

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)

FIFTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP

GENEVA

29 and 30 June 2012

FINAL REPORT



WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

FIFTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP

(Geneva, 29 and 30 June 2012)

1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION (*agenda item 1*)

1.1 The fifth session of the RA II Management Group (MG-5) was held at the WMO Secretariat, Geneva, on 29 and 30 June 2012 during the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Council (EC-64). 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 13:10 hours on 29 June 2012. 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 for this session. The president highlighted the importance of the MG-5 session for further development of the RA II Strategic Operating Plan and the Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan and for the effective preparation of the fifteenth session of RA II (XV-RA II) in Doha in December 2012.

1.3 Mr Robert O. Masters, Director, Development and Regional Activities Department, also welcomed the participants, and expressed his wish that this MG session would make various decisions for more efficient and cost-effective organization of the fifteenth session of RA II.

1.4 The Management Group adopted the agenda of the session, which is given in **Annex II**.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE FOURTH SESSION (*agenda item 2*)

2.1 The MG-5 recalled that the fourth session of the RA II Management Group (MG-4: Doha, Qatar, 29 February – 2 March 2012) focused mainly on: the activities of the RA II subsidiary bodies including pilot projects; implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (Asia) (2009-2011); RA II contribution to and participation in WMO priority activities for 2012-2015; development of the RA II Strategic Operating Plan for 2012-2015; preparation for the fifteenth session of Regional Association II (XV-RA II) and the RA II Regional Seminar; and efficient operation of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific and the WMO Office for West Asia.

2.2 The Group agreed that the further development of the Strategic Operating Plan 2012-2015 and the preparation for the fifteenth session of RA II are the main issues for the MG-5 session, which should be discussed under relevant agenda items 3 and 4. The Group further agreed that two matters on (a) the plan for the regional events and (b) development of RA II Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan should be discussed under agenda item 2.

Regional Events

2.3 The MG-5 agreed that the Management Group will meet on the occasion of the extraordinary session of the Congress on GFCS (Geneva, 29-31 October 2012) to facilitate the decisions on the outstanding issues for the preparation of XV-RA II.

2.4 The Group was pleased to note that the sixth Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological Services in Regional Association II (Asia) would be held in 2014. The date and place as well as the theme and topics would be discussed at XV-RA II under agenda item 5.2. The MG-5 agreed that the next MG session (MG-6) in October 2012 would revisit this issue to facilitate easier discussion at XV-RA II.

2.5 The Group further noted that a Regional Workshop for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Asia/Pacific is planned to be held in mid-November 2012, which will be a coordination and capacity building workshop similar to the one organized for LDCs in Africa in November 2011. The participation of Directors of NMHSs and National Focal Points of LDCs in other Ministries (i.e., two participants per country) is expected.

2.6 The MG-5 agreed on the updated tentative plan for the regional events during the Sixteenth Financial Period (2012-2015) as shown in **Annex III**.

2.7 In this connection, the Group was informed that, further to the decision at the session of the Working Group on Hydrological Forecasts and Assessments (WGH: Seoul, 23-26 November 2011) that the water resources assessment be one of the highest priority areas of WGH for 2012-2016, a workshop on the development of water resources assessment methodologies and establishment of an information system for water resources assessment in RA II is planned to be held in Seoul from 10 to 12 October 2012, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea. The outcomes of the workshop will be reported to the XV-RA II session.

2.8 The Group was also informed of the planned Regional WIS Workshop in Doha, Qatar, before the XV-RA II session. The possible linkage to the Regional Seminar (11-12 December 2012) was suggested for consideration by Qatar.

Development of RA II Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan

2.9 The Group reiterated the views expressed by the MG-4 that the currently proposed nine implementation projects should be streamlined to six or seven to avoid overlaps among the proposed WIGOS projects and other existing RA II pilot projects; and adequate coordination on Key Players of each project is particularly important to ensure the effectiveness of the projects.

2.10 The MG-5 was informed that, in order to assist the work of the Task Team (chaired by Mr Arif Mahmood, Chair of WG-IOS/WIS) for the improvement of draft RA II Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan, the Secretariat invited the Management Group members to provide concrete suggestions for improvement. The Group agreed to the suggestion of China, Japan and the Chair of the Task Team that some of the proposed projects/tasks, including project/task IV concerning a new design of the regional and subregional observing networks, be carefully reviewed for deletion or integration.

2.11 The Group agreed that a newly proposed cross-regional (RA II/RA V) project for the "improvement of weather radar products for severe weather monitoring: standardization of data processing procedures, quality control and calibration; radar products (rainfall, wind field products) inter-comparison/validation, real-time distribution/exchange", to be led by ASEAN member countries, be accepted but is to be combined with another radar-related subtask/subproject II.2.

2.12 The MG-5 requested the Secretariat to assist the Management Group and the Task Team in the improvement of the Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan (R-WIP), and agreed that the improved R-WIP be distributed to all RA II Members for their feedback. The Group further agreed on the timeline towards the XV-RA II session, as follows:

- Further development of draft R-WIP by Task Team July 2012
- Review by Key Regional Players Aug 2012
 - *Nomination of Key Regional Players to review the draft and ensuring their commitments to the project*
- Distribution of R-WIP to RA II Members for feedback Sept 2012
- Finalization of draft R-WIP by Task Team and submission to MG-6 Oct 2012

- Review by the Management Group (MG-6) and WG-IOS/WIS and endorsement end-Oct 2012
- Formal documentation for XV-RA II by the Secretariat Oct/Nov 2012
- Presentation of R-WIP to the Regional Seminar and XV-RA II Dec 2012

2.13 The MG-5 was informed by the representative of the Russian Federation that a Subregional Workshop/Seminar on WIGOS for RA II/RA VI Members of the Commonwealth of Independent States would be planned in Moscow in late 2012 if the necessary funds are secured.

