

**OPENING ADDRESS BY
THE PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V - WMO
AT THE REGIONAL SEMINAR IN HONIARA,
SOLOMON ISLANDS, 1NOVEMBER2011**

Your Excellency Mr John Moffat Fugui, Minister of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology

Honorary Mr Chanel Iroj, the Permanent Representatives of Solomon Islands with WMO

Honorary Mr Robert Masters, Representative of the Secretary General of WMO

Distinguished Permanent Representatives to WMO,

Ladies and Gentlemen, participants of the Regional Seminar of RA-V

May I, first of all express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the Government and People of the Solomon Island forhosting this **importantevent**.ThisRegional Seminar provides a great opportunity for review and for reflection on what **we have achieved** and how we can progress in the field of Climate Services.

Throughout its 60 year of services, WMO has shown its strong commitments and efforts to ensure the safe and sound of society.**Nonetheless**, some of our **notable homeworks** are “**better climate services**”.

Members of Regional Association V noticed with appreciation,a wide variety of WMO programs on weather, climate and water. Those programs share benefit of coordination, cooperation and togetherness among developed and developing countries in elevating the welfare of many people in developing world. For an example RA V has conducted

a training course on "satellite analyses for meteorology and climatology" on September 2011 in Citeko-Indonesia. This training course is supported by the Indonesian Government, and participated by all member countries of RA-V. The lecturers were from the USA (Wisconsin Univ. and NOAA) - Indonesia (BMKG) - and Australia (BoM), this kind of activity shows the shared benefit of cooperation and togetherness among member countries and among RA's.

The formation of **IPCC**, **UNFCCC** and the **upcoming Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)** are just a number of historical milestones of the remarkable legacy of the WMO.

The GFCS with its five components, namely Observation Systems and Data Exchange, Climate research, modeling & prediction, Climate Services Information System, Climate User Interface Program, and Capacity Building, serves as an important guideline which aims to improve climate services in the world.

The future shape and effectiveness of the organization of WMO, however, should be further strengthened that would lead to a **better UN body from the point of views both administration/ financial aspect and technical performance. This can be achieved by providing a better working mechanism among the subsidiary bodies of WMO and the subsidiary bodies of RA(s). A better working relationship between WMO technical commissions; WMO scientific and technical program; and WMO working groups, as the extension of WMO structure in the technical field, and Regional Association Working Groups (WG on climate services – weather services – hydrology – infrastructure) as the execution of Regional Association program, should be accommodated.** The better working structure of RA(s) should be accommodated in a **budget structure** allocation among WMO subsidiary bodies.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

Eventually, the rate of success of the Regional Association comes from the measure of **success of RA WG** in delivering **concrete outputs** that are based on the Regional Strategic Operating Plan. This, in turn, will indeed highly influence **the rate of success** of the **entire WMO**. It is important that **success rate of the whole of WMO** should be measured by performance and effectivity of concrete programs, and **not only** by budget evaluation.

By way of example, as one of the outcome of the meeting of the Working Group of Hydrology of RA-V in 2009, they have planned to further strengthened the Pacific HYCOS and developed SEAHYCOS as their program. But until now, after 2 (two) years, realization is still difficult due to limited funding sources.

So, a fair balance should be put in place, that evaluate budget use and performance as well, by **evaluating the implementation of Working Group planned programs**. We should therefore open the possibility for **performance based evaluation** of WMO programs as a whole in the future.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the Working Groups of Regional Association V, for having completed the Terms of Reference and their work plan which will also be forwarded to WMO.

Our hope is that during the meeting, the Working Group can identify ways, to enhance capacity development for **climate research and modeling** and **promote data exchange for the common benefit**.

I trust, that working groups will use the recently approved Strategic Operating Plan of Regional Association as the foundation to develop work plans.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

With regard to find ways and mechanism for better alignment to all of WMO subsidiary bodies, I have recently contacted all the President of WMO Technical Commissions, to invite collaboration between the Technical Commissions with the Working Groups of Regional Association V. So far I have received positive feedback from Dr Lee, as the President of the Technical Commission for Agricultural Meteorology, whom welcomes collaboration, and has briefly explained a few possibilities for collaboration. Also, Dr Grimes as the President of WMO has **positively replied** to this initiative, and noted the need to propose structural changes or reform of processes and procedures that would improve the effectiveness of the implementation of WMO plans/priorities and programs. Quoting the words of Dr Grimes, “These would include **better alignment of structures and further optimization of the scheduling of technical commission and regional association meetings** to assist with that alignment”. I believe we are all supportive and looking forward to that, and are willing to contribute to the works necessary for those processes for improvements of WMO. So hereby I encourage the Working Groups to look at the programs of the Technical Commissions and identify possible areas or activities to collaborate with, to co-host some activities, or other ways, such that, we can all get benefit.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

Within our Strategic Operating Plan we have defined Regional Key Outcomes (or RKO) that we want to achieve, and paired with that, are the Key Performance Indicators (or KPIs).

For each of the Regional Key Outcome, which match with **programs of WMO** have been identified. The coming challenge is to **make this link to be concrete and implementable**, and hopefully with cooperation with the Technical Commissions of WMO.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

With regard to SOP 2012-2015 of RA V and its baseline survey, I have proposed earlier to colleagues in RA-V (through email communication), that we should as well introduce a baseline survey for this coming period. This survey serves as a profile of services of members of RA-V as of 2012. This survey should be based on measures indicated by the Key Performance Indicator outlined within our Strategic Operating Plan 2012-2015. I sincerely hope we can proceed with this idea, hopefully with the assistance of WMO secretariat to initiate the design of the survey.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

In this opportunity, I would like to welcome new Permanent Representatives with WMO in RA-V, Dr. Chin Ling Wong from Singapore, Dr. Nathaniel Servando from the Philippines, and Dr. Peter Lennox from New Zealand. I also would like to extend my highest appreciation to Dr. Neil Gordon from New Zealand who recently leaves the New Zealand Metservice, for his many important contributions to RA-

V, especially in taking the lead in defining the Strategic Operating Plan 2012-2015 of RA-V. We thank him and wish him the best of luck for his future endeavor.

Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

In the end of this address, I would like to wish you a fruitful and productive Seminar session. May concrete outcomes can be resulted from this seminar.

I thank you for your attention.