these projects need significant technical development and operational partnerships with disaster risk management agencies;</p> <p>(b) Urged the WMO technical programmes, regional partners such as ECMWF, EUMETNET and EUMETSAT and constituent bodies to support these projects, as relevant;</p> <p>(c) Requested the Secretary-General to ensure a coordinated approach engaging all relevant WMO Programmes in these projects.</p>		Secretary-General; WMO Technical Programmes; Regional Partners		
4.6.18	<p>The Association also recognized the importance of WMO contributions in the ISDR System, particularly in the ISDR Management Oversight Board (ISDR-MOB), ISDR Scientific and Technical Committees, as well as WMO's initiatives in support of the ISDR Global Risk Assessment Report 2009. The Association stressed that the primary issue for these efforts was to raise awareness on the role of NMHSs in DRR that could, in turn, result in investments from their governments for strengthening and sustainability of NMHS capacities. The Association urged the participation of the NMHSs in the national and regional DRR platforms, noting the ISDR Secretariat's offer to assist in this regard, as this could lead to securing or increasing the funding for NMHSs through active engagement in the national and regional implementation plans.</p>	Members			

4.6.19	The Association recalled the potential increase in hydrometeorological disasters associated with climate variability and change. The Association stressed the importance of the seamless provision of information from weather to climate (monthly to decadal) time scales for climate adaptation and disaster risk management decision making. In this regard, the Association requested its president in cooperation with the WMO Secretariat and other regional bodies, to facilitate development and implementation of DRR and climate adaptation demonstration projects through coordinated approach.	RA VI President WG/CH WG/SDP	WMO Secretariat		
4.6.20	In light of major developments related to DRR in RA VI, particularly noting the model partnership projects with the World Bank, ISDR and UNDP in South-eastern Europe (SEEDRAMP) and Central Asia and Caucasus, as well as, the new structure of the RA VI Management Group and related working groups, the Association recommended that the RA VI Management Group should consider establishment of a cross-cutting DRR Task Team, with designated experts from all three regional Working Groups. The cross-cutting DRR Task Team would: (i) provide technical advice to the development of these model projects; (ii) review lessons' learned from these projects, and (iii) develop recommendations to the RA VI Management Group for scaling up of these projects as relevant to other countries in RA VI. The Association recommended that the DRR cross-cutting task team could be established under the responsibility of the Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership, but should work closely with the other RA VI working groups on DRR issues.	MG			
4.7.1	The Association requested Members to keep in view the new Policy Framework for Service Delivery that was being developed by the Executive Council Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Service Delivery (EC-WG DRR&SD), as requested by the Executive Council during its sixty-first session (EC-LXI, June 2009). It noted that the Policy Framework would provide guidance to Members for the development of a user-centred approach to service delivery and also assist in raising the profile of NMHSs with policymakers.	Members			
4.7.3	Recognizing the varying national circumstances throughout the Region, the Association stressed on the importance of developing road forecasting services within member states whether as part of PWS activities of Members, or as commercial activities of the private sector or national hydrometeorological services, as would appropriately serve both the travelling public and professionals responsible for road safety and maintenance. In this regard, it requested Members to send examples of how they deliver road forecasting services in their respective countries, to the WMO Secretariat for inclusion in the Public Weather Services Programme (PWSP) Website (http://www.wmo.int/pws/). The aim was to provide information and examples on road weather forecasting as a reference resource for NMHSs wishing to improve their own road weather services.	Members WG/SDP			
4.7.4	The Association recognized the need to further develop the understanding and communication of probabilistic forecasts in a manner that would allow the public understand the forecast confidence and uncertainty. In this regard, the Association requested Members to make full use of the recently published <i>Guidelines on Communicating Forecast Uncertainty</i>, PWS-18; WMO/TD-No. 1422.	Members			
4.7.5	The Association agreed that user-based service assessment is required as an input for product/service improvement and development of new products and services. It therefore requested Members of the Region to improve on verification as a necessity for improving service delivery and supported the effort by the Sub-group on PWS to provide best examples of current verification schemes for warnings within their NMHSs.	Members WG/SDP			

4.7.6	The Association welcomed the recognition by EC-LXI of PWS as the most important vehicle for the communication of outputs of other WMO Programmes and that it should serve all Programmes of WMO as well as NMHSs in the area of service delivery to stakeholders within civil society. It agreed that service delivery should be considered as an essential role of PWS providing the overall mechanism for delivering services to all sectors of society that require services from their NMHS. The Association therefore requested the Secretary-General to assist NMHSs in RA VI to strengthen their PWS Programmes to fulfil this role. The Association also requested that the RA VI Management Group consider establishing a Task Team within the Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership, to specifically address PWS-related service delivery issues.	MG WG/SDP	Secretary- General		