3. DEVELOPMENT OF RA II STRATEGIC OPERATING PLAN FOR 2012-2015 (*agenda item 3*)

3.1 The MG-5 recalled that the MG-4 (Doha, 29 February – 2 March 2012) considered the highest priority areas for Region II including some region- or subregion-specific priorities, i.e., (a) Sand and dust storms; and (b) Thunderstorms and associated extreme weather events.

3.2 The Group reaffirmed that “the further improvement of the GTS and implementation of the WIS/WIGOS” is still the top priority in the Region, and considered that the following would be the highest priority areas for Region II for 2012-2015 for consideration and agreement at the XV-RA II session:

- (a) Further improvement of the GTS and implementation of the WIS/WIGOS;
- (b) Sustainable capacity development including human resources development;
- (c) Better climate services, including those for drought, through the enhancement and operation of the RA II RCC network and RCOFs;
- (d) Establishment of a region-wide multi-hazard early warning system;
- (e) Upgrading of service delivery capability, in particular for aeronautical and marine meteorological services;
- (f) Implementation of WMO Flood Forecasting Initiative, water resources assessment and regional exchange of hydrological data and information; and
- (g) Reduction of risks and impacts of region-specific hazards caused by sand and dust storms, thunderstorms and associated extreme weather events.

3.3 The Group recalled that, at the 2012 Meeting of Presidents of Regional Associations (Geneva, 30-31 January 2012), the RA presidents agreed to further develop the Regional Association Operating Plans by adjusting them to align with Congress decisions and the WMO-wide Operating Plan. As a result, there was a requirement for identifying Regional Key Outcomes (RKO), concrete activities, responsibility and timeline for the RA II Operating Plan.

3.4 The MG-5 also recalled that the MG-4 reviewed the draft RA II Operating Plan (WIGOS/WIS part - Expected Result 4) and agreed on the approach taken for identifying RKO, concrete activities, responsibility and timeline for the RA II Operating Plan. The MG-4 further agreed that the same approach should be extended to the development of other Expected Results 1-3 and 5-8 to complete the RA II Operating Plan. It suggested that the further streamlining by prioritizing the deliverables be considered to focus on realistic and feasible deliverables to be implemented in 2012-2015.

3.5 In this respect, the MG-4 decided the new composition of the Task Team on Strategic Planning with: Mr L.S. Lee (Hong Kong, China: Chair); Mr X. Xu (China); Ms M. Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran); Mr N. Hasegawa (Japan); Dr M.-H. Ahn (Republic of Korea); and Ms M. Nazarova (Uzbekistan), and requested the Task Team to work on the further development of RA II (Strategic) Operating Plan. The MG-5, in this connection, welcomed Mr T. Kimura, Head of the Office of International Affairs, JMA, as a new member

of the Task Team, replacing Mr N. Hasegawa.

3.6 The MG-5 was pleased to note that the Task Team, with assistance of the Secretariat (RAP Office), has accordingly developed a draft RA II Operating Plan containing the required associated activities, relevant WMO Programmes and Technical Commissions, responsibility, implementation schedule, and baselines and targets for proposed deliverables mapped under Expected Results 1-8. The Chairpersons of RA II Working Groups and Coordinators of Sub-Groups were consulted in this work by contributing their comments and proposals for concrete activities based on their Groups' work plans.

3.7 The MG-5 reviewed the draft RA II Operating Plan, proposed by the Task Team, in light of the following points:

- (a) Appropriateness of the number of deliverables (currently 122); and possible merging to avoid duplication and redundancy;
- (b) Priority areas of RA II (as given in paragraph 3.2 above);
- (c) Concreteness and feasibility of the proposed activities;
- (d) Appropriateness of the target setting; and
- (e) Appropriateness of implementation/work schedule.

3.8 The Group commended the substantial work of the Task Team for the development of the draft RA II Operating Plan. The MG-5 considered that the currently proposed 122 deliverables and associated activities are comprehensive and specific and are in accordance with high-priority areas of RA II. In recognizing the need for further refinement, the Group endorsed the proposed draft RA II Operating Plan. The president requested the members of the Management Group to further review the draft RA II OP, in particular concerning the deliverables related to observations and those proposed under Expected Results 6-8.

3.9 The MG-5 agreed that the RA II Strategic Operating Plan be simple, which should be composed of: (a) introduction (to describe the purpose and how to use), priority areas of RA II, monitoring and evaluation mechanism (strategy part); and (b) Operating Plan (table part). It further agreed on the key milestones for completion of the RA II Strategic Operating Plan (SOP), as given below:

- Further review and comments by MG by end-August 2012;
- Refining of RA II OP by Task Team by September 2012;
- Development of RA II SOP 2012-2015 by Task Team by October 2012;
- Adoption of RA II OP 2012-2015 and review of draft SOP by MG (at MG-6 planned for end-October 2012 during Cg-Ext. (2012));
- Finalization and adoption of RA II SOP 2012-2015 (at XV-RA II, December 2012).

4. ORGANIZATION OF THE FIFTEENTH SESSION OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (XV-RA II) AND THE RA II REGIONAL SEMINAR (*agenda item 4*)

4.1 Preparation for XV-RA II session (*agenda item 4.1*)

Date and place of XV-RA II session

4.1.1 The MG-5 was pleased to confirm that XV-RA II would be held from Thursday, 13 December to Wednesday, 19 December 2012 (seven days including one-day holiday on Saturday, 15 December 2012), preceded by a two-day Regional Seminar on Tuesday, 11 and Wednesday, 12 December 2012.

