

# **REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)**

**SECOND SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP**

**GENEVA, 16 JUNE 2010**

**FINAL REPORT**



**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**



## SECOND SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP

(Geneva, Wednesday, 16 June 2010)

### 1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1.1 The second session of the RA II Management Group (MG-2) was held at the WMO Secretariat on Wednesday, 16 June 2010 during the sixty-second session of the Executive Council (EC-LXII). The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

1.2 Prof. Victor E. Chub, president of RA II opened the session at 08:30 hours on 16 June 2010. He extended a warm welcome to all participants and thanked the members for accepting his invitation to attend the meeting. He also thanked the Secretariat for the arrangements made in organizing this session. Dr T. Toya, Regional Director for Asia and the South-West Pacific, also welcomed the participants and expressed his wish for the MG-2 session to concentrate on decision-making for various issues given in the Provisional Agenda.

1.3 The MG-2 adopted the agenda of the session, which is given in Annex II to this report.

### 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FIRST SESSION OF THE MANAGEMENT GROUP

2.1 The MG-2 recalled that the first session of the RA II Management Group (MG-1: June 2009) focused mainly on the development of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of NMHSs in RA II and the development of its Action Plan, the initiation of the work of RA II subsidiary bodies including three pilot projects established during XIV-RA II (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, December 2008), the organization of the Fifth RA II Technical Conference and the progress on the WMO assistance to Myanmar after *Cyclone Nargis*.

2.2 The Group reviewed the plan for the budgeted regional events of RA II during the fifteenth financial period (2008-2011) as given in Annex III. It noted that the Technical Conference is planned in November or December 2010 in the Republic of Korea with the regular budget allocation of approximately CHF 42,000 and expected extra-budgetary contributions, and that the Working Group on Hydrological Forecasts and Assessments (WGH) will be held in November 2010 and a Working Group session on WMO Integrated Observing System and WMO Information System (WG-IOS/WIS) is planned for late 2011 with a limited regular budget allocation.

2.3 The Group agreed that the key matters arising from MG-1, *i.e.*, the implementation of the RA II Strategic Plan (2009-2011) and process to develop the Strategic Action Plan; review of the activities of RA II subsidiary bodies including pilot projects; and the venue and topics of the fifth Technical Conference be discussed under relevant agenda items 3.1 to 3.3.

### 3. FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (XIV-RA II)

#### 3.1 ***Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (Asia) (2009-2011) and Development of the Strategic Action Plan***

3.1.1 The MG-2 reviewed the progress on RA II strategic planning. It recalled that the MG-1 (June 2009) agreed to prioritize the 201 deliverables identified in the RA II Strategic Plan (2009-2011) when considering the Strategic Action Plan by selecting 100-120 realistic deliverables for implementation and monitoring. The MG-1 further agreed that a task team

on Strategic Plan be established to work on: identification of priorities among 201 deliverables; further development of the Action Plan by proposing concrete action for each corresponding priority deliverable; and developing new survey questionnaires to monitor the implementation of the Strategic Plan and Action Plan.

3.1.2 The MG-2 noted with appreciation that the Task Team composed of Mr X. Xu (China); Dr B.Y. Lee (Hong Kong, China: Chairperson); Mr L.S. Lee (Hong Kong, China); Ms M. Jabbari (IR of Iran); Mr N. Hasegawa (Japan); Dr W.-T. Yun (Republic of Korea); and Ms M. Nazarova (Uzbekistan) identified 110 priority deliverables under 32 Regional Expected Results for the draft Action Plan, and that the Task Team also developed a draft Survey Questionnaire form, in alignment with the draft Action Plan, to monitor the progress on the implementation of the Action Plan.

3.1.3 The session was informed that the fifteenth session of RA V (Bali, 30 April - 6 May 2010) adopted the RA V Strategic Plan (2010-2011), which identified 35 Regional Expected Results and 87 deliverables. It further noted that RA V is developing a Regional Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) for 2012-2015, by mapping the deliverables under Regional Expected Results in the RA V Strategic Plan 2010-2011 into the new five Strategic Thrusts and eight Expected Results of the draft WMO Strategic Plan 2012-2015.

