

REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP

GENEVA, 12 MAY 2013

FINAL REPORT



WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP
(Geneva, Sunday, 12 May 2013)

1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

1.1 The seventh session of the RA II Management Group (MG-7) was held at the WMO Headquarters in Geneva on Sunday, 12 May 2013, prior to the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Council (EC-65). The list of participants is attached as Annex I to this report.

1.2 The session was opened at 14:00 hours on 12 May 2013. Mr Ahmed Abdulla Mohammed, President of RA II, who chaired the session, 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 organizing the session. Mr R. Masters, Director, Development and Regional Activities (DRA) Department, welcomed all the participants and congratulated the president for successfully holding the fifteenth session of RA II (RA II-15) held in Doha, Qatar, from 13 to 19 December 2012. He wished that the Management Group would follow up the issues raised during RA II-15 and play a vital role in guiding the activities of RA II during the intersessional period.

1.3 The MG-7 adopted the agenda of the session, which is given in Annex II to this report.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SIXTH SESSION

2.1 The Group recalled that, further to its fifth session (MG-5: Geneva, 29 and 30 June 2012), the sixth session of the RA II Management Group (MG-6: Geneva, 28 October 2012) focused mainly on: the final review of the RA II Strategic Operating Plan (SOP) for 2012-2015 for adoption and submission to the fifteenth session of Regional Association II (RA II-15); and the final review of preparation for RA II-15 and the WMO Regional Seminar on Strategic Capacity Development of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (Asia).

2.2 The Group also recalled that the MG-6 reviewed the comments and suggestions received from Members on the draft RA II Operating Plan 2012-2015 including the priority areas within the Region for submission to RA II-15 and that a reference to the WMO Country Profile Database (CPDB) was added to encourage Members' contribution to CPDB and its best utilization for exchanging information and monitoring the progress. The Group was pleased to recognize the fact that the approved RA II OP constituted an integral part of the WMO-wide OP 2012-2015 and contributed to the WMO strategic planning process for 2016-2019.

2.3 With regard to the issue of the number of the Executive Council (EC) seats allocated to RA II, the Group recalled that the MG-6 decided on pursuing possible appropriate approaches to increase the number of EC seats for RA II from six to seven for consideration by the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17) (2015) by establishing a small group, composed of the president, vice-president, and representatives of China and Qatar.

2.4 The Group was pleased to note that the important issues and proposals raised at MG-6 were submitted to RA II-15 and adopted at the Session. The major outcomes of RA II-15 include, among others:

- (a) Adoption of the RA II SOP 2012-2015 for the Enhancement of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA II identifying eight priority areas (ref. paragraph 3.3.2);
- (b) Approval of the Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan for RA II (R-WIP-II) with seven projects;

- (c) Approval of a new working mechanism for effective implementation of the Regional SOP.

2.5 The Group recalled that an ad hoc MG meeting was held on 19 December 2012 in Doha immediately after the closure of RA II-15 and the key action items required to be taken by MG were discussed. The action items consisted of: (a) short-term items which need immediate attention including: consider the necessity/selection of Chairpersons of WGs/ICTs; decide responsibility of individual MG members for one of WGs/ICTs; select theme leaders of the RA II subsidiary bodies; and establish a small group within MG for inputs to WMO SOP 2016-2019; and discuss how to enhance cooperation with other Regions, and (b) medium-term items which need more extensive planning and procedures including: prepare a proposal to EC-66 on the issue of increasing the number of RA II EC seats; work with RA V MG for the issue of relocation of RAP Office; and monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of SOP 2012-2015. The summary of the ad hoc MG meeting held in Doha is attached as Annex III to this report.

3. FOLLOW-UP TO THE RA II-15 SESSION AND THE REGIONAL SEMINAR

3.1 Working structure of RA II subsidiary bodies

3.1.1 The Group recalled that RA II-15 approved a new working mechanism for effective implementation of the Regional SOP by establishing a Management Group, four Working Groups (WGs) with sub-groups and themes, two Implementation and Coordination Teams (ICTs) to handle cross-cutting activities as well as five Pilot Projects, as shown in Annex IV to this report. The Association also approved the selection of the Chairpersons of Working Group on Hydrological Services (WGHS), Implementation and Coordination Team on Service Delivery (ICT-SD), Implementation and Coordination Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (ICT-DRR), and co-coordinators of Expert Groups (EGs) of the four WGs. The subsidiary bodies and Pilot Projects of RA II are attached as Annex V to this report. RA II-15 agreed that the Management Group should select chairs of working groups, if necessary; and select theme leaders and expert volunteers, in consultation with co-coordinators of Expert Groups, nominated by Members, with due regard to the need for the involvement of experts who had not had an opportunity to serve the Region or other international forums.