4.1.2 The Group was informed that Members of WMO were notified, on 29 May 2012, of the date and place of XV-RA II and were requested to send notification of their intention to be

represented at the session to the Secretariat by 30 July 2012. The Group noted that the president of RA II would agree in July 2012 to a list of non-Members and international and regional organizations to be invited to the session. The Group requested the president and the Secretariat to ensure that the regional key partners be invited to the session, including the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (also known as the Gulf Cooperation Council: GCC) and the Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia (RIMES), with which WMO recently concluded the Memorandum of Understanding, as well as the SAARC Meteorological Research Centre (SMRC), the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee and the WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones.

Agenda

4.1.3 The Group recalled that the MG-4 (Doha, Qatar, 29 February – 2 March 2012) considered the possible agenda and documentation plan, with reference to the XIV-RA II (Tashkent, Uzbekistan, December 2008) agenda and that for EC-64, in accordance with the WMO General Regulations. The Group noted that the draft Provisional Agenda proposed by the MG-4 was reviewed and supported by the Technical Departments of the WMO Secretariat.

4.1.4 The MG-5 agreed to the draft Provisional Agenda, as given in **Annex IV**, which would be further reviewed, if necessary, at the MG-6 session planned during the extraordinary session of Congress on GFCS in end-October 2012.

4.1.5 The Group considered that the internal matters of the Association (agenda item 5.1.1) would cover the following:

- (a) Internal matters of WMO;
- (b) Reports of RA II subsidiary bodies (MG and WGs) and pilot projects;
- (c) Review of RA II subsidiary bodies, i.e., future working mechanism of RA II; and
- (d) Distribution of EC seats.

4.1.6 In connection with paragraph 4.1.5(d) above, the Group recalled that EC-LXII (2010) considered the proposal submitted by the president of RA II to increase the number of EC members from 37 to 38 to enable RA II to obtain an extra seat (increasing from six to seven) for consideration at Cg-XVI in accordance with the procedures described in the WMO Convention. The Council expressed various views and requested its Working Group on WMO Strategic and Operational Planning (EC WG/SOP) and the Secretary-General to make an analysis of factors underlying the distribution of seats, as well as implications for the cost and efficiency of EC work.

4.1.7 The Group also noted that Cg-XVI acknowledged the proposal made by the presidents of Regional Associations II (Asia), IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean) and V (South-West Pacific) to increase the number of Executive Council members to enable these Regions to obtain an extra seat with respect to the distribution of seats adopted by Resolution 44 (Cg-XVI) for consideration at Cg-XVII, in accordance with the procedures described in the WMO Convention. Congress requested the Executive Council to further consider the enabling of increasing seats in the Council, and if necessary prepare a proposal to Congress to potentially amend Article 13 of the WMO Convention and the General Regulations.

4.1.8 The MG-5 expressed the view that XV-RA II should take a similar approach to XV-RA I (Marrakech, November 2010), which requested the president to propose a change to the WMO Regulations for consideration at Cg-XVI such that Africa would be assured nine seats on the Executive Council and prepared a relevant working paper for Cg-XVI. The Group agreed that the possible appropriate approaches, including preparing a draft resolution, be discussed at the MG-6 session.

4.1.9 The MG-5 agreed that the emerging issues and specific regional challenges, to be discussed under agenda item 6, should cover the quality management for aeronautical meteorological services; and sand and dust storms.

Work Plan

4.1.10 The MG-5 recalled that the MG-4 agreed on the draft basic Work Plan for the XV-RA II. The Group agreed that Sub-items 5.1.1(a) and 5.1.1(b), given in paragraph 4.1.5, be discussed on the afternoon of 13 December 2012 and Sub-items 5.1.1(c) and 5.1.1(d) be on the morning of 14 December 2012 following the discussions on the RA II Operating Plan (agenda item 5.1.3). The slightly revised work plan is given in **Annex V**.

4.1.11 The Group considered possible side events during XV-RA II. A basic plan of side events is given in **Annex VI**. The MG-5 requested the Secretariat to invite the Chairs of RA II subsidiary bodies and Coordinators of pilot projects to propose their planned side events if necessary.

Document preparation

4.1.12 The Group agreed that the XV-RA II session documents will have a similar structure to the documents for EC-64, i.e., the pre-session documents should consist of:

- Cover page: includes title of agenda item and title of document, as well as a summary of required decisions;
- Appendix A: draft text for general summary (Part I - session report)
- Appendix B: draft resolution(s) if necessary
- Appendix C/B: background and/or progress report for information. These texts are not for discussion. Some Documents are complemented by an extended background contained in respective INF documents (same numbering).

Elements of documents will be hyperlinked, and References to external resources, such as working groups' reports, will be linked to web source.

4.1.13 The Group also agreed on the need for making the pre-session and in-session documents available at both "Google Docs/Sites" and the "WMO FTP server".

Chair/Co-chairs

4.1.14 The Group considered that *Programme Plenary A* (Observation and Information Systems; Weather and DRR Services; and Research) could be (co-)chaired by Mr. A.A. Mohammed (Qatar) and *Programme Plenary B* (Climate and Water; Capacity Development; and Partnerships) by Dr L.S. Rathore (India).

Establishment of Committees

4.1.15 The MG-5 agreed in principle that the Nomination Committee would be composed of the representatives of China (Chair) and two other Members of RA II. One Member would serve as Rapporteur on Review of the previous resolutions and recommendations.

Proposal for new Working Mechanism of RA II for 2013-2016

4.1.16 The Group, recalling the MG-4's concern about the very limited communication within the Working Group and a low level of response from theme leaders, reviewed once again the strengths and weaknesses of the current working structure of the subsidiary bodies.

4.1.17 The Group also recalled that MG-4, in view of the successful implementation of RA II pilot projects under the strong initiative of the coordinators, agreed that future working structure for RA II would be: Working Groups (for essential tasks); Task Teams (for specific time-bound tasks); and pilot projects, in addition to the Management Group. In view of the above, the MG-5 considered the possible effective working structure(s) for 2013-2016, as given in [Annex VII](#), to best implement the Strategic Operating Plan of RA II. The MG-5 agreed that the MG-6 would further discuss details of the future working mechanism of RA II for submission to XV-RA II.

4.1.18 The MG-5 further agreed that the nomination and selection of Chairs of Working Groups and Coordinators of Sub-Groups (and Task Team leaders, if Task Teams are proposed) be made at XV-RA II and those of members (or theme leaders) of Working Groups and Sub-Groups be made immediately after XV-RA II by the Management Group in consultation with the Chairs and Coordinators of Working Groups and Sub-Groups.

4.1.19 The Group reviewed the membership and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Management Group in view of the increased importance of the effective management and oversight of the activities of the Association. The MG-5 considered that proposed additional points to the ToR of the Management Group aiming at strengthening its role and responsibility are valid and adequate. In connection with the proposed term of reference related to the coordination and oversight of the activities of various Regional Centres, the Group noted that EC-64 recognized the need for better definition of roles and responsibilities of regional associations in the WMO General Regulations and requested the EC WG/SOP to review the provisions relating to the functions, roles and responsibilities of the regional associations given in the WMO Convention and General Regulations and to propose to the Executive Council amendments to the General Regulations, as necessary. In this respect, the Group agreed to discuss the ToR issue at the MG-6 in accordance with the progress of the work of EC WG/SOP.

4.1.20 The MG-5 considered that the membership of the Management Group should be kept limited to the president, vice-president and five other EC member Permanent Representatives of the Region. Other Directors of NMHSs and chairpersons of RA II working groups, as appropriate, would be invited by the president to each session subject to the availability of financial resources. It agreed that a draft Resolution given in [Annex VIII](#) be finalized at the MG-6 session, for adoption by XV-RA II.

Election of officers

4.1.21 The Group recalled that the Government of Qatar indicated its intention to nominate Mr A.A. Mohammed to be a candidate for the president of RA II, for election of officers during XV-RA II. The MG-5 highlighted the challenges anticipated to be faced during the next inter-session period 2013-2016 and the need for experienced officers to lead the Region. In this respect, all members of the Group requested Dr Chaudhry to consider continuing to serve the Region in his present capacity as vice-president of RA II, and welcomed his agreement to seriously consider the request.

Date and place of the sixteenth session

4.1.22 The MG-5 also recalled that at the MG-4 session the Islamic Republic of Iran indicated its interest to host the sixteenth session of RA II (XVI-RA II) in 2016. The MG-5 welcomed the offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran for consideration at an appropriate time.

Scientific Lectures and Discussions

4.1.23 The Group was pleased to note that three possible scientific lectures had been proposed on:

- (1) Improving water management efficiency by technology development to overcome climate change impacts (by Dr Sung Kim, Republic of Korea);
- (2) The early warning information on extreme weather provided by JMA and a pilot project to develop an early warning system to mitigate cold/hot damage to rice production (by Dr Mitsuhiro Hatori, Japan);
- (3) Assessment of the regional water bodies temperature effects on seasonal precipitation of Iran (by Dr Iman Babaeian, Islamic Republic of Iran).

4.1.24 The MG-5 reviewed the abstracts and CVs of the above three lecturers and expressed the views that the topic of the scientific lecture should be able to advise on certain key priority areas of WMO and RA II, and that the scope should not be confined to a specific country but be broader, i.e., regional. In this respect, the Group considered that the two lectures (1) and (2) would be appropriate for the scientific lectures, but the scope of the proposed lecture (3) should be widened and more general than localized research-type paper.

4.1.25 The Group also noted that China is prepared to deliver a lecture on climate services in China. It requested China to adjust the proposed scientific lecture on climate services taking into account the above views, i.e., being in support of GFCS at the regional level. The Group requested the Secretariat to invite other Members of RA II for possible lectures, for final decision by the MG-6 in end-October 2012.

4.2 RA II Regional Seminar (agenda item 4.2)

4.2.1 The MG-5 reaffirmed that the RA II Regional Seminar be held at the same venue as for the XV-RA II session on 11 and 12 December 2012, prior to the XV-RA II session. The seminar will be conducted in English only.

4.2.2 The Group recalled that the MG-4 considered the possible topics to be: strategic planning and implementation of RA II Operating Plan; role, operation and management of NMHSs; capacity development; improving climate services; and the implementation of the WIGOS/WIS in RA II. In this respect, and in view of the limited time available for the Seminar, the MG-5 agreed on the basic work plan and topics of the Regional Seminar as given in **Annex IX**.

4.3 Logistical arrangements (agenda item 4.3)

4.3.1 The MG-5 was briefed by Mr A.A. Mohammed, Permanent Representative of Qatar with WMO and Mr E. Gouaini, Chief, Conference Services Unit, WMO, on the progress of logistical arrangements for the XV-RA II session and the Regional Seminar.

4.3.2 The MG-5 noted with pleasure that Mr Mohammed, on behalf of the Government of the State of Qatar, has signed the host country agreement (which was concluded on 2 July 2012 with the signature of the Secretary-General). A block reservation of rooms at Hotel Courtyard by Marriot has been made for the expected participants. The government will be able to support the participants by providing a discount room rate and a discount airfare of the Qatar Airways. The arrangements for entry visa upon arrival at Doha international airport will be made by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC). The expected participants will be invited to submit an e-copy of the passport to LOC for this purpose. Transportation between the airport and the hotel as well as food at the conference hall will also be provided.

4.3.3 The Group requested Mr A.A. Mohammed and the Local Organizing Committee to work with the Secretariat in finalizing the Information Note for Participants (Material Arrangements, INF. 1) to enable earlier notification to the Members.

5. OTHER BUSINESS (agenda item 5)

International Post-Graduate Hydrology Programmes at the Department of Hydrology, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, India

5.1 The MG-5 was informed of the capacity building activities in the area of hydrology being carried out in the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee, India. Since 1972, the IIT Roorkee has run the international post-graduate hydrology courses aiming at training of engineers/scientists from Asia, Africa and other developing countries. The courses are presently sponsored by the Government of India, UNESCO and WMO. To date, a total of 808 participants including 302 international participants from 38 countries have participated in the post-graduate hydrology programmes.

5.2 In view of the excellent training opportunity in hydrology in Asia, the Group fully supported the useful capacity building activities of IIT Roorkee, and recommended that WMO publicize the programme among WMO Members to facilitate the application of suitable candidates.

Nomination of Principal Global Information System Centres (GISCs) in RA II

5.3 The Group recalled that, in the process of the implementation of the WMO Information System (WIS) in RA II, Beijing (China) and Tokyo (Japan) were designated as the GISCs at Cg-XVI. It also noted that Seoul (Republic of Korea) was designated as the third GISC in RA II at EC-64.

5.4 The MG-5 further recalled that Cg-XVI suggested that the area of responsibility of each RA II GISC should be officially agreed upon at the XV-RA II session, taking into account the efficiency of options, the cost effectiveness for both National Centres (NCs) and GISCs, data distribution capacity of the GISCs and the current status of the GTS. Cg-XVI also encouraged RA II to find out a tentative solution to the area of responsibility of each RA II GISC until its formal agreement at XV-RA II. In this respect, the president of RA II took the initiative in March 2012 of implementing a survey in RA II to nominate a tentative principal GISC of their preference as a tentative solution.

5.5 In view of the above, the MG-5 agreed that the survey for the nomination of principal GISCs be carried out after EC-64 to facilitate the discussions for formal agreement at the XV-RA II session in December 2012. The survey questionnaire would also take into consideration the possibility of further designation of other potential GISCs in RA II in the near future. It requested the Secretariat to assist the president in this initiative to ensure the Members' high rate of response, and further agreed that the updated information be reported to the MG-6 session.

6. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION (agenda item 6)

6.1 On behalf of the participants, Dr Rathore (India) expressed his thanks and appreciation to the president and the vice-president of RA II as well as the Secretariat for the excellent arrangements made for the MG-5.

6.2 The session closed at 14:45 hours on 30 June 2012.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG-5)

(Geneva, 29 and 30 June 2012)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Members of RA II Management Group and Representatives of Members of RA II

Prof. Victor Chub President of RA II Chairperson	Uzbekistan	uzhymet@meteo.uz
Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry Vice-president of RA II	Pakistan	dgmetpak@hotmail.com
Dr Sung Kim Hydrological Advisor to the President of RA II	Republic of Korea	skim@kict.re.kr
Dr Zheng Guoguang Member	China	zgg@cma.gov.cn
Mr Shen Xiaonong Alternate to Dr Zheng G.	China	guoji@cma.gov.cn
Mr Yu Jixin Adviser to Dr Zheng G.	China	yujx@cma.gov.cn
Dr Laxman S. Rathore Alternate to Dr A. Tyagi	India	lrathore@gmail.com
Mr Tatsuya Kimura Alternate to Dr M. Hatori	Japan	tkimura@met.kishou.go.jp
Mr Yoshiaki Kanno Adviser to Dr M. Hatori	Japan	ykanno@met.kishou.go.jp
Mr Naohisa Koide Adviser to Dr M. Hatori	Japan	koide-n@met.kishou.go.jp
Dr Chung-Kyu Park Alternate to Mr S.-J. Cho	Republic of Korea	ckpark@kma.go.kr
Dr Won-Tae Yun Adviser to Mr S.-J. Cho	Republic of Korea	wtyun@korea.kr
Mr Seong-Chan Park Adviser to Mr S.-J. Cho	Republic of Korea	scpark@korea.kr
Mr Yongseob Lee Adviser to Mr S.-J. Cho	Republic of Korea	yslee@korea.kr

Ms Sungwha Son Adviser to Mr S.-J. Cho	Republic of Korea	sungwha@korea.kr
Mr Alexander A. Nurullaev Alternate to Dr A.V. Frolov	Russian Federation	alexnur@mail.ru
Dr Alexander Gusev Adviser to Dr A.V. Frolov	Russian Federation	aggusev@mail.ru
Dr Saad M.S. Mohalfi Member	Saudi Arabia	saadpme@yahoo.com
Mr Mohammed Babidhan Adviser to Dr S. Mohalfi	Saudi Arabia	babidhan@gmail.com
Mr Ahmed Abdulla Mohammed Invited participant	Qatar	ahmed_qatar@yahoo.com
Mr Abdulla M. Al-Mannai Adviser to Mr A.A. Mohamed	Qatar	abdulla.almannai@caa.gov.qa
Mr R. Monikumar Adviser to Mr A.A. Mohamed	Qatar	moni.kumar@caa.gov.qa
Dr Sergey Myagkov Adviser to Prof. V. Chub	Uzbekistan	nigmi@albatros.uz
Mr Rezazadeh Parviz Observer	Islamic Republic of Iran	rezazadeh@irimet.net
Mr Mohammad T. Zamanian Observer	Islamic Republic of Iran	mtzamanian@yahoo.com

2. WMO Secretariat

Mr Robert O. Masters Director, Development and Regional Activities (DRA) Department	rmasters@wmo.int
Dr Tokiyoshi Toya Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific, DRA Department	ttoya@wmo.int
Mr Kuniyuki Shida Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific, DRA Department	kshida@wmo.int
Dr Dong-Eon Chang Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific, DRA Department	dchang@wmo.int
Dr Jaser Rabadi WMO Representative for West Asia	jrabadi@wmo.int

Dr Wolfgang Grabs
Chief, Hydrological Forecasting and Water Resources
Division, Climate and Water Department

wgrabs@wmo.int

Dr Wenjian Zhang
Director, Observing and Information Systems (OBS)
Department

wzhang@wmo.int

Mr Peiliang Shi
Director, WMO Information System Branch, OBS
Department

pshi@wmo.int

Mr Elhousseine Gouaini (part time)
Chief, Conference Services Unit, Language,
Conference and Publishing Services Department

egouaini@wmo.int

FIFTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG-5)

(Geneva, 29 and 30 June 2012)

AGENDA

1. Organization of the Session
2. Matters arising from the fourth session
3. Development of RA II Strategic Operating Plan for 2012-2015
4. Organization of the fifteenth session of Regional Association II (XV-RA II) and the RA II Regional Seminar
 - 4.1 Preparation for XV-RA II session
 - 4.2 RA II Regional Seminar
 - 4.3 Logistical arrangements
5. Other business
6. Closure of the session

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)

**PLAN FOR
REGIONAL EVENTS
DURING THE SIXTEENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD (2012-2015)**

Regional Events \ Years	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fifteenth Session of the Association	13-19.XII.2012 Doha, Qatar			
Meeting of Management Group	29.II-2.III.2012 Doha (MG-4) and 29 & 30.VI.2012 Geneva (MG-5) .X.2012 Geneva (MG-6)			
Session of <i>WG on WMO Integrated Observing System and WMO Information System (WG-IOS/WIS)</i>				
Session of <i>WG on Disaster Risk Reduction and Service Delivery (WGDRS)</i>				
Session of <i>WG on Climate Services, Adaptation and Agrometeorology</i>				
Session of <i>WG on Hydrological Forecasts and Assessments (WGH*)</i>				
Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological and Hydrological Services			x	
Regional Seminar	11-12.XII.2012 Doha, Qatar			
Regional LDC Workshop for Asia/Pacific	mid-XI.2012 x			

Budget Allocation approved by Cg-XVI (ref. WMO Operating Plan 2012-2015)

- | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| • Regional Association II session | 2012 | CHF 363,374 |
| • RA II Regional Seminar | 2012 | CHF 30,708 |
| • RA II Technical Conference | 2014 | CHF 79,886 |
| • RA II Management Group Meeting | 2012 | CHF 25,590 |
| • Working Group sessions of RA II | 2013-2015 | CHF 45,270 |
| • Assistance to President of RA II | 2012-2015 | CHF 16,166 |
| • Regional LDC Workshop for RA II and RA V | 2012 | CHF 20,472 |

FIFTEENTH SESSION OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)
(December 2012, Doha, Qatar)
DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

- 2.1 Consideration of the report on credentials
- 2.2 Adoption of the agenda
- 2.3 Establishment of committees
- 2.4 Other organizational matters

3. REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

4. PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES – REGIONAL ASPECTS

Strategic Thrust 1 - Improving Service Quality and Service Delivery

- 4.1 Enhanced capabilities of Members to deliver and improve access to high-quality weather, climate, water and related environmental predictions, information, warnings and services in response to users' needs, and to enable their use in decision-making by relevant societal sectors (**ER 1**)
- 4.2 Enhanced capabilities of Members to reduce risks and potential impacts of hazards caused by weather, climate, water and related environmental elements (**ER 2**)

Strategic Thrust 2 – Advancing Scientific Research and Application, as well as Development and Implementation of Technology

- 4.3 Enhanced capabilities of Members to produce better weather, climate, water and related environmental information, predictions and warnings to support in particular disaster risk reduction and climate impact and adaptation strategies (**ER 3**)
- 4.4 Enhanced capabilities of Members to access, develop, implement and use integrated and interoperable Earth- and space-based observation systems for weather, climate and hydrological observations, as well as related environmental and space weather observations, based on world standards set by WMO (**ER 4**)
- 4.5 Enhanced capabilities of Members to contribute to and draw benefits from the global research capacity for weather, climate, water and the related environmental science and technology development (**ER 5**)

Strategic Thrust 3 – Strengthening Capacity-Building

- 4.6 Enhanced capabilities of NMHSs, in particular in developing and least developed countries, to fulfil their mandates (**ER 6**)

Strategic Thrust 4 – Building and Enhancing Partnerships and Cooperation

- 4.7 New and strengthened partnerships and cooperation activities to improve NMHSs' performance in delivering services and to increase the value of the contributions of WMO within the United Nations system, relevant international conventions and national strategic issues (**ER 7**)

5. STRENGTHENING GOOD GOVERNANCE (*Strategic Thrust 5*)

- 5.1 An effective and efficient Organization (**ER 8**)

- 5.1.1 Internal matters of the Association
- 5.1.2 WMO Strategic Planning – Regional Aspects
- 5.1.3 Operating Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (Asia)
- 5.1.4 Sixth Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological Services in Regional Association II (Asia)

6. EMERGING ISSUES AND SPECIFIC CHALLENGES

- 7. WMO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE SOUTH-WEST PACIFIC INCLUDING WMO OFFICE FOR WEST ASIA**

8. SCIENTIFIC LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

- 9. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND OF RELEVANT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS**

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION

12. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

Draft Basic Work Plan
(Fifteenth session of RA II, Doha, Qatar, 13-19 December 2012)

All items will be discussed in Plenary meetings	Thursday 13 December		Friday 14 December		Saturday 15 December		Sunday 16 December		Monday 17 December		Tuesday 18 December		Wednesday 19 December	
	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
President of RA II items 1, 2, 3, 5-12	1 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 3 9*	5.1.1(a) 5.1.1(b)	5.1.2 5.1.3 5.1.4 5.1.1(c) 5.1.1(d) 6					7	10 Ds	8 9	Ds FDs	Ds FDs	FDs 11 12	
Session Co-Chair A items 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5				4.1 4.4			4.2 4.5			Ds				
Session Co-Chair B items 4.3, 4.6, 4.7				4.3			4.6 4.7				Ds			

Explanatory notes:

- Figures indicate the agenda items
- Ds: consideration of “early drafts” (formerly called working papers, WPs), e.g., Draft 1, Draft 2, ...
- FDs: consideration by Plenary of “final drafts” (formerly called PINKs)

* To appoint a Rapporteur on Review of Previous Resolutions

Side meetings: dates and time will be provided at the session

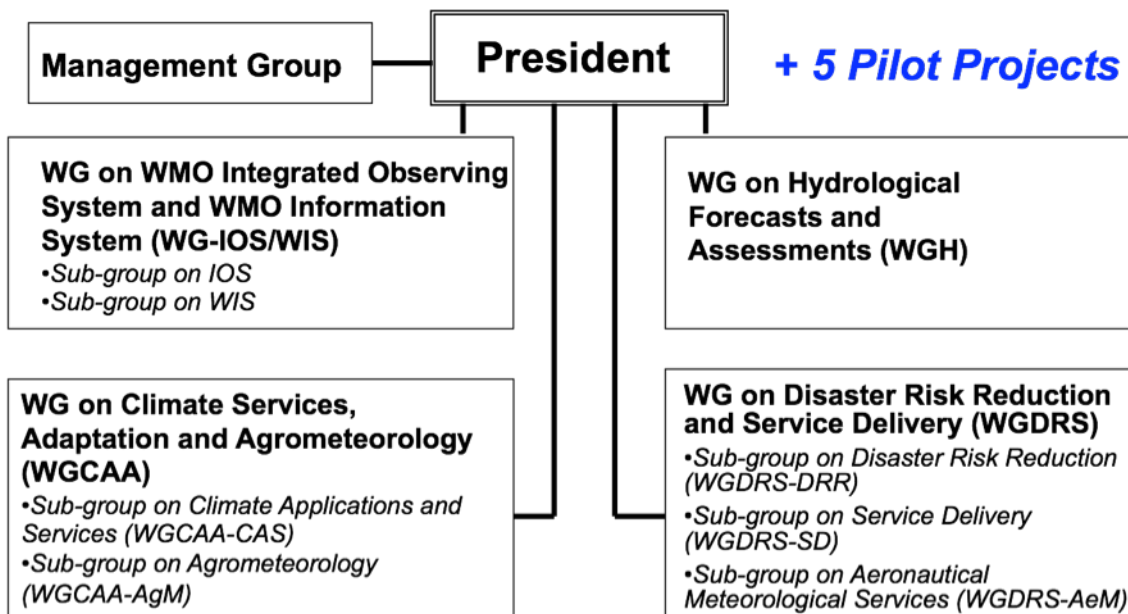
SIDE MEETING SCHEDULE (Basic Work Plan)
(Side Meeting Room)

Fifteenth session of RA II, Doha, Qatar, 13-19 December 2012

	Thursday 13 December	Friday 14 December	Saturday 15 December	Sunday 16 December	Monday 17 December	Tuesday 18 December	Wednesday 19 December
08:00-09:00	Coordination Committee	Coordination Committee	Tours and visits (Desert Lunch) organized by Dep. of Met.	Coordination Committee	Nomination Committee	Coordination Committee	
13:00-14:00		Side Meeting on ###		Sub-group on WGs Membership	Sub-group on WGs if necessary	Side Meeting on ###	
17:00-18:00		Sub-group on WGs Composition and ToR		Side Meeting on ###	Side Meeting on ###	Side Meeting INTAD2	
18:30-21:00	Reception* hosted by Government of Qatar						

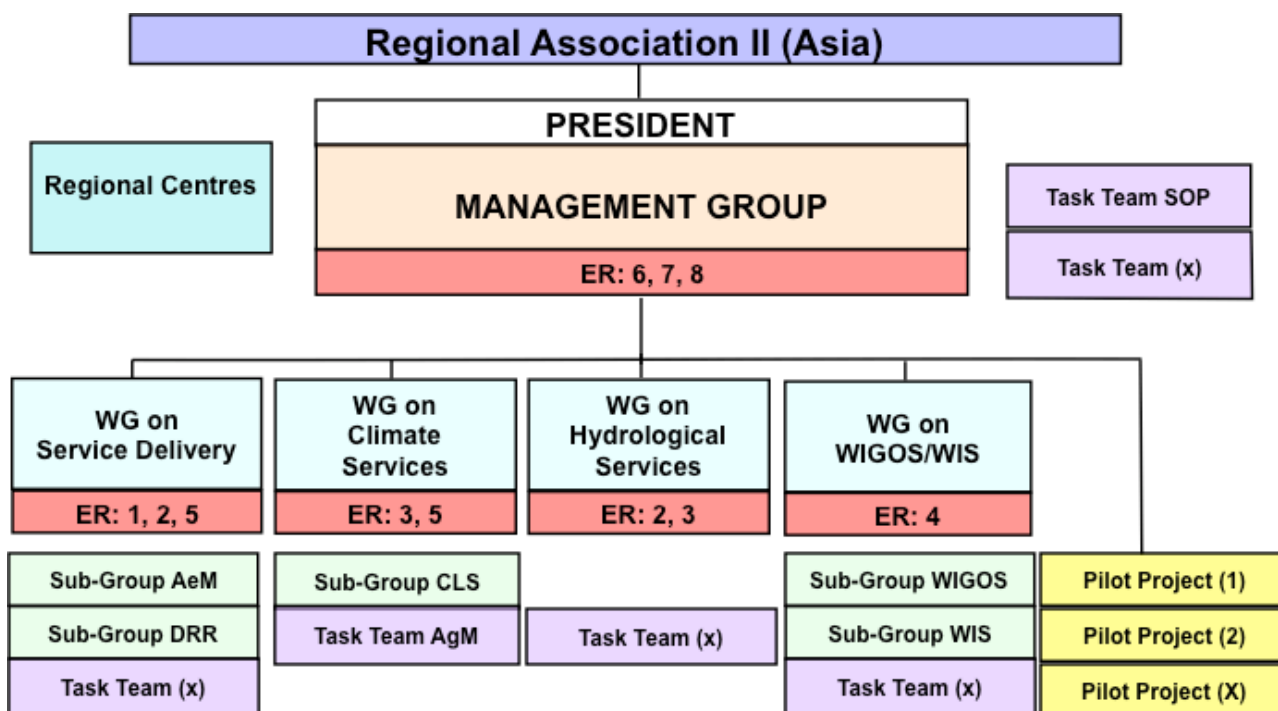
* at Courtyard by Marriot Hotel

Current RA II Working Structure
XIV-RA II (Tashkent, December 2008)



Chairs, coordinators, theme leaders and expert volunteers

Possible Future Working Mechanism of RA II



DRAFT Resolution XX (XV-RA II)

RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA),

Noting:

- (1) The *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 1077),
- (2) The *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fourteenth Session of Regional Association II (Asia)* (WMO-No. 1037),
- (3) The reports of the sessions of the RA II Management Group,
- (4) The WMO Strategic Plan 2012-2015 (WMO-No. 1069),
- (5) The WMO Operating Plan 2012-2015 (October 2011 version),
- (6) The Strategic Operating Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA II (Asia) 2012-2015,

Considering the proposal of the Management Group of the Association,

Recognizing the increased importance of the effective management and oversight of the activities of the Association and the need to have a mechanism to address issues not handled by other working groups, in particular activities related to expected results 6 - Enhanced capabilities of NMHSs, in particular in developing and least developed countries, to fulfil their mandates; 7 - New and strengthened partnerships and cooperation activities to improve NMHSs' performance in delivering services and to increase the value of the contributions of WMO within the United Nations system, relevant international conventions and national strategic issues; and 8 - An effective and efficient Organization, of the WMO Strategic Plan 2012-2015,

Decides:

- (1) To re-establish the Management Group of Regional Association II (Asia) with the following terms of reference:
 - (a) To advise the president of RA II on all matters related to the work of the Association, in particular, on emerging matters requiring actions during the intersessional period;
 - (b) To prioritize, plan, coordinate and manage the work of the Association and its subsidiary bodies;
 - (c) To review the structure and work of the subsidiary bodies of the Association, including advice on the implementation of their recommendations and taking into account financial and other resources needed in the work of these bodies, and to terminate or reorganize these bodies as necessary;
 - (d) To select working group members from candidates nominated by Members of the Association; and to propose to the president of the Association on the replacement of a member, should the member not contribute at the expected level, or in case of totally silent;

- (e) To coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Strategic **Operating** Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Regional Association II (Asia), and to provide the Region's contribution to the WMO Strategic Plan;
- (f) To assess and evaluate the implementation of activities of Regional Association II as per the WMO Strategic Plan;
- (g) To review the requirements and priorities of training and other events to be organized in the Region;
- (h) To coordinate and oversee the activities of the Regional Centres (RSMCs, RCCs, RICs, WIS centres, RTCs, etc.);
- (i) To collaborate with the Secretariat on resource mobilization and advise on the alignment of resources with regional priorities and implementation of the RA II strategic operating plan;
- (j) To address ways and means of capacity **development** of Members' National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the Region for the implementation of WMO Programmes and activities;
- (k) To address other issues not covered by working groups, including strengthening of strategic partnerships with regional organizations;

(2) To invite the president to act as chairperson of the Management Group, which is composed of the president, the vice-president and other **Executive Council member Permanent Representatives of the Region**. The president would also invite, as appropriate, other Directors of NMHSs, chairpersons of RA II working groups to each session subject to the availability of financial resources;

Requests the president to ensure that subregions are represented as appropriate on the Management Group and that the Group meets annually, or as needed, preferably in conjunction with other meetings or events;

Authorizes the president to take necessary decisions on behalf of the Association, after consultation with the Management Group, on important matters;

Requests further the president to report to the Association during the intersessional period, as necessary, and at its next regular session on the activities of the Management Group and relevant decisions taken on behalf of the Association.

Note: This resolution replaces Resolutions 12 (XIV-RA II), which is no longer in force.

Regional Seminar (Basic Work Plan)

(Side Meeting Room)

Doha, Qatar, 11-12 December 2012

Tuesday 11 December		Wednesday 12 December	
08:30-09:00	Registration		
09:00-09:15 09:15-09:30	Opening & Group Photo Break	09:00-12:00	(3) Implementation of WIGOS/WIS
09:30-12:30	(1) Development and Implementation of Regional Strategic Operating Plan and Challenges of NMHSs in RA II		
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	12:00-13:00	Lunch Break
14:00-17:30	(2) Capacity Development and Strategic Partnerships (including Role and Operation of NMHSs)	13:00-15:00	(4) Improving Climate Services
		15:00-15:30	General Discussions