3.1.4 The MG-2 considered that RA II should take a similar approach for developing RA II SOP (Action Plan) with reference to the new WMO Strategic Plan 2012-2015. It agreed that a proposal for the methodology and process to move towards RA II SOP 2012-2015 should be prepared and discussed during the Fifth Technical Conference. The president urged the MG members to provide their comments and suggestions on the proposed draft Strategic Action Plan 2009-2011 and the survey questionnaire by e-mail to the Task Team and the Secretariat to facilitate the above preparation.

### **3.2 *Review of the work of RA II subsidiary bodies including pilot projects***

3.2.1 The MG-2 was informed that most of Working Group Chairs, Coordinators and Theme Leaders initiated their work with a guidance document prepared by the Secretariat at the request of MG-1. The Group noted that the Working Group on Hydrological Forecasts and Assessments (WGH) had some communication problems. The Group encouraged the Chair and Vice-chair of WGH and the Secretariat to further communication with WGH members for activation of the Group and for revising its work plan.

3.2.2 The Group noted with satisfaction the progress in the work of the three pilot projects established at XIV-RA II (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, December 2008) as well as the two pilot projects established at XIII-RA II (Hong Kong, China, December 2004). A summary of progress reports on RA II Pilot Projects is given in Annex IV.

### **3.3 *Fifth Technical Conference on Management of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA II***

3.3.1 The MG-2 recalled that, further to the agreement by XIV-RA II, the MG-1 considered that some of the following nine topics of concern in RA II could be discussed at the Fifth Technical Conference:

- (a) Strategic planning and management of NMHSs;
- (b) Human resources development in NMHSs;
- (c) Social and economic benefits of weather, climate and water services;
- (d) Emerging technologies in meteorology, climatology and hydrology;
- (e) Role of NMHSs in disaster risk reduction including emergency response;
- (f) Adaptation to climate variability and change;
- (g) Quality management for weather, climate and water services;
- (h) Partnerships with stakeholders;

- (i) Sand and dust storms.

The Group agreed that the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) activities in RA II be added to the list and that the ten possible topics be grouped into several (5-6) thematic areas in view of the priority areas given in Strategic Plans of WMO and RA II.

3.3.2 The MG-2 welcomed the offer of the Republic of Korea to host the Fifth Technical Conference tentatively proposed for 29 November to 3 December 2010. The Group requested the Secretariat to collaborate with the Republic of Korea to finalize the detailed plan of the Conference including the venue of the Conference.

#### **3.4 Preparation for the fifteenth session of Regional Association II (XV-RA II)**

3.4.1 The MG-2 recalled that during XIV-RA II no Members indicated the willingness to host the fifteenth session of RA II. In this regard, the Group was informed by the Secretariat that the Permanent Representative of Qatar with WMO indicated his interest to host XV-RA II in Doha in December 2012.

3.4.2 The MG-2 agreed in principle that, as in XIV-RA II in Tashkent, the fifteenth session be organized with the period of seven days (including one-day holiday) in conjunction with the two-day Regional Seminar to be held prior to XV-RA II.

#### **4. PREPARATION FOR THE SIXTEENTH CONGRESS (CG-XVI)**

4.1 The president noted that a proposal was submitted to EC-LXII by the president of RA II for increasing the number of Executive Council members to allow an additional seat (from six to seven) for RA II (ref. EC-LXII/Doc. 9.2(3)). He reported that at the 2010 Meeting of the Presidents of Regional Associations held on 5 June 2010 most of the RA presidents supported the proposal. The Executive Council had considered the proposal on 15 June 2010 and various opinions were expressed by the members of the Council. The Group noted that the Council requested the EC Working Group on WMO Strategic and Operational Planning and the Secretary-General to make a further analysis of factors and implications on the cost and efficiency of the work of EC, for formal submission to the Congress.

#### **5. ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC AND THE WMO OFFICE FOR WEST ASIA**

5.1 Progress on the activities of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific (RAP) and the WMO Office for West Asia was briefed to the session. The Management Group was pleased to note that the RAP web page was renewed with: the description of the Region; links to the RA II Strategic Plan and the reports of the regional events and meetings; the list of members of the subsidiary bodies of RA II; and the information on the progress of pilot projects and Members' activities. In this regard, the Group agreed on the need to encourage Members to submit articles for "News from Members".