3.1.2 The Group was pleased to note that 130 nominations were received for the theme leaders and experts from the seventeen Members of RA II. The Group also reviewed the list of nominations and decided the membership of subsidiary bodies of RA II, including theme leaders and experts of the WGs and the members of ICT-SD. Recognizing that more experts should be added through additional nomination process, the Group agreed on the membership of subsidiary bodies of RA II with vacancies of some theme leaders, as listed in Annex VI to this report. The Group requested the Secretariat to inform the RA II Members of the outcomes by emails of the membership status agreed at MG-7 and solicit further nominations for the vacancies, and also agreed that the president should finalize the membership in consultation with co-coordinators of Expert Groups by the end of June 2013.

3.1.3 The Group recalled that the Association requested the Management Group to review annually the activities of the RA II Working Groups and to take appropriate measures to ensure that continued progress be made by the Working Groups and their Expert Groups as well as Implementation Coordination Teams, including appropriate adjustments to the terms of reference, membership and the work structure. The Group reaffirmed that the Association requested each Working Group chairpersons to submit an annual report to the Management Group summarizing their Working Group (i.e., Expert Groups) activities, including inputs from relevant theme leaders and plans for future activities, and that each Management Group member takes responsibility for overseeing one of Working Groups or Implementation Coordination Teams.

3.1.4 The Group agreed that for WGWS, WGCS and WG-WIGOS/WIS the initial WG Chairpersons should be selected among the co-coordinators of the WGs and the chairperson could

be rotated if necessary upon agreement within the WG. The Group also agreed that each Management Group member should take responsibility for overseeing one of Working Groups or Implementation Coordination Teams with exception of the President and Vice President. The overseer was not chosen for the WGHS since the Chairperson of the WG had been selected as the Hydrological Adviser. The MG-7 decision on the Chairpersons of WGs/ICTs and their overseeing MG Members is attached as Annex VII to this report.

3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of SOP 2012-2015

3.2.1 The Group noted that the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of SOP is an important part of the WMO results-based budget and strategic planning.

3.2.2 The MG-7 reaffirmed that the monitoring and evaluation are the tools to measure the performance of implementation of SOP. They also contribute to the identification of good practices and lessons learned with respect to implementation, as well as policy, strategy and programmatic design that will inform the next phase of strategic planning. The Group agreed that while monitoring is an ongoing function, evaluations should be conducted routinely and results should be reported to the future RA II sessions.

3.2.3 The Group recalled that surveys on the basic capability of NMHSs in RA II were carried out in 2008 and 2011. The results of the latter one were used to form the baseline of achievements of the deliverables in the RA II Operating Plan 2012-2015, with a view to monitoring and evaluating the progress of the implementation of the deliverables. Information will be regularly gathered from Members through surveys to analyze the likely trends, developments, evolving needs and deficiencies of the Region.

3.2.4 The Group, noting that a Task Team on RA II Strategic Planning was established by the ad hoc meeting of RA II MG in Doha during RA II-15, requested the Task Team to develop a new survey questionnaire for the implementation of SOP 2012-2015.

3.2.5 The Group reaffirmed the composition of the Task Team: L.S. Lee (Chair: Hong Kong, China); Xu Xianghua (China); M. Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran); T. Kimura (Japan); S-W Kim (Republic of Korea); and A. Al-Mannai (Qatar); and decided to request the Task Team on SP to report the progress to MG-8.

3.3 Topics and venue of the Sixth Technical Conference

3.3.1 The Group recalled that the Fifth Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological and Hydrological Services in RA II (Asia) was successfully held in Daegu, Republic of Korea, from 29 November to 3 December 2010, with the theme of "Opportunities and Challenges for Delivery of Weather, Climate and Water Services" and expressed its appreciation to the Republic of Korea for hosting the Conference.

3.3.2 The Group recalled that RA II-15 agreed on the following priority areas of RA II SOP 2012-2015:

- (a) Implementation of the WIGOS/WIS and the necessary improvement of the GTS;
- (b) Sustainable capacity development including human resources development;
- (c) Implementation of the GFCS in support of agriculture and food security; water; health; and disaster risk reduction, as well as energy and other sectors, through, but not limited to enhancement and operation of the RA II RCC network and RCOFs;
- (d) Climate Services to address the slow-onset impacts of climate variability and climate change;
- (e) Establishment of a Region-wide Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Disaster Risk Reduction;
- (f) Implementation of Aeronautical Meteorological Services enhancements in coordination with the WMO Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM) and upgrading of

service delivery capability in other application areas including Marine Meteorological Services;

- (g) Implementation of WMO Flood Forecasting Initiative, water resources assessment and regional exchange of hydrological data and information; and
- (h) Reduction of risks and impacts of region-specific hazards caused by climate change, sand and dust storms, thunderstorms and associated extreme weather events.

3.3.3 The Group was pleased to note that the priority areas of RA II SOP 2012-2015 provided a relevant guidance to the topics of the Sixth Regional Technical Conference of RA II and suggested a theme of “Enhancements of Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Disaster Risk Reduction and Aeronautical Meteorological Services to Support for Decision-Making” for the Sixth Regional Technical Conference of RA II to emphasize the emerging issues of increasing weather-, climate- and water-related natural disasters in the Region in conjunction with upgrading of service delivery capability. The Group requested the Chairpersons of ICT-SD and ICT-DRR to further consider the theme of the RA II Technical Conference and submit the provisional topics to the President of RA II after further discussion with other WG Chairs and Pilot Project Leads.

