

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION
REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI
WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGY

Teleconference of the core group

16 December 2015

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Participants

Ernesto Rodriguez Camino (ER, Co-chair, climate)
Dominique Bérod (DB, Co-chair, Hydrology, minutes)
Jean-Pierre Ceron ((JPC, TT leader RCC-RCOF)
Jose Antonio Guijarro (JG, TT co-leader DOM)
Harry Dixon (HD, TT co-leader DOM)
Josef Eitzinger (JE, TT leader AM)
Silvano Pecora (SP, TT co-leader WSD)
Sandor Szalai (SS, TT co-leader WSD)
Cristina Alionte Eklund (CE, TT leader HMFV)
Maxx Dilley (MDi, WMO)
Milan Dacic (MD, WMO)
Tommaso Abrate (TA, WMO)

Excused:

Natalia Berghi (NB, WMO)
Anahit Hovsepyan (AH, WMO).
Herrmann Mächel (HM, TT leader CWS) (troubles with connection)

0. Meeting record

The Blue jean meeting has been recorded; MD sent the file address on December 17 (<https://drive.google.com/a/wmo.int/file/d/0B5UwuLdmsj8Kck1xRXhaMmgwV28/view?ts=56718609>), These minutes are a resume of the discussions.

1. Information on the MedCof 5 meeting

- ER: the meeting was held in Marrakech, Morocco, November 23-26. AH participated. Two days were dedicated to MedCof, and two days to the South East European Climate Outlook Forum (SEECOF), and the Northern African Climate Outlook Forum (PRESANORD. MEDCOF concentrate on large scale, provide pictures refined by parallel RCOFS, then a plenary allows to avoid any contradiction. Information to be found under: <http://medcof.aemet.es/>. There was also a training workshop in the end of October. (every 2d year).
- JPC: the training was also the opportunity to get a comprehensive discussion on how to improve seasonal forecast in the RA VI. There is a need to coordinate existing studies, and to revisit the implementation and governance plan.

2. Information on the RA VI WIGOS meeting (MD, DB)

- The workshop was held in Belgrade, Serbia, from November 24 to 27. 34 countries joined, with

55 representatives from NMHs. The objective was to define the regional and sub-regional implementation of WIGOS. The report is to come, will be shared with the WG CH. DB presented possible contribution from WG CH. Many participants mentioned the role of hydrology for WIGOS.

3. Further information from WMO secretariat (MDi)

- UNFCCC COP 21: An agreement has been . Main issues: ambition of agreement, 2 degrees consistent with science IPCC, other pushed to 1.5. Compromised: "well below 2 degrees » Pressure for rapid change in energy sector and climate services.
Finance: very ambitious goals also for climate change adaptation (with GFCS as a framework), with an enormous pressure on WMO on how to help countries to use resources effectively. WMO also has a huge role to play in monitoring greenhouse gas in the atmosphere. The agreement will be updated every 5 years, with likely more restriction with time. The ratification process started, remains to be done. Generally speaking, it is a chance for WMO and NHMS. ER comments that with the current commitment: we will be closer from 3° than 2, and 1.5 seems unrealistic. But if we don't succeed, Small Islands will disappear, so we have to try! Role of private sector will also be a key.
- France announced at the COP its initiative on Climate Risk and Early Warning System (CREWS, Multi hazards) The initiative received more than 30 millions pledges from 5-6 countries, and there are likely more to come . A common office between WMO, World Bank and UNISDRR will be set up.
- 21 January 2016: meeting of the presidents of WMO technical commissions and Regional associations on GFCS implementation, in order to put together the hundred of activities related, but not connected, to GFCS, with more than 700 M US \$ and 16 countries. This shifts the strategic direction of GFCS, having a framework at national level to coordinate better, and to focus on 6 countries to start: Burkina Tanzania, Moldavi, Papua New Guinea, Bhutan and Dominica. The objective of the 21.1.2016 meeting will be to define the contribution of WMO to these pilot projects, based on known needs of the countries. The possibility of supporting other countries based on this analysis will be addressed.

4. Update from each task team: composition, achievements, next steps (TT leaders)

- I. Task Team on Hydrological modeling, forecasting and warning (CE): the composition of the TT is now completed, with 2 new representatives from Norway and Serbia. Since the representative of Turkey joined the WMO secretariat as WMO consultant, his participation must be checked: MD will address a demand to the PR of Turkey. The TT worked on the organisation and content of the workshop (recall: themes are remote sensing and forecast, communication with end users including uncertainties, flash floods and urban floods). 1st draft done, expect for flash and urban floods. Content of the sessions to be discussed at the next TT TelCo (21.1.2016).
 - Discussion: the length of the workshop should be one day.
 - Participation from Eastern part of Europe is missing. MD propose to send a letter (President + DB).. TA : WMO is in touch with Lebabon and Jordan thank Blue Peace program, Azerbaijan, Georgia or Armenia also contacted. MD: we can use the regional office of Minsk.
- II. Task Team on Data operations and management (JG, HD) :

HD: no change in composition. Network design: meeting to be set up early 2016.
DARE website, JG: 1st draft ready. Webpage, link of new doc on data rescue to come. The head of climate services from Israel is keen to support.

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- III. Task Team on Climate Watch System (HM)
Due to connection problems, HM delivered his update per mail after the meeting:

- TT-Members didn't react on the e-mails, except Christian Viel, therefore the TT is not yet fully implemented.
- Due to the new DWD webpage the access to the protected webpage of climate watch advisories is not yet installed.
- A questionnaire on climate watch advisories was sent to the RA VI NMHS with feedback from some of the NMHS, but the questionnaire is not fully analyzed.

IV. Task Team on RCC and RCOF (JPC)

- TT completed, all members on board. Discussion on RCC and RCOF issues, documents disseminated. No formal meeting, exchanges using mails. Some strengths and weakness of RCC identified. Visibility is important for RCC-RCOF. JPC suggest revisiting the governance and implementation plan, as the work is voluntary based, without clear decision process. A workshop should be dedicated to these issues, and a note should be sent to the President and the regional office for agreement and support. Contribution to training. There is a clear need of coordinated work at regional level, under umbrella RCC if possible.
- MD specify that the suggestions from JPC could be discussed by the Management group, which would be simpler than asking every PR.
- Scoping meeting of the polar RCC. Mostly Scandinavian countries already have started activities. RCC should be interested in, although we are not yet providing any information. See how RCC could benefit from the Scandinavian activities. MDi: this point is on the agenda of the 21.1.2016 meeting.

V. Task Team on Water Scarcity and Drought (SS+SP)

- SS: many contacts with other groups, especially for proposal for southern east regions (soil moisture measurement).
- SP: 7 experts of the TT confirmed, no change, but will be likely extended soon. Connection with the Drought Management Centre for Southeastern Europe – DMCSEE, Gregor Gregorič, established, teleconference to come.
- SP: Environmental and economical water accounting system, which is a valuable tool for water management and use, as well as a collaboration and communication framework for water. The TT will support a conference on sustainable water systems in Greece June 2016.
- SP is also involved in new European program with NL and Italy.
- SP: new European project for improving the participation of the Balkan region: ADRION project.

VI. Task team on Agricultural Meteorology (JE)

Tasks are well in plan, interim report done in October 2015, sent to Antonio Mestre. JE will also send the report to DB (done with thanks, 16.12.2015). 22 experts joined the TT, but only 8 of them are nominated. MD will prepare the required confirmations. Experts are very active.

5. Activities in 2016 (all)

A major point will be the several back-to-back meetings in September 2016: WG-CH core members meeting, Workshop on floods, Hydrology forum. TA will check with Norway, which dates are more suitable, and DB will send out a save-the-date before the End of January 2016. Financial support (mostly for Eastern Europe) will be discussed between both Departments of WMO.

6. Involvement in the EU activities linked to the implementation of the Water Framework Directive (TA)

- -Since Markku Puupponen, former Co-chair of the WG CH left, WMO-Hydrology is no more represented in working groups of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The latter issuing regulatory material on hydrology and hydrometry, there is a risk that WMO cannot raise its point of view, generating potential contradictions. TA discussed with Martina Bussetti, we

should consider the possibility of attending regularly WFD meetings. CE notes that colleagues from SHMI use to participate. WMO secretariat should also participate (not every meetings seems crucial for WMO). This will be discussed in September.

7. Any other business (all).

- JPC: will send concept note to MD
- SP: WHOS contains information on observations, forecast and simulations: there is the wish to set up a specific teleconference to define the contribution of RA VI in WHOS, as well as required links with the TT WIGOS (for the WHOS 2nd phase).
- ER ask MD to update the list of expert nomination.
- The Blue Jean teleconference facility froze a couple of time, apologies.
- Next Teleconference: in March 2016, DB will send out a doodle poll.
- In the name of Ernesto and Dom: many thanks to TT leaders and TT members for their valuable contribution to the WMO-RA VI efforts!

TO DO list

#	Meeting	What	Who	When
1	1.9.2015	Announce to WMO secretariat, CC ER+DB, workshops or activities requesting financial resources	TT leaders	
2	1.9.2015	Note for budgeting the Workshop of the TT HMFV	TA	30.9.2015
3	1.9.2015	Link of the TT DOM webpage to core team	JG	1.11.15
4	1.9.2015	Note for budgeting the DOM training workshop	JG+HD	30.9.2015
5	1.9.2015	Webpage of the Center for southern Europe on drought	NB	ASAP
6	1.9.2015	Doodle for the December TelCo of th WG CH	DB	ASAP
7	16.12.2015	Check with PR Turkey participation of representative for TT HMMW since he joined WMO	DM	ASAP
8	16.12.2015	Save the date for Hydro Forum 2016	DB + TA	31.1.2016
9	16.12.2015	Letter to PR for better contribution from Eastern Europe	DB	31.1.2016
10.	16.12.2015	Missing nominations for TT Agrometeorology	MD	ASAP