5.2 The Group also noted that the RAP Office had implemented several projects, including GTS upgrade for Cambodia and assistance for basic infrastructure and human resources development for Myanmar following the WMO fact-finding mission carried out in February 2009, with the kind contributions by China, India, Japan and Thailand. In this connection, the Group was informed of the India's on-going Severe Thunder Storm Project (including the provision of AWSs, Doppler radars and upper-air consumables to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal) and capacity building activities at RSMC - Tropical Cyclones New Delhi for tropical cyclone forecasters being provided to the Southeastern Asian Members.

5.3 The RAP Office carried out fact-finding and needs-assessment missions to Kuwait in January 2010 and Bhutan in March 2010. In this regard, a representative of Kuwait

expressed his appreciation and gratitude to the mission for various useful recommendations, in particular on the establishment of an effective succession plan for the Kuwait Meteorological Department (KMD), which led to the government decision of support for sustainable human resources development and enhanced management of KMD.

5.4 The Group further noted that the WMO Office for West Asia continued to maintain close coordination and liaison with UN organizations and regional organizations, in particular the League of Arab States (LAS). The Office supported the organization of a regional workshop on the implementation of the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS) Asia/Central Pacific Nodes (Seoul, Republic of Korea, October 2009) and a regional meeting of the WMO Expert Team on Weather Modification Research (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, March 2010).

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

6.1 The MG-2 was briefed on the progress of a WMO-World Bank-UNISDR-UNDP initiative of a regional disaster risk management and adaptation programme for five countries in Southeast Asia including Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam in RA II (the other two are: Indonesia and Philippines in RA V). The programme focuses on development of national capacities and regional cooperation along three components, including: (i) disaster risk management institutional capacities across various economic sectors (*e.g.*, health, infrastructure and urban planning, agriculture, energy, civil protection and emergency planning, etc.) (Lead: UNISDR, UNDP); (ii) NMHSs and their partnership with disaster risk management stakeholders (Lead: WMO); and (iii) financial risk transfer and insurance markets (Lead: the World Bank). WMO is invited as a key partner for addressing capacity development of the NMHSs and their partnerships. The first step was a detailed institutional capacity assessment and identification of national needs and priorities as well as development of a regional cooperation framework. Dr P. Nilo (Philippines), consultant of this programme, initiated the country assessment in February 2010.

6.2 The Group was pleased to note that, following the discussions at a side meeting held during XIV-RA II in Tashkent in December 2008 and through e-mail communication on the RA II network of International Advisers to the Permanent Representatives (INTAD-II), Ms Malika Nazarova (Uzbekistan) and Mr Naoyuki Hasegawa (Japan) serve as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, of INTAD-II.

## **7. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

7.1 The second session of the RA II Management Group closed at 09:30 on 16 June 2010.

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**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

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**SECOND SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG)**  
*(Geneva, 16 June 2010)*

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**



**SECOND SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG)**  
*(Geneva, 16 June 2010)*

**AGENDA**

1. Organization of the Session
  2. Matters arising from the first session of the Management Group
  3. Follow-up to the fourteenth session of Regional Association II (XIV-RA II)
    - 3.1 Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (Asia) (2009-2011) and Development of the Strategic Action Plan
    - 3.2 Review of the work of RA II subsidiary bodies including pilot projects
    - 3.3 Fifth Technical Conference on Management of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA II
    - 3.4 Preparation for the fifteenth session of Regional Association II (XV-RA II)
  4. Preparation for the sixteenth Congress (Cg-XVI)
    - Proposal by the president of RA II for increasing the number of EC members (ref. EC-LXII/Doc. 9.2(3))
  5. Activities of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific and the WMO Office for West Asia
  6. Other business
  7. Closure of the Session
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**BUDGETED REGIONAL EVENTS  
DURING THE FIFTEENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD  
(2008-2011)**

Regional Events \ Years	2008	2009	2010	2011
Fourteenth Session of the Association	5-11.XII.2008 Tashkent, Uzbekistan			
Meeting of Advisory Working Group/ <i>Management Group*</i>	18-20.II.2008 Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and 25.VI.2008 Geneva	MG-1 10.VI.2009 Geneva	MG-2 16.VI.2010 Geneva	MG-3 May 2011 Geneva
Session of <i>WGs on WMO Integrated Observing System and WMO Information System (WG-IOS/WIS*) and Disaster Risk Reduction and Service Delivery (WGDRS*)</i>				X
Session of WG on Climate Matters	7-8.VIII.2008 Tokyo, Japan			
Session of <i>WG on Hydrological Forecasts and Assessments (WGH*)</i>			November 2010	
Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological and Hydrological Services			Nov/Dec 2010 Republic of Korea	
Regional Seminar on Alternative Service Delivery and NMHSs Administration	3-4.XII.2008 Tashkent, Uzbekistan			

\* newly established by XIV-RA II

## PROGRESS REPORTS ON RA II PILOT PROJECTS

### 1. RA II Pilot Project on the Provision of City-Specific Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Products to Developing Countries via the Internet

#### Background

1.1 The RA II Pilot Project, initiated in the Thirteenth Session of the RA II in December 2004, on the Provision of City-Specific Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Products to Developing Countries via the Internet, has been progressing steadily. It aims at enhancing the capacity of National Meteorological Services of developing countries in the region, with the supply of city-specific NWP products by advanced meteorological centres.

#### Progress up to May 2010

1.2 City-specific forecast time series products, provided by Hong Kong, China; Japan and Republic of Korea, have been launched on their respective web sites since January 2006. By the end of May 2010, 18 RA II Members, namely, Bangladesh; Kingdom of Bhutan; Cambodia; China; Hong Kong, China; Islamic Republic of Iran; Japan; Kyrgyz Republic; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Oman; Republic of Kazakhstan; Republic of Korea; Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; Republic of Yemen and Thailand have joined the project. City-specific forecast time series products, including surface temperature, relative humidity, cloud coverage, precipitation, and wind speed and direction, etc, for some 160 cities are being provided to the Members via the Internet twice daily.

1.3 To facilitate participating Members to utilize and interpret the forecasts, WMO VCP training courses on "Use and Interpretation of City-specific NWP Products" were held in Hong Kong, China in 2006 and 2008. A total of 14 WMO Members attended the courses. Besides speakers from Hong Kong, China, experts from Japan and Republic of Korea were invited to deliver talks.

1.4 To facilitate participating Members to develop their own data post-processing, a simple application software was developed by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) for them to try out verification and post-processing using the time series data from Hong Kong, China. JMA also provided software support to the participating Members to develop their own forecast guidance using the city-specific NWP products.

1.5 A survey on this RA II Pilot Project was conducted in end 2008 and the Members indicated that the products were generally useful. The access statistics of the web sites in 2009 and early 2010 show that all participating Members made use of the websites.

#### Work in 2010

1.6 In mid-2010, a new high-resolution non-hydrostatic model will be commissioned in Hong Kong, China to replace the existing model for generation of NWP products under the Pilot Project. Products from both the existing and new models will be provided in parallel for a period of 3 months to facilitate the transition process of the participating Members. It is planned that more NWP products, such as vertical wind profiles as suggested by some Members in the survey, will be generated and supplied with the new model.

1.7 Consideration will be given by the OPAG on PWS, in consultation with Japan, Republic of Korea and Hong Kong, China, to move the Pilot Project to operational status.

**World Meteorological Organization**

**RAII Pilot Project on City-Specific NWP Products**

**Hong Kong, China**

Latest Run: 2010052712UTC

- Forecast Time Series: [Hong Kong, China](#)
- [Download Data](#)

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- [Background Information](#)
- [Product Description](#)
- [Model Description](#)
- [Notes to User](#)
- [Copyright & Disclaimer](#)
- [Contact](#)

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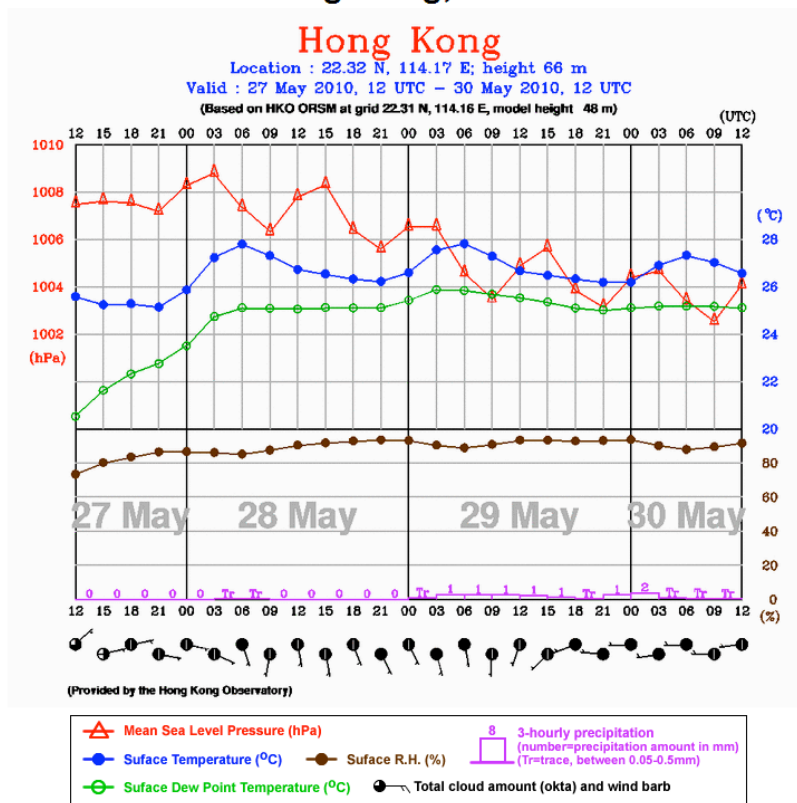
**Links**

- [World Meteorological Organization](#)
- [World Weather Information Service](#)
- [Severe Weather Information Centre](#)
- [HKO Website](#)

**City-Specific NWP Products by Hong Kong Observatory**



**Hong Kong, China**



Sample of the city-specific NWP products provided by the Hong Kong Observatory

**2. RA II Pilot Project to Develop Support for Developing Countries in Aeronautical Meteorology Programme In Region II**

Background

2.1 The Pilot Project to Develop Support for Developing Countries in Aeronautical Meteorology Programme (AeMP) was established by Regional Association II (Asia) at its 13th Session in 2004. The pilot project aims at developing numerical weather guidance products to the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of developing countries, and in particular Least Developed Countries (LDCs), in building their capacity in the provision of aviation weather services.

2.2 The pilot project is steered by a Coordination Group comprising experts from participating Members, including China, Cambodia, Hong Kong(China), Iran, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal and Yemen. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the two World Area Forecast Centres (WAFCS) were invited to participate as observers.

Progress up to May 2010

2.3 An Asian Aviation Weather Pilot Project Website (<http://www.aamets.org/>) was established by the China Meteorological Administration (CMA) and the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) in support of RA II Members, in close coordination with WMO and ICAO. The website features a suite of guidance products of numerical model output. The website became semi-operational in March 2007.

2.4 At the XIV-RA II session held in December 2008, the regional association established a Sub-Group on Aeronautical Meteorological Services (WGDRS-AeM), under the Regional Association II Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction and Service Delivery (WGDRS), with one of the terms of reference in promoting capacity-building activities related to the AeMP within the Region, in particular, the development and implementation of AeM-related pilot projects to assist NMHSs of developing countries in delivering aeronautical meteorological services, in particular SIGMET, TAF and flight documentation.

2.5 A number of enhancements were implemented on the Asian Aviation Weather Pilot Project Website in 2009 as follows:

- (a) Provision of additional meteorological satellite products, such as fog, cloud classification and dust storm products;
- (b) Provision of gridded forecasts of icing and turbulence with higher spatial and temporal resolution; and
- (c) Improvements in user-friendliness of the web interface.

#### Work in 2010

2.6 The following enhancements of the pilot project website will be developed, including:

- (a) Addition of information, for example, satellite, radar images to cover other regions, feedback/discussion forum, SIGMET page;
- (b) Collaborative efforts to develop and validate aviation-specific forecasts;
- (c) Provision of further assistance to Cambodia for capacity building following the Lao model. SIGMET issued by China CAAC for Cambodia would be included in the pilot project website;
- (d) Enhancement of aeronautical meteorological products for en-route (e.g. satellite-derived wind products) and numerical weather prediction guidance products (e.g. icing and turbulence forecast);
- (e) Upgrading of database for various data sources (WAFS, AMDAR, OPMET, satellite and radar, NWP) and hardware platform to enhance reliability; and
- (f) Putting the pilot project website into operational in late 2010.

### **3. RA II Pilot Project to Enhance the Availability and Quality Management Support for NMHSs in Surface, Climate and Upper-air Observations**

#### Summary

3.1 The Pilot Project to Enhance the Availability and Quality Management Support for NMHSs in Surface, Climate and Upper-air Observations, is progressing well. The coordinator of the project has been leading the project, in consultation with the project coordination committee members. The current activities include a planned workshop at the end of July with, a questionnaire to assess the current status and the requirements on weather, climate and upper-air observations of NMHSs of developing countries, in particular least developed countries in the Region.

#### Activities

3.2 Japan was appointed as the coordinator of the Pilot Project, which was established at Regional Association II (Asia) fourteenth session in December 2008. In accordance with the terms of reference for the Pilot Project, the following activities have been carried out and will be further discussed through the mailing list (qm-obs@ml.kishou.go.jp) for the Pilot Project Coordinating Group members.

WMO/JMA RA II (Asia) Workshop on Quality Management in Surface, Climate and Upper-air Observations (27 – 30 July 2010, Tokyo)

3.3 JMA, WMO / Regional Office for Asia and South-West Pacific (RAP) and Observing and Information Systems Department (OBS) have been cooperatively preparing for this workshop. The workshop is aimed to identify the requirements of NMHSs, particularly those of developing countries, regarding the implementation of weather, climate and upper-air observations, their provision and their quality management, and to assess the current status of the above-mentioned issues. The workshop is also expected to enhance international cooperation to overcome these issues and to improve weather and climate services of RA II Members through exchange of information on the practices.

3.4 The participants of the workshop will include members of the coordinating group for the pilot project as well as be the Chief of WMO Observing Systems Division and the chairperson of the CIMO Expert Team on Surface-based Instrument Intercomparisons and Calibration Methods, and others.

Questionnaire

3.5 The questionnaire will be conducted to elucidate the observation-related challenges and the current relationship between observers and data users in each country, and to address the individual issues to develop an action plan for this pilot project. The results of the questionnaire is expected to give useful information for discussing future actions required to facilitate the better utilization of surface, climate and upper-air observation data.

**4. RA II Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Numerical Weather Prediction**

Background

4.1 The Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) was established by Regional Association II (Asia) at its fourteenth Session in 2008. The pilot project aims at developing a consortium comprising NWP operators and product providers to support and assist National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in their full use of NWP products and in the development of NWP activities suited to their circumstances, in their provision of weather services, including forecasts and warnings.

4.2 The pilot project is steered by a Coordination Group comprising experts from participating Members, with two experts of Hong Kong, China and Republic of Korea serving as co-coordinators.

Progress up to May 2010

4.3 An action plan for the RA II NWP consortium, which may be named the “Asian Consortium for NWP Forecasts” (ACNF), was drafted and circulated to the members of the Coordination Group and WMO for comments. The plan consists of two phases:

- (a) Phase 1 (2010-2012): It would focus on setting up the infrastructure of ACNF and consolidation of currently available NWP products to facilitate Members’ access via the ACNF website. Arrangements would also be made on the training and education activities of community NWP model(s).
- (b) Phase 2 (2013-2015): It would target on research and development activities for Members who will develop their capacities on some more advanced topics including tuning of the community NWP model(s), data assimilation, interpretation and applications of products from ensemble prediction systems (EPS).

4.4. A questionnaire was circulated to participating Members of the Coordination Group to

collate their views on establishing a website for the ACNF to facilitate exchange and sharing of knowledge on the development and operation of NWP, and to solicit their training requirements in the application and research of NWP models.

#### Work in 2010

4.5 Questionnaire returns would be analyzed with a view to identifying the requirements on NWP application and research of the participating Members of the Coordination Group. Based on the results of the analysis, Members' needs would be identified in respect of provision of NWP data/graphics in ACNF website, establishment of community NWP model(s), as well as knowledge sharing and training methods.

4.6 A prototype ACNF website would be set up on the internet. As an initial step, the existing NWP products from Members would be included in the website. It would also include enhanced NWP products such as more frequently updated prognostic weather charts (every 3-6 hours), forecasts of tropical cyclone movement, intensity and wind distribution, as well as forecast charts of severe weather guidance.

4.7 Community NWP model(s) would be identified. Liaison would be made with the model provider(s) on putting up supporting materials on the ACNF website, such as provision of source code, user guide, on-line tutorial and post-processing software.

### **5. RA II Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Satellite Data, Products and Training (First Phase: September 2009 – August 2010)**

#### Background

5.1 The 14th session of WMO Regional Association II (XIV-RA II), held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 5 to 11 December 2008, adopted a resolution to establish a pilot project for the development of support for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the areas of satellite data, products and training. After the session, the WMO Secretariat invited WMO Members to join the Pilot Project Coordinating Group, whose members as of 30 September 2009 were Japan (co-coordinator), the Republic of Korea (co-coordinator), Bahrain, China, Hong Kong - China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and, as an observer, EUMETSAT.

#### Mission

5.2 The project was established as a kind of self-help effort for NMHSs in RA II to make satellite-related information flow better. The major focus of the initiative is to facilitate the timely provision of satellite-related information by satellite operators themselves to users, i.e., NMHSs in RA II, especially developing countries including LDCs. As there are also other ongoing activities such as the Virtual Laboratory (VL), we understand the need to create synergy and greater benefits with a lower level of exertion while avoiding duplication of effort.

#### Accomplishments

5.3 Accomplishments in the first phase of the RA II Pilot Project from September 2009 through August 2010 can be summarized as follows:

- (1) Issuance of newsletters for RA II Members:  
Vol. 1/No. 1, September 2009  
Vol. 1/No. 2, April 2010  
Vol. 1/No. 3, May 2010

Contents have included:

- Information on access to satellite imagery, data and products including application products
- Outlines of currently available or planned training activities
- News on meteorological satellites
- News on new services
- Brief progress reports on the Pilot Project
- Introduction to the activities of other RAs and WMO VL activities

(2) Establishment of RA II Pilot Project web pages on the WMO Space Programme (WMOSP) website hosted by WMOSP (<http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/sat/RAII-PilotProject.html>):

As initial content, the page includes:

- Introduction to RA II Pilot Project
- Newsletter archives

The following content will also be added:

- Information on access to satellite imagery, data/products and training
- RA II Pilot Project questionnaire relating to the availability and use of satellite data and products

(3) Creation of a mailing list for RA II Members and another one for Coordinating Group members

- Collection of opinions on the newsletter, requirements, etc. from RA II Members

For Pilot Project Coordinating Group members:

Homepage: [http://groups.google.com/group/ra2pp\\_sat\\_cg](http://groups.google.com/group/ra2pp_sat_cg)  
 Email address: [ra2pp\\_sat\\_cg@googlegroups.com](mailto:ra2pp_sat_cg@googlegroups.com)

For RA II Members:

Homepage: [http://groups.google.com/group/ra2pp\\_sat](http://groups.google.com/group/ra2pp_sat)  
 Email address: [ra2pp\\_sat@googlegroups.com](mailto:ra2pp_sat@googlegroups.com)

- Consistent updating of the mailing list for RA II PP

(4) Alignment of Pilot Project activities with Virtual Lab activities to optimize assistance to NMHSs in RA II

- Ongoing liaison with the WMO Secretariat and the VL Secretariat (EUMETSAT) for information sharing in order to optimize assistance to NMHSs while avoiding duplication of effort.

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