4.7.7	The Association endorsed the efforts by the RA VI Sub-group on PWS to develop Nowcasting services . It noted that this need was clearly expressed by NMHSs of the RA VI through the Survey on Improving the Delivery of Public Weather Services, carried out by the PWSP. The Association requested the WMO Secretariat to consider this stated need when planning the activities of the PWSP in assisting NMHSs of RA VI.	WG/SDP	WMO Secretariat		
4.7.9	The Association was informed of the “Learning Through Doing” (LTD) initiative by the PWSP, which involves assisting NMHSs to improve their communication with users and to produce and deliver an improved range of services according to user requirements. The Association noted the successful implementation of LTD in RAs I and III, and agreed that a similar approach could be useful in the development of road weather services and Nowcasting services. It requested the WMO Secretariat to introduce the concept in Region VI as needed.	WG/SDP	WMO Secretariat		
4.7.10	The Association commended its Members for their support and participation in the WMO Website ‘World Weather Information Service (WWIS), at http://worldweather.wmo.int , which won the Stockholm Challenge Award - Environmental Category in 2008. The Website, which is coordinated by Hong Kong, China, currently provides information in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish and Italian languages. The Association urged its Members to promote the use of the information on the Website, as well as, to increase the number of cities for which they provided forecasts and information for display on the Website.	Members			
4.7.12	The Association noted the increasing demand for seasonal forecasts by the public and other users in the Region. It recommended that attention be paid to developing communication methods for monthly and seasonal forecasts to the public. In this regard, it would be vital to address the question of how to deal with the media in order to ensure communication of forecast trends accurately.	WG/SDP			
4.7.14	The Association recognized the “WMO Forum: Social and Economic Applications and Benefits of Weather, Climate, and Water Services” as a useful mechanism in the implementation of the Madrid Action Plan (MAP) and assisting in the development of the WMO Framework on Service Delivery Policy. It encouraged its Members to support the activities of the Forum aimed at developing service delivery by NMHSs as well as carrying out economic assessment of benefits of services to society.	Members			

4.7.15	The Association endorsed the planned action by the RA VI Sub-group on PWS to develop a methodology for use by NMHSs in RA VI for assessing socio-economic benefits. It noted that the methodology would be very important in enabling many NMHSs, especially those from less developed NMHSs in the Region, to conduct socio-economic benefits assessments. It was pleased to note that the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), the United Kingdom Met Office and MétéoSwiss had carried out such assessments and that their experience and expertise would be vital to the development of the methodology.	WG/SDP			
4.7.16	The Association encouraged its Members to contribute decision-support tools and case studies for uploading on the WMO Social-economic Website, http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/SocioEconomicMainPage.htm. The Website serves as a resource for users including NMHSs, emergency managers, governments, and weather and climate agencies. The Association agreed that the Website was an indispensable instrument in assisting NMHSs to develop capacity to assess, quantify and demonstrate benefits of weather, climate and water services to user sectors.	Members			
4.7.18	The Association observed that training in PWS should be offered to trainees at various levels on a regular basis so that future members of staff of NMHSs attain basic service delivery skills. As a first step, the Association agreed that training of trainers on subjects related to PWS should be included in the curricula of WMO training centres. It therefore requested the WMO Secretariat to take the necessary actions accordingly.		WMO Secretariat		
4.7.19	The Association recognized the importance of direct interaction with and feedback from the marine users and welcomed the results of the JCOMM survey on monitoring the effectiveness of the marine meteorological and oceanographic information produced and transmitted by NMHSs. The results demonstrated the increased demand for user-focused marine meteorological and oceanographic products and services. The Association therefore urged its Members concerned to take the appropriate actions to improve marine meteorological and oceanographic services within their areas of responsibility. The Association also recognized the GMES Marine Core Service development in Europe, which was beginning to provide operational marine and oceanographic information transmitted by a range of service providers including, but not restricted to, NMHSs.	Members			
4.7.20	The Association recalled that forecasts of ocean wave period and probabilistic forecasts of wave height were essential tools in the generation of warnings of remotely generated swell, which was a major marine weather-related threat for the Small Island Developing States (SIDSs), and that advanced centres in the Region made these products freely available on their Websites. It therefore urged the advanced centres to consider providing technical expertise on the use of the data and deterministic and probabilistic wave forecast products in order to assist NMHSs, including Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and SIDSs, to fulfil their duties in Disaster Risk Reduction.	Members with "advanced centres" (?)			

4.7.21	<p>The Association recalled the coordinated initiative by WMO, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) to expand the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) into the Arctic waters. The Association noted that the sixtieth session of the Executive Council (EC-LX, June 2008) had approved the establishment of five new METAREAs for the Arctic region with the same boundary limits as the corresponding NAVAREAs. The Association further noted the commitment by the following NMHSs in the Region to serve as METAREA Issuing Service as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norwegian Meteorological Institute for METAREA XIX; • Roshydromet for METAREAs XX and XXI. <p>Noting that the GMDSS for the Arctic region should be fully implemented by 2010–2011, the Association requested the Norwegian Meteorological Institute and the Roshydromet to report on the progress of the implementation of Maritime Safety Information Services to the next RA VI session.</p>	Norway, Russian Federation		To implement by 2010– 2011 and report to the XVI RA VI session.	
4.7.22	<p>The Association noted with appreciation: (1) the expansion of the GMDSS-Weather Website to include navigational warnings in the various NAVAREAs (http://weather.gmdss.org/navareas.html) and products prepared for the International Navigational Telex (NAVTEX) dissemination (see for example: http://weather.gmdss.org/II.html); and (2) the establishment of the Sea Ice Services Website (http://ipy-ice-portal.com/) for the global sea ice operational information, as an initiative for the International Polar Year (IPY). The Association thanked all the contributors from the Region, particularly Météo-France, which was managing and hosting the GMDSS-Weather Website, and encouraged Members to make optimum use of these tools. The Association urged its Members to ensure the provision of all appropriate metadata in compliance with WIS guidelines and to disseminate the products prepared for the International Navigational Telex (NAVTEX) broadcasting through the Global Telecommunication System (GTS). It also requested the Secretary-General to promote resource mobilization to ensure continued operation and development of these portals.</p>	Members	Secretary- General		
4.7.27	<p>The Association noted Resolution 9 (EC-LXI) in relation to Aeronautical Forecaster and Observer Qualifications and Standards. Several Members in the Region might have some difficulty in demonstrating the required competencies and/or academic qualifications outlined in WMO Publication No. 258 and its Supplement No. 1. Thus, the Association strongly requested that Members in a position to do so, should continue and increase the provision of relevant training material, as well as arrange for national and international seminars and workshops with a view to ensuring that staff can demonstrate the required competencies and qualifications. The Association further welcomed the decision by EC-LXI to update the relevant WMO Regulations in WMO Publication No. 49, Vol. II and requested the Secretary-General to keep them informed of progress in this matter.</p>	Members	Secretary- General		
4.7.29	<p>The Association noted that GURME was participating in the European Commission project, MEGAPOLI (Megacities: Emissions, urban, regional and Global Atmospheric Pollution and climate effects, and Integrated tools for assessment and mitigation). WMO was responsible for the task of implementation of integrated tools in mega cities and for encouraging global connections for this project. The Association recommended that Members support this activity.</p>	Members			

4.7.33	The Association complimented the Chairperson of the RA VI Working Group on Agricultural Meteorology and the members of the group for the activities carried out and for the final technical report. The Association expressed its appreciation to the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU) for hosting a meeting of the working group on 24 June 2009 in Vienna, Austria. The Association recommended that the report of the working group be published by WMO and be widely distributed.		WMO Secretariat (CLW)		
4.7.34	The Association agreed that the application of meteorology to agriculture continued to be of high importance to the Region. The Association noted a proposal for the establishment of four Task Teams to contribute to the work of the Working Group on Climate and Hydrology: Economic Impacts on Agrometeorological Information in Europe; Improving Collaboration between Farming Community and Agrometeorological Services; Standards for Agrometeorological Products; and New Agrometeorological Services Related to Climate Change Impacts, and noting the scarcity of volunteer experts, requested that the Management Group should consider a single Team with very focused terms of reference.	MG			
4.7.35	The Association appreciated holding meetings of CAgM Expert and Implementation and Coordination Teams in conjunction with other institutions or organizations in order to produce quality technical advice in agrometeorology and when applicable disseminate this information through publications. It requested the Secretary-General to continue this collaboration with European institutions, projects, and universities (e.g., COST ACTION, Adaptation of Agriculture in European Regions at Environmental Risk under Climate Change (ADAGIO) and the Central and Eastern Europe Climate Change Impacts and Vulnerability Assessment (CECILIA)).		Secretary-General		
4.7.37	The Association appreciated the funding by the State Meteorological Agency of Spain (AEMET) to support the Roving Seminars on Weather, Climate, and Farmers in West Africa. Over 35 seminars took place from September 2008 to January 2009 in some countries in West Africa. AEMET was currently funding the second phase of the project in 2009 with coordination by WMO and had expanded the seminars to seven more countries. The Association urged Members to fund similar seminars.	Members			
4.8.2	The Association encouraged in particular developing further cooperation with financial institutions, such as the World Bank, and broader 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.	MG	WMO Secretariat (DRA)		
4.8.5	The Association strongly supported the continuation of the EUMETRep programme and agreed that the improved status of the meteorological community among the EU Institutions would require even more intense efforts in the future. It further agreed that, while monitoring potential legislative implications and funding opportunities that may arise through the EU processes would remain a critical activity for the EUMETRep programme, maintaining and further improving this partnership would be very demanding for the meteorological community since it would have to match the expectations created by promoting the numerous capabilities.	WG/SDP	WMO Secretariat EUMETRep		

4.9.2	<p>The Association welcomed the success of, and supported the approach taken by, the Resource Mobilization Office (RMO) and Regional Offices of the DRA in focusing strongly on the establishment of strategic partnerships with key organizations which resulted in an increase in the available development-related resources. The Association encouraged the Secretariat to develop further these partnerships, including with the World Bank (WB), various Directorates of the European Commission, UN System Partners in particular UNISDR, FAO, WFP, and UNDP, Rockefeller Foundation and Regional Economic Groupings and also with WMO Members and the corporate sector for delivery of regional scale development projects. In this respect, the Association noted that financing for new and continuing development projects secured through various modalities with the facilitation of the WMO RMO amounted to more than US\$ 19 million during 2008. These capacity development programmes were delivered in cooperation with WMO Members and with the major partners mentioned above.</p>		WMO Secretariat		
4.9.3	<p>The Association expressed appreciation of the significant and strategic work being supported by some RA VI Members in respect of regional programmes for capacity enhancement of NMHSs in South-eastern Europe, Central Asia, West and East Africa, the Pacific and the Americas, covering some 40 countries. Noting that these regional programmes add significantly to the positive impact of the VCP, the Association urged other Members to work with the RMO to liaise with their aid agencies to seek opportunities for similar national and or regional development projects and programmes.</p>	Members			
4.9.4	<p>The Association recognized the efforts being made by RA VI Members and the Secretary-General to assist NMHSs of developing countries in the Region, and LDCs and SIDS outside the Region in the area of institutional and technical capacity-building. The Association requested the Secretary-General and Members to pursue such assistance that would lead to raising the profile of the NMHSs concerned.</p>	Members	Secretary-General		
4.9.5	<p>Noting with concern that some of the developing countries in the Region, and many outside the Region, do not yet have the full infrastructure, operational facilities and human resources in terms of observing systems, telecommunications and information technology, the Association urged the Secretary-General, Members and development partners to address these priority areas through further coordinated capacity-building initiatives and aid projects. Improved regional infrastructure and services ultimately benefit the economic well being of all WMO Members. It allows better coordination and delivery of data and products thus positively impacting upon the ability of Members to provide relevant services and protect the safety of the community.</p>	Members; Development Partners	Secretary-General		
4.9.6	<p>The Association noted with pleasure the wide range of training activities provided to and by Members in the last four years. It particularly welcomed the activities of the Regional Training Centre in Turkey in providing a wide range of training courses for Members from RA VI and other Regions. The Association encouraged other Members, and organizations such as EUMETCAL and EUMETSAT, to open their training events to all Members from within the Region and where there was capacity, Members outside the Region. The Association was encouraged to learn of the growing use of e-learning in the training activities being offered to and by Members (SATREP Online from EUMETRAIN; UK Met Office Management by e-learning; blended learning courses in aviation forecasting, use of NWP products and application of radar data by EUMETCAL; and the WMO Virtual Laboratory High Profile Training Event). The Association encouraged the Secretary-General, Members and partner organizations such as EUMETCAL and EUMETSAT to strengthen their use of e-learning and support to such activities, particularly in high priority areas such as Aviation Forecasting and Observations, Disaster Risk Reduction, Communications and application of Climate Data and Products.</p>	Members; Partner Organizations	Secretary-General		

4.9.9	The Association appreciated the ongoing actions by the various task teams to document how Members can demonstrate how their staff meets the aeronautical forecaster competences and training standards and requested the Secretary-General to keep Members informed of developments . The Association noted the pro-active approach to these issues being taken by a number of Members (Finland, France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom) and called upon them to continue their valuable assistance to other Members in the region and in other Regions to deal with the issue prior to the November 2013 deadline through the provision of training opportunities and competency assessment material and resources .	Members (Finland, France, Germany, Spain and the United Kingdom)	Secretary-General	November 2013	
4.9.10	The Association recalled the discussion by EC-LXI on enhancing voluntary cooperation activities. While welcoming the trend towards support for major development programmes reflected above, as complementary and significant contributions to development cooperation activities overall, the Association recognized that the VCP (F) and VCP (ES) mechanisms provided valuable and immediate short-term support to countries to maintain operations while developing long-term development strategies. Noting the generally constant level of financial support to these mechanisms, which in real terms constituted a decrease, the Association expressed concern that these mechanisms should not be abandoned by donor Members and urged Members to join, continue and increase their support in these areas which are were a necessary complement to broader development activities .	Members			
4.9.11	The Association further recalled the decision of EC-LXI that after some 40 years in operation, the VCP mechanisms should be thoroughly reviewed by DRA with the assistance of the IPM in the light of changing geopolitical and economic circumstances including the recent global financial downturn. It requested the Secretary-General to look at innovative ways to strengthen the capacity-building activities of WMO over the next biennium with a view to presenting a new concept of effective development assistance to the Sixteenth WMO Congress in 2011 .		Secretary-General	Sixteenth WMO Congress, 2011	
5.1.2.2	The Association, in recognizing the importance of coordinating its activities, agreed to re-establish the MG of Regional Association VI. The RA VI MG was expected to deal with the areas covered by Expected Results 9, 10 and 11, including capacity-building and partnership, as well as, strategic planning issues. The Group would monitor the activities of the subsidiary bodies of RA VI taking into consideration the optimal use of resources to be allocated in accordance with the agreed work programmes and deliverables. The Association noted that the MG should be active throughout the intersessional period and ensure the effective and efficient functioning of the subsidiary bodies. Along with the monitoring functions, the Group should consider proposals and make decisions for the establishment of task teams to address specific priority tasks .	MG			

5.1.3.2	<p>With regard to the future working mechanism of the Association, the Association considered the following general managing principles:</p> <p>(a) The work structure of the Association should be simplified and aligned better with the new structure of the WMO Secretariat to ensure consistent approach in the implementation of the WMO Programmes;</p> <p>(b) The overall goal of the established work structure should be the implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan and related Action Plan. Therefore, the resources should be used in accordance with the established key regional priorities and expected results;</p> <p>(c) The new structure should consist of several core working groups with TORs focused on a subset of Expected Results and related deliverables;</p> <p>(d) The work programmes of the Working Groups should consist of specific tasks designed to implement the Regional Strategic Plan and Action Plan over the intersessional period. The working groups should be given the flexibility to propose to the MG establishment of a manageable number of task teams to address specific tasks, as necessary, for the progress of the work programmes;</p> <p>(e) Cross-cutting issues should be addressed through coordination and collaboration between the working groups, each of them providing the necessary expertise. The coordination process will be facilitated by the MG.</p>	MG			
5.1.3.3	<p>The Association supported the need to align the working mechanism of the Association to the Strategic Thrusts and Expected Results of the WMO Strategic Plan as well as Expected Results of the RA VI Strategic Plan, and agreed to establish the following core RA VI subsidiary bodies:</p> <p>(a) Management Group (MG);</p> <p>(b) Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation (WG TDI);</p> <p>(c) Working Group on Climate and Hydrology (WG CH);</p> <p>(d) Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership (WG SDP).</p>	MG			
5.1.3.4	<p>Members in the Region had been invited to nominate experts to these subsidiary bodies. The core membership of RA VI working groups would be a selected number of nominated experts. The Management Group would review the membership of each of the subsidiary bodies and proposals from the chairs regarding procedures and substructures that would assist in accomplishing the planned tasks.</p>	MG			
5.1.3.5	<p>The Association agreed on the terms of references of the newly established subsidiary bodies. In that connection, the Association adopted Resolution 3 (XV-RA VI) – Management Group of Regional Association VI (Europe), Resolution 4 (XV-RA VI) – Working Group on Climate and Hydrology, Resolution 5 (XV-RA VI) – Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership, and Resolution 6 (XV-RA VI) – Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation.</p>	MG			

5.1.4.1	The Association recalled that the Executive Council at its sixtieth session (June 2008) agreed in principle with the suggestions of the presidents of the Commission for Basic Systems and the Commission for Hydrology to award recognition to the experts who volunteered to devote their time to undertake the activities planned by technical commissions and regional associations. It urged the Secretary-General to propose a common scheme for awarding such recognition. The Council also urged Permanent Representatives to facilitate the participation and voluntary contribution of experts, not only from the NMHSs but also from other institutions, to the activities of WMO.	PRs MG	Secretary-General		
5.1.4.2	In that regard, the Association decided that volunteerism in the work (nomination, performance monitoring and recognition) of the working groups and task teams should receive the required attention and recognition.	MG			
5.2.4	The Association endorsed the recommendation of EC-LXI to involve regional associations and technical commissions in the development of Expected Results and Key Performance Indicators, Key Outcomes and a manageable number of related performance measurement parameters and to ensure that those are were based on Members' needs and adequately reflect the programme areas of the Organization. Such involvement would also facilitate the establishment of baselines and realistic target setting. Noting the plan of the Secretariat to deliver the first complete draft of the Strategic Plan and Operating Plan by December 2009, the Association requested the newly elected president and Management Group to initiate consultations with Members and ensure that the inputs from RA VI Members are were taken into consideration in the development of the next WMO Strategic Plan.	President; MG			
5.2.5	With regard to the GSNs, the Association welcomed the idea of promoting the strengths of WMO and its unique contribution, which should be portrayed with a view to distinguish WMO clearly from other international organizations that also deal with such, or similar, GSNs in their strategic planning and programme delivery. Noting the recommended by EC-LXI for using a brief description of WMO's major achievements illustrated by informative statistics, tables and graphics, to underpin the unique competencies and contribution of the Organization, the Association recommended that this approach should also be used at regional level and requested the Management Group to work on preparing such promotional material.	MG			
5.2.7	The Association took note of the Council request to the technical commissions and regional associations to ensure that their future operating plans (goals, deliverables, performance indicators and implementation timelines) would be fully harmonized with the next WMO Strategic Plan, in particular as regards relevant Strategic Thrusts and Expected Results. In this regard, the Association requested the Management Group to initiate consultation with all Members for the revision of the regional Strategic Plan and Action Plan, including validation and update of the regional priorities, as necessary, in order to have a fully consistent version shortly after the adoption of the new WMO Strategic Plan by the Sixteenth Congress.	MG			
5.2.12	The Association agreed that the implementation of the RA VI Strategic Plan should be the main focus of its activities planned for the next intersessional period. It was noted in this regard that the RA VI Strategic Plan would be implemented through a related Action/Operating Plan which should consist of specific work packages and deliverables together with the respective responsible bodies and timelines. The first version of the Action Plan was included as Annex C to the RA VI Strategic Plan.	MG			

5.2.13	<p>The Association noted further that the Strategic Plan and Action Plan should be regarded as living documents within an environment of rapidly changing external conditions and emerging new challenges and opportunities. Therefore, the Association agreed that the strategic planning process should be a continuous one and coupled with the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation activities. The monitoring and planning functions should be a major part of the terms of reference of the RA VI Management Group.</p>	MG			
5.2.14	<p>Noting the key role played by the working groups in delivering the Regional Action Plan, the Association requested the Management Group to undertake a review of the Action Plan in relation with the establishment of the work programme of the newly formed subsidiary bodies and to ensure consistency between those programmes and the regional Strategic and Action Plans. In that respect, the Association anticipated that the Regional Action Plan would become, in effect, the consolidated work programmes of the working groups.</p>	MG			
5.2.16	<p>The Association noted that the main implementers of the Action Plan were the Members of RA VI themselves. The implementation was mostly done by individual Members or groups of Members, assisted by different WMO working bodies and Secretariat and supported financially by national and/or international financing institutions. Therefore, the Association agreed that the development of national plans/programmes fully coherent with the global WMO Strategic Plan and related regional Strategic Plan was of crucial importance for achieving the established implementation goals. Furthermore, the Association encouraged its Members to use the RA VI Strategic Plan and Action Plan as guidance in aligning their existing, or in developing new national plans for enhancement of their NMHSs. It requested the Management Group to keep track of the availability of national plans/programmes in relation to the RA VI Strategic and Action Plans and provide assistance, as required, to Members who have difficulties in establishing their national plans/programmes.</p>	Members MG			

5.2.18	<p>The Association noted that the Conference had recognized the need for enhancing the quality of the products and better tailoring to users' needs, and requested the Management Group to consider the identified regional challenges in the development of the work programmes of the subsidiary bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of the visibility of NMHSs through, e.g., socio-economic studies; • Engagement of external stakeholder (EU, GMES, WB, etc.) including also mobilization of resources; • Harmonization of the data policy in the Region; • The new requirements for the meteorological community invoked by the Single European Sky (SES) regulations (including quality management requirements); • Responding to the WCC-3 outcome with regard to provision of climate services (as indicated by presentations from insurance companies and the Hadley Centre); • Implementation of WIGOS and WIS, through mechanisms such as pilot projects; • Dialogue with the private sector; • Collaboration between the hydrological and meteorological communities and involvement of hydrological services in water resources monitoring and assessment; • Bridging the gap in the capabilities between the hydrometeorological services of the developed and developing countries in the Region, avoiding a possible negative effect of different levels of investment. 	MG			
6.1.1	<p>The Association gave its strong support to the work done by the Secretariat and Members in the assessment of the socio-economic benefits of weather, water and climate services. It agreed that its Members should be more actively engaged in such studies and activities in order to demonstrate the full benefit to various user sectors of the products and services in the Region.</p>	Members WG/SDP			

6.1.2	<p>The Association recalled that the RA VI Strategic Plan (2008–2011) took due account of the Action Plan developed by the International Conference on “Secure and sustainable living; social and economic benefits of weather, climate and water services”, Madrid, March 2007. It confirmed the commitment of its Members to address the socio-economic challenges in the Region in a way which will bring more benefits to society and economy. In order to achieve this, the Association requested the Management Group, in developing the work programme for the next intersessional period, to put high priority on the expected deliverables outlined in the RA VI Strategic Plan related to:</p> <p>(a) Identifying the major user sectors in the various countries in RA VI;</p> <p>(b) Establishing dialogue and partnership relations with the user sectors to understand their requirements;</p> <p>(c) Preparing guidance material for the Region on the assessment of socio-economic benefits of services and applications;</p> <p>(d) Conducting training for the Region on issues related to the socio-economic aspects of their work;</p> <p>(e) Measuring and documenting the socio-economic benefits of the products and services in RA VI;</p> <p>(f) Documenting economical models and their compliance with national and international regulations;</p> <p>(g) Documenting case studies highlighting the socio-economic benefit of products and services in the Region;</p> <p>Sharing best practices resulting from the above studies and documentations.</p>	MG WG/SDP			
6.2.6	<p>The Association, by taking note of the growing private sector for provision of weather, climate and water services to users in the Region, considered the need for initiating or improving the dialogue between the NMHSs and the private service providers. In this regard, the Association agreed that a regional conference would allow for a more complete discussion of this topic and welcomed the offer by the Russian Federation to consider hosting such a conference in 2010 or 2011.</p>	WG/SDP Russian Federation			
6.2.7	<p>The Association requested the Management Group and the newly established Working Group on Service Delivery and Partnership to keep this issue under review and consult with the relevant stakeholders as appropriate.</p>	MG WG/SDP			

6.3.1	<p>The Association took note of the rapid development of the Single European Sky (SES) and the impact of the new airspace structure on the delivery of meteorological services to aviation in Europe. In particular, the necessary coordination between meteorological air navigation service providers (MET ANSP) belonging to a single functional airspace block (FAB) was seen as the highest priority, and the Association thus urged Members to consider the following steps necessary for such cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Establishing good working relations with the FAB implementation authorities established by the participating States; (b) Intense cooperation in a FAB on compatibility, interoperability and national regulations and procedures; (c) Establishment of the necessary technical and regulatory arrangements for the exchange of meteorological information in support of meteorological watch and issuance of SIGMET/AIRMET and any other emerging trans-boundary data, products and services; (d) Undertake studies on the feasibility of consolidating Meteorological Watch Offices in line with Resolution 18 (Cg-XV). (e) Coordinate their efforts and contributions to the SESAR research and development programme shaping the future Air Traffic Management system of the SES. 	Members			
6.3.3	<p>The SES framework should be seen as part of a new Global Air Traffic Management (ATM) concept of operations developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Association thus strongly encouraged those Members not yet included in the SES framework and the new FAB structure to follow these developments closely, and consider the necessary infrastructure and human resource developments in the light of SES implementation. Such planning should benefit from bilateral or multilateral cooperation with meteorological service providers already certified for SES.</p>	Members			
6.3.4	<p>To this end, the Association recommended holding a dedicated workshop on SES implementation issues to include also those Members not yet participating in SES in a 2010–2011 time frame.</p>	MG	WMO Secretariat (AEM; ROE)		
6.3.5	<p>The Association welcomed the recognition by the European Commission of the need to mitigate the impact of aviation on the environment in general and climate change in particular. Members were encouraged to follow closely this development and to consider ways, e.g. by promoting cooperation with airlines in atmospheric monitoring projects, provision of operational data (e.g. high resolution AMDAR) for the facilitation of so-called continuous descent approaches and possible mitigation of contrail-induced cirrus clouds, to contribute effectively to this initiative.</p>	Members			

6.3.6	Noting that for several Members of the Association, meteorological services were provided to aviation by separate entities, typically resorting to the air navigation service provider (ANSP), civil aviation administration (CAA), or Ministry of Transport, the meeting expressed the view that the cooperation with these entities was not always harmonious and effective. Reduced cooperation might prevent the optimal use of existing meteorological infrastructure and the potential of the NMHS to obtain a fair and equitable recovery of costs for core services, free flow of WMO information to aviation met service providers, duplication of efforts and inefficient services. The Association encouraged all Members in such a situation to establish regular, open and mutually beneficial coordination procedures.	Members			
6.4.3	Considering that the Oslo Declaration was a major step in the harmonization of data policies in the Region, the Association encouraged all its Members to give due consideration to its objectives and guidelines and that this should be further discussed by the Management Group, while the technical aspects of the issue be addressed by the newly established Working Group on Technology Development and Implementation. The Association agreed that the EUMETNET Oslo Declaration could be used as a reference in preparing the future regional data policy, taking due account of the legal frameworks of all RA VI Members.	Members MG WG/TDI			
7.2	The Association noted with satisfaction that, based on the request by its fourteenth session (Heidelberg, September 2005), in November 2006 the Secretary-General transformed the former Subregional Office for Europe into a Regional Office. The session requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in strengthening the Regional Office for Europe (ROE) in order to meet the requirements of Members in the Region.		Secretary-General		
7.6	The Association noted with appreciation the plans for increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the ROE in providing the required services to its Members. It expressed full support to the need for better use of information technologies, in particular, ongoing enhancement of the regional office Web pages and the country-profiles database, which was expected to begin "phase one" operations by the end of 2009. Recognizing the expected benefits and noting that additional resources will be necessary in this effort, the Association encouraged its Members, in the position to do so, to provide assistance to the ROE in enhancing its IT capabilities, including temporary secondment of staff.	Members	WMO Secretariat (ROE)	"phase one" - end of 2009	
7.7	Furthermore, the Association supported the enhancement of the role of the ROE in providing "one-stop" information service for all major activities in RA VI and for promoting achievements of its Members as well as the enhancement of multinational cooperation and collaboration. In particular, the Association requested the ROE to continue its coordination functions with the regional partner organizations, such as, ECMWF, EUMETSAT and EUMETNET, in support of further integration of the regional infrastructure and better use of the existing knowledge, expertise and services by all Members.		WMO Secretariat (ROE)		
7.8	The Association agreed that the ROE should assist in the identification of deficiencies in the provision of required meteorological and hydrological services in the Region, analyze the reasons and the possibilities for their resolution in coordination with the relevant technical departments. Bridging the gaps and harmonization of the level of services through capacity-building and technology transfer should be among highest priorities of the Regional Office. In this regard, special emphasis should be given to ensure balance in providing assistance to all subregions in need.		WMO Secretariat (ROE)		