3.3.4 The Group further requested the Secretariat for assistance to identify the venue and tentative schedule of holding the Sixth Regional Technical Conference of RA II in consultation with RA II Members.

3.4 Increasing the Number of RA II seats in EC

3.4.1 The Group recalled that RA II-15 affirmed that the representation of RA II in the Executive Council (EC) is one of the key challenges of RA II in light of population, vulnerability and great diversity in geography, climate, ecosystems, religions, and political and economic systems, as well as a number of Members that can make significant contributions to the EC activities within RA II.

3.4.2 The Group further recalled 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 EC 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-17 (2015), in accordance with the procedures described in the WMO Convention.

3.4.3 The MG-7 agreed to proceed with the proposal to increase the number of EC seats allocated to RA II from six to seven and requested a small group, composed of the president, vice-president and representative of China to consider the possible appropriate approaches, including preparation of a draft resolution of increasing the number of RA II seats in EC. The Group also decided to invite India and Uzbekistan to the small group considering geographical balance.

3.4.4 The Group requested that the small group should collaborate closely with EC WG-SOP and other relevant RAs.

3.5 Location of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific

3.5.1 The Group recalled that, at the request of Cg-XVI, the Secretariat initiated a comprehensive review of the resources and location of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific, with a special focus on efficient and effective management and operation of the Regional Office and noted that, through the Secretariat’s consultations with Members, some Members (India; Macao, China; Republic of Korea; Qatar; Singapore; and Thailand) indicated their Government’s interests in hosting the Regional Office.

3.5.2 The Group also noted that the Association endorsed the generic criteria for consideration of the Regional Office location developed by the Secretariat and agreed by the Management Groups

of RA II and RA V, in light of the efficiency, cost-effectiveness and sustainability, as given as Annex VIII to this report.

3.5.3 The Group further recalled that RA II-15 requested its Management Group to further consider the criteria including the possible weight given to specific criteria and to solicit additional hosting offers from Members and organizations. RA II-15 also requested that the option of hosting the Regional Office in Geneva should be retained for consideration along with other possible locations.

3.5.4 The Group agreed with the updated tentative timeline of pursuing the potential relocation of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific, which was agreed at the MG-4, as attached as Annex IX to this report and requested the Secretariat to send out a WMO letter accordingly to seek potential candidates for hosting the Regional Office from all Members of RA II and RA V including those Members already expressed their intentions.

3.5.5 Reaffirming the agreement at RA II-15 that the option of hosting the Regional Office in Geneva should be retained for consideration, the Group requested the Secretariat to carefully examine the procedures involved in the relocation of the Regional Office before taking actions and to further consider regional criteria if any and the possible weight given to specific criteria for consideration by the Management Group. The Group also expressed a concern about the possible weakening of communication within the Secretariat in case of relocation of the Regional Office to other location outside the WMO Headquarters and affirmed their preference of having the Regional Office in RA II if the Regional Office is relocated outside Geneva.

3.6 Inputs to WMO SOP 2016-2019

3.6.1 The Group recalled the decisions of Cg-XVI (paragraphs 8.5.1-8.5.5) and EC-64 (paragraphs 4.8.13-4.8.15) with respect to the preparation of the next WMO SP and the WMO Operating Plan for the period 2016–2019. The Group noted with appreciation the report and recommendations of the EC Working Group on WMO Strategic and Operational Planning (WG/SOP) on these issues.

3.6.2 The Group was informed that the draft WMO SP 2016-2019 will be reviewed during EC-65 (see EC-65 Doc. 4.8.1, REV.1) and that, according to the timelines for the preparation of the next WMO SP, Members will be requested to review the revised draft plan and make input for further improvement.

3.6.3 The Group decided to organize a small group within MG to discuss, in consultation with Members and the Chairpersons of WGs and ICTs, the inputs to WMO SOP 2016-2019. The Group agreed that the small group will be lead by the Vice President of RA II.

4. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN 2013

4.1 The Group reviewed the budgeted regional activities in 2008-2011 and considered the budgeted regional activities in 2012-2015 proposed by the Secretariat, as listed in Annex X. The Group decided that the RA II Management Group holds its annual meetings in conjunction with the Executive Council scheduled to be held every year in (or around) May/June for effectiveness. The Group agreed on the tentative schedule of holding the Regional LDC Workshop for Asia/Pacific in October 2013, which was originally planned to be held in 2012, and the Sixth Regional Technical Conference of RA II either in (or around) April or December 2014 in accordance with other WMO meeting schedules. The Group requested the Secretariat to complete the plan for RA II Regional Activities of WGs in consultation with their Chairpersons as soon as they are designated.

4.2 The Group was informed that a fact-finding/needs-assessment mission to Maldives was planned to assess the overall weaknesses as well as existing gaps in the organization regarding the quality of services provided to the civil aviation sector with a view to ensuring a cost recovery

method on 7-13 June 2013 and the assessment of the state of its observational instruments on 26 June-2 July 2013.

5. COOPERATION WITH OTHER REGIONS

5.1 The Group was pleased to note that RAP Office had been involved in promoting and supporting the cross-regional cooperation among Regional Associations particularly through the activities of the League of Arab States, which represents 22 Arabic-speaking WMO Members located in three Regional Associations: RA I, RA II and RA VI. The cross-regional collaboration was also maintained and strengthened with the United Nations (UN) and regional organizations/bodies, including UNDP, UNISDR, UNEP, ASEAN, UNESCAP, CASPCOM, the Mekong River Commission, RIMES and a new partnership with GCC.

5.2 The Group expressed a special appreciation to the WMO Office for West Asia for their continuous support to the activities of the Permanent Committee of Meteorology of the League of Arab States (PCM/LAS) and its Sub-Committees and Working Groups, which demonstrated a good example of cross-regional cooperation among WMO Members.

5.3 The Group also noted with appreciation that the WMO Office for West Asia supported the activities of the United Nations Agencies and international organizations aiming at developing capacities of, and promoting inter-regional cooperation among NMHSs. The summary of the key regional activities in cooperation with other regions is attached as Annex XI to this report.

5.4 The Group agreed on the growing needs of better-coordinated cross-regional cooperation particularly in the area of aviation meteorological services including the coordinated AMDAR data sharing in close collaboration with the national aviation agencies and private airlines. The Group recommended that EG-AeM and the Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in the Collection and Application of AMDAR data play a pivotal role in promoting enhancement of cross-regional cooperation. The Group suggested that the existing RTCs and RCCs can enhance the cross-regional cooperation through the provision of education and training opportunities, including the distance learning, and climate information to the Members outside the Region.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 The Group was briefed by Dr Maryam Golnaraghi, Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Division, on the activities of DRR Programmes in the Region including: Opportunities and a framework for development of national capacity development projects with regional cooperation framework for DRR; Adaptation in different sub-regions in Asia, based on successes and lessons learned from other regions (including the role of RA II and its Management Committee); Progress with the coordinated DRR and adaptation proposal for Southeast Asia; and Opportunities for cooperation in DRR with GCC and Members.

7. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

7.1 The president thanked all the participants for their fruitful discussion, and expressed his satisfaction with the outcomes made in the session. He also thanked the WMO Secretariat for the arrangements for the session.

7.2 The seventh session of the RA II Management Group closed at 18:00 on 12 May 2013.

SEVENTHSESSION OF THE RA II MANAGEMENT GROUP (MG-7)

(Geneva, 12 May 2013)

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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

Mr Ahmed Abdulla Mohammed President of RA II Chairperson	Qatar	ahmed_qatar@yahoo.com
Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry Vice-president of RA II	Pakistan	dgmetpak@hotmail.com
Mr Sung Kim Hydrological Adviser to President of RA II	Republic of Korea	skim@kict.re.kr
Mr Shen Xiaonong Alternate to Dr Zheng G.	China	sxn@cma.gov.cn
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2. WMO Secretariat

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AGENDA

1. Organization of the Session
 2. Matters arising from the Sixth Session
 3. Follow-up to the Fifteenth Session of Regional Association II (RA II-15) and the WMO Regional Seminar on Strategic Capacity Development of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Regional Association II (RA II)
 - 3.1 Working Structure of RA II Subsidiary Bodies
 - 3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of Strategic Operating Plan 2012-2015
 - 3.3 Topics and Venue of the Sixth Technical Conference
 - 3.4 Increasing the Number of RA II seats in the WMO Executive Council
 - 3.5 Location of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific
 - 3.6 Inputs to the WMO Strategic and Operating Plan 2016-2019
 4. Regional Activities in 2013
 5. Cooperation with Other Regions
 6. Other Business
 7. Closure of the Session
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**SUMMARY OF AD HOC MG MEETING HELD IN DOHA
(19 December 2012)**

The RA II MG noted that the following actions are required to be taken by the Management Group:

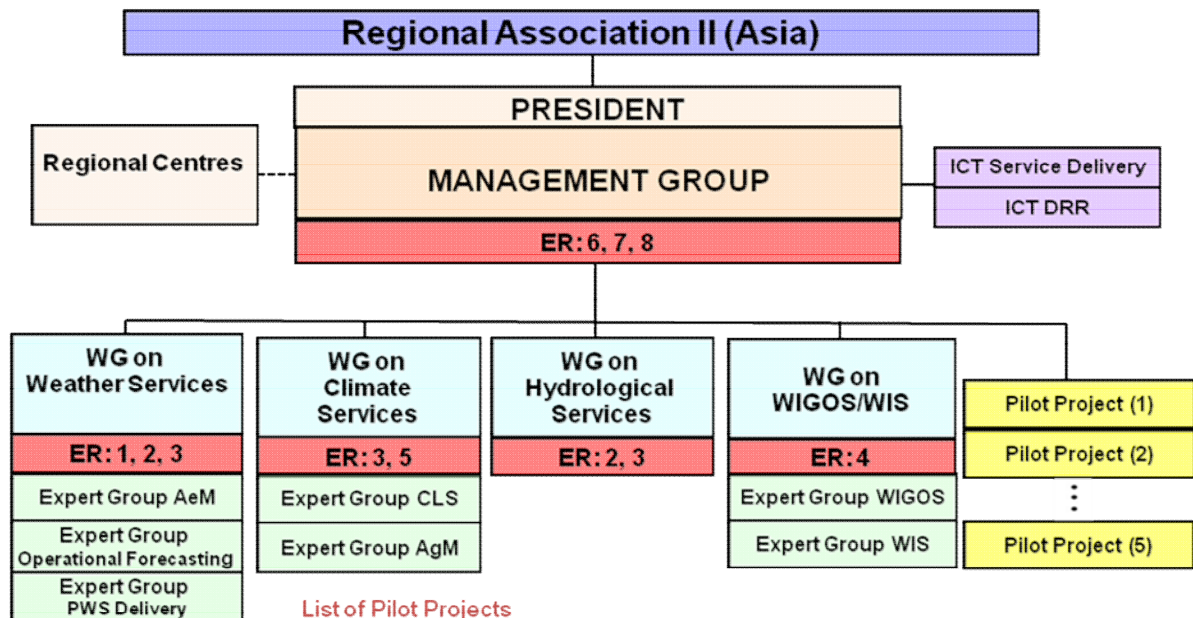
(a) Short-term

- Organize formal Management Group session (MG-7) before EC-65
- Consider the necessity/selection of Chairpersons of WGs/ICTs
- Decide responsibility of individual MG members for one of WGs or ICTs
- Select Theme Leaders and experts of the RA II subsidiary bodies
- Establish a small group within MG for inputs to WMO SOP 2016-2019
- Discuss how to enhance cooperation with other Regions (Cross-regional cooperation)

(b) Medium-term

- Prepare a proposal to EC-66 on the issue of increasing the number of RA II EC seats
 - Work with RA V MG for the relocation of RAP Office
 - Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of SOP 2012-2015
 - Survey questionnaire to be developed by Task Team for implementation in 2014 and 2016
 - MG decided to re-establish a Task Team on Strategic Planning to be composed of: Xu Xianghua (China), L.S. Lee (Chair: Hong Kong, China), Mina Jabbari (IR of Iran), T. Kimura (Japan), Kim Se-won (R of Korea) and Abdulla Al Mannai (Qatar).
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RA II Working Structure (2012-2015)



List of Pilot Projects

- Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Numerical Weather Prediction
- Pilot Project for Information Sharing on Climate Services
- Pilot Project to Develop Support for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in the Collection and Application of Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay (AMDAR) Data
- Pilot Project to Sustain and Enhance the Capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in the Provision of Official Weather Forecasts for the Medium Range
- Pilot Project to Enhance the Seamless Provision of Regional Severe Weather Warnings and Advisories

SUBSIDIARY BODIES and Pilot Projects OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)

Management Group (MG)

The president (Chairperson) with the vice-president and other Executive Council member Permanent Representatives of the Region and Regional Hydrological Adviser to the president, and, as appropriate, other Directors of NMHSs and chairpersons of RA II working groups, to be invited by the president for each session.

Working Group on Weather Services (WGWS)

Expert Group on Aeronautical Meteorological Services Delivery (EG-AeM)

- Theme I QMS Implementation and Maintenance
- Theme II Competency Assessment
- Theme III Meteorological Support to Air Traffic Management and Provision of SIGMETs

Expert Group on Operational Forecasting (EG-OF)

- Theme I Operational Forecasting Process and Support
- Theme II Operational Predictions
- Theme III Emergency Response Activities

Expert Group on Public Weather Services Delivery (EG-PWS)

- Theme I Socio-economic Benefits of Meteorological and Hydrological Services
- Theme II Delivery of Warning Services
- Theme III Education and Public Outreach related to PWS

Working Group on Climate Services (WGCS)

Expert Group on Climate Services (EG-CS)

- Theme I User Liaison and Applications of Climate Information and Products for Climate Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change
- Theme II Implementation and Operation of Regional Climate Centres
- Theme III Operational Regional and National Climate Outlook Forums
- Theme IV Climate Monitoring and Climate Watch
- Theme V Climate Research for Development

Expert Group on Agrometeorology (EG-AgM)

- Theme I Agrometeorological Training Needs
- Theme II Soil Moisture Monitoring
- Theme III Drought Preparedness and Management Strategies
- Theme IV Seasonal Climate Forecast Applications for Agriculture
- Theme V Socio-economic Impact of Agrometeorological Information

Working Group on Hydrological Services (WGHS)

- Theme I Water Resources Assessment
- Theme II Flood Forecasting
- Theme III Hydrological Aspects of Drought
- Theme IV Hydrological Responses to Climate Variability and Change and Promotion of the Use of Climate Information by Water Managers
- Theme V Improved Accuracy of Hydrometric and Sediment Observations including Space-based Technologies
- Theme VI Sediment Disasters and Mass Movements

Working Group on WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and WMO Information System (WIS) (WG-WIGOS/WIS)

Expert Group on WIGOS (EG-WIGOS)

- Theme I Implementation and Updating of R-WIP
- Theme II Implementation of EGOS-IP
- Theme III Standard and Best Practice
- Theme IV Observational Requirements and Regional Network
- Theme V Data Availability and Quality of Observations
- Theme VI Surface-based Remote Sensing for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Theme VII Satellite Data, Products and Training

Expert Group on WIS (EG-WIS)

- Theme I Data Communication Techniques and Structure
- Theme II Data Representation and Metadata
- Theme III WIS-GTS operations, including Early Warning
- Theme IV Climate Data Management/Data Rescue
- Theme V Integrated Global Data Dissemination System

Implementation Coordination Team on Service Delivery (ICT-SD)

Implementation Coordination Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (ICT-DRR)

RA II Pilot Projects 2012-2015

- (a) Pilot Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Numerical Weather Prediction;
 - (b) Pilot Project for Information Sharing on Climate Services;
 - (c) Pilot Project to Develop Support for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in the Collection and Application of Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay (AMDAR) Data;
 - (d) Pilot Project to Sustain and Enhance the Capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in the Provision of Official Weather Forecasts for the Medium Range;
 - (e) Pilot Project to Enhance the Seamless Provision of Regional Severe Weather Warnings and Advisories,
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Annex VI

Membership of Subsidiary Bodies of RA II

Expert Group on Aeronautical Meteorological Services Delivery (EG-AeM)

EG-AeM		
Co-Coordiators	Mr Boon-leung Choy	Hong Kong, China
	Ms Marina Petrova	Russian Fed.
Theme Leader in QMS Implementation and Maintenance	Ms SHAO Jie	China
Theme Leader in Competency Assessment	Mr Manoj Kumar Bhatnagar	India
Theme Leader in Meteorological Support to Air Traffic Management and Provision of SIGMETs	Mr Jun Ryuzaki	Japan

Expert Group on Operational Forecasting (EG-OF)

EG-OF		
Co-Coordiators	Mr Yuki Honda	Japan
	Ms Irina Zaytseva	Uzbekistan
Theme Leader in Operational Forecasting Process and Support	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Operational Predictions	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Emergency Response Activities	TBD	TBD

Expert Group on Public Weather Services Delivery (EG-PWS)

EG-PWS		
Co-Coordiators	Mr Lap-shun Lee	Hong Kong, China
	Dr Muhammad Hanif	Pakistan
	Mr Alexey Lyakhov	Russian Fed.
Theme Leader in Socio-economic Benefits of Meteorological and Hydrological Services	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Delivery of Warning Services	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Education and Public Outreach related to PWS	TBD	TBD

Expert Group on Climate Services (EG-CS)

EG-CS		
Co-Coordinator	Mr Ryuji Yamada	Japan
	Dr Ghulam Rasul	Pakistan
Theme Leader in User Liaison and Applications of Climate Information and Products for Climate Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in QMS Implementation and Operation of Regional Climate Centres	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Operational Regional and National Climate Outlook Forums	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Climate Monitoring and Climate Watch	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Climate Research for Development	TBD	TBD

Expert Group on Agrometeorology (EG-AgM)

EG-AgM		
Co-Coordinator	Dr N. Chattopadhyay	India
	Dr Alexander Kleshchenko	Russian Federation
Theme Leader in Agrometeorological Training Needs	Ms Feruza Rakhmanova	Uzbekistan
Theme Leader in Soil Moisture Monitoring	Ms ZHANG Xuefen	China
Theme Leader in Drought Preparedness and Management Strategies	Mr Mir Hazrat	Pakistan
Theme Leader in Seasonal Climate Forecast Applications for Agriculture	Mr MAO Liuxi	China
Theme Leader in Socio-economic Impact of Agrometeorological Information	TBD	TBD

Working Group on Hydrological Services (WGHS)

WGHS		
Chairperson WGHS	Dr Sung Kim	Republic of Korea
Vice-chairperson WGHS	Mr Muhammad Riaz	Pakistan
Theme Leader in Water Resources Assessment	Ms GAO Ge	China
	Ms Hwirin Kim	ROK
Theme Leader in Flood Forecasting	Dr Sergey Borshch	Russia
Theme Leader in Hydrological Aspects of Drought	Ms Irina Dergacheva	Uzbekistan
Theme Leader in Hydrological Responses to Climate Variability and Change and Promotion of the Use of Climate Information by Water Managers	Mr WANG Guoqing	China
	Dr Thuc Tran	Viet Nam
Theme Leader in Improved Accuracy of Hydrometric and Sediment Observations including Space-based Technologies	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Sediment Disasters and Mass Movements	TBD	TBD

Expert Group on WIGOS (EG-WIGOS)

EG-WIGOS		
Co-Coordinators	Mr Yongqing Chen	China
	Dr Jaegwang Won	Republic of Korea
Theme Leader in Implementation and Updating of R-WIP	TBD	TBD
Theme Leader in Implementation of EGOS-IP	Mr GUO Yatian	China
Theme Leader in Standard and Best Practice	Dr Seongchan Park	ROK
Theme Leader in Observational Requirements and Regional Network	Mr D. K. Malik	India
	Mr Abdulqaleq Ali Ali	Iraq
Theme Leader in Data Availability and Quality of Observations	Mr Yoshihisa Kimata	Japan
Theme Leader in Surface-based Remote Sensing for Disaster Risk Reduction	Mr LI Feng	China
	Dr Oleg Pokrovsky	Russia
Theme Leader in Satellite Data, Products and Training	Mr Tomoo Ohno	Japan
	Dr Dohyeong Kim	ROK

Expert Group on WIS (EG-WIS)

EG-WIS		
Co-Coordinator	Ms Xiang Li	China
	Mr Kenji Tsunoda	Japan
Theme Leader in Data Communication Techniques and Structure	Dr Sunghoi Huh	ROK
Theme Leader in Data Representation and Metadata	Ms Jitsuko Hasegawa	Japan
Theme Leader in WIS-GTS operations, including Early Warning	Dr Shyamlal Singh	India
	Mr Aleksandr Soloveychik	Uzbekistan
Theme Leader in Climate Data Management/Data Rescue	Mr ZHANG Hongzheng	China
Theme Leader in Integrated Global Data Dissemination System	Mr GAO Kang	China

Implementation Coordination Team on Service Delivery (ICT-SD)

ICT-SD		
Chairperson	Mr Jianjun Xue	China
Members of ICT-SD	Mr ZHOU Qingliang	China
	Dr Thuc Tran	Viet Nam
	Mr Mohammed Saeed Alhakimi	Yemen
	TBD	TBD
	TBD	TBD
	TBD	TBD

Implementation Coordination Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (ICT-DRR)

ICT-DRR		
Chairperson	Dr K.J. Ramesh	India
Members of ICT-DRR	Mr Boon-leung Choy	Hong Kong, China
	Mr Ryuji Yamada	Japan
	Dr Sung Kim	Republic of Korea
	Mr Yongqing Chen	China

Chairpersons/Co-coordinators of WGs/ICTs and overseeing MG members

Working Group on Weather Services (WGWS) (Dr Zheng)

**Mr Boon-leung Choy (Co-Coordinator of EG-AeM) (Hong Kong, China)
 Ms Marina Petrova (Co-Coordinator of EG-AeM) (Russian Federation)
 Mr Yuki Honda (Co-Coordinator of EG-OF) (Japan)
 Ms Irina Zaytseva (Co-Coordinator of EG-OF) (Uzbekistan)
 Mr Lap-shun Lee (Co-Coordinator of EG-PWS) (Hong Kong, China)
 Dr Muhammad Hanif (Co-Coordinator of EG-PWS) (Pakistan)
 Mr Alexey Lyakhov (Co-Coordinator of EG-PWS) (Russia)

Working Group on Climate Services (WGCS) (Dr Hatori)

**Mr Ryuji Yamada (Co-Coordinator of EG-CS) (Japan)
 Dr Ghulam Rasul (Co-Coordinator of EG-CS) (Pakistan)
 Dr N. Chattopadhyay (Co-Coordinator of EG-AgM) (India)
 Dr Alexander Kleshchenko (Co-Coordinator of EG-AgM) (Russian Federation)

Working Group on Hydrological Services (WGHS)

*Dr Sung Kim (Chairperson of WGHS) (Republic of Korea)
 Mr Muhammad Riaz (Vice-chairperson of WGHS) (Pakistan)

Working Group on WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and WMO Information System (WIS) (WG-WIGOS/WIS) (Mr Lee)

**Mr Yongqing Chen (Co-Coordinator of EG-WIGOS) (China)
 Dr Jaegwang Won (Co-Coordinator of EG-WIGOS) (Republic of Korea)
 Ms Xiang Li (Co-Coordinator of EG-WIS) (China)
 Mr Kenji Tsunoda (Co-Coordinator of EG-WIS) (Japan)

Implementation Coordination Team on Service Delivery (ICT-SD) (Dr Mohalfi)

* Mr Jianjun Xue (Chairperson of ICT-SD)(China)

Implementation Coordination Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (ICT-DRR) (Dr Rathore)

* Dr K.J. Ramesh (Chairperson of ICT-DRR) (India)

* Chairperson decided by RA II-15; ** Chairperson decided by MG-7;

() Overseeing MG Member

Generic criteria for consideration of the Regional Office location

- (a) Efficiency:
- Linkage with WMO Programmes and technical and administration departments/offices for collaboration and coordination (time difference to be considered);
 - Connection to Members, RA presidents and subsidiary bodies;
 - Connection to partners (UN, international and regional organizations and financial institutions) for collaboration and increased advocacy;
 - Accessibility/geographical convenience (number of available direct flights, flight time to possible venues of regional events, visa issuance, etc.);
 - Accessibility to the info/data and info exchange (with IT support);
 - Availability of international conference facilities;
- (b) Cost-effectiveness:
- Staff salary rate (post adjustment);
 - Cost of living and quality of life for staff (e.g., housing, education, healthcare services; crime rate);
 - Office running cost (including security cost);
 - Accessibility (mission cost for Office staff and participants for the meetings; cost for holding sessions);
 - Availability of Government support (including staff costs, office space, furniture and running cost; and programme/activity cost);
- (c) Sustainability:
- Political stability of the Government (neutrality of Member and overall social stability);
 - Security;
 - Environmental friendliness;
 - Government commitment to support for longer term (e.g., 4-year period of initial agreement, and continuation).
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Tentative Timeline of

Potential Relocation of the Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific

- (i) Identification of possible government support (in general) by Macao, China; Singapore and Thailand (July-August 2012); (done)
 - (ii) Assessment of candidates based on the “regionally approved criteria” (September- November 2012); (done)
 - (iii) Agreed by RA II-15 on potential relocation of RAP Office (December 2012); (done)
 - (iv) Agreed by RA V Management Group on potential relocation of RAP Office (May 2013);
 - (v) WMO letter to RA II/RA V Members to seek potential candidates (August 2013);
 - (vi) Assessment of all potential candidates based on the regionally approved criteria (by March 2014);
 - (vii) Selection of location of the Office in light of assessment results (June 2014);
 - (viii) Agreement by Cg-XVII to the location of RAP Office at the selected place (May 2015);
 - (ix) Finalization of arrangements for and conclusion of official agreement with the host government (September 2015);
 - (x) Completion of relocation of RAP Office (December 2015).
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Annex X

LIST OF THE RA II REGIONAL ACTIVITIES 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) 28.X.2012 Geneva (MG-6)	12.V.2013 Geneva (MG-7)	V/VI.2014 (MG-8)	V/VI.2015 (MG-9)
Session of WG on Weather Services (WGWS)					
Session of WG on Climate Services (WGCS)					
Session of WG on Hydrological Services (WGHS)					
Session of WG on WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and WMO Information System (WIS) (WG-WIGOS/WIS)					
Session of Implementation Coordination Team on Service Delivery (ICT-SD)					
Session of Implementation Coordination Team on Disaster Risk Reduction (ICT-DRR)					
Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological and Hydrological Services				IV or XII.2014	
Regional Seminar		11-12.XII.2012 Doha, Qatar			
Regional LDC Workshop for Asia/Pacific			X. 2013		

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

• 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

Summary of the Key Regional Activities in Cooperation with Other Regions

1. The third meeting of the Working Group on Quality of Meteorological Services and Information and Seminar on Meteorology and Information (Cairo, Egypt, 19-21 June 2012)

The terms of reference of this WG include: encouraging and assisting Arab NMHSs to obtain ISO certification, improving cooperation between NMHSs and users of Meteorological and Climate Data and Services, in particular media operators and designing a framework for partnership between NMHSs and national and international stakeholders to support provision of Meteorological and Climate Services. The meeting discussed means of meeting these objectives.

2. ESCWA Workshop on Regional Climate Modelling, Applications and Analysis (Beirut, Lebanon, 2-4 July 2012)

The meeting was organized by Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in collaboration with the League of Arab States (LAS), Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI), Arab Center for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD), World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). The workshop was conducted as a part of the regional initiative for the assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socio-economic vulnerability in the Arab region, through a project supported by the Swedish international development cooperation agency (SIDA). The regional initiative is an outcome of a collaborative effort between the United Nations, LAS and their respective specialized organizations. The SIDA project is led by ESCWA and implemented in partnership with the LAS, ACSAD, SMHI, and WMO.

3. Extraordinary session of LAS Permanent Committee of Meteorology (Cairo, Egypt, 8-9 July 2012)

This session was dedicated to finalize a draft recommendation to the Arab states Council of Ministers on upgrading the PCM into a Ministerial Committee on Meteorology; if approved, this will give better visibility and more support to Arab Meteorological Community.

4. Strengthening cooperation between UN and LAS (Vienna, Austria, 10-12 July 2012)

This is a biennial meeting agreed on by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States held to ensure up-scaling and strengthening cooperation between the two. Organizations in all areas of mutual concern; they created an economic, social and environmental cluster to allow a comprehensive assessment of the existing activities and mechanisms of cooperation with a view to coming up with practical proposals. A matrix of activities, with concrete actions and input by UN members of this group in consultation with LAS focal points, was agreed on in this meeting and will be followed by concerned organizations in the next 3-5 years.

5. League of Arab States Ministerial Meteorological Committee (Alexandria, Egypt, 7 November 2012)

Ministers in charge of NMHSs in Arab states reviewed and discussed the draft of a proposal by PCM/LAS to upgrade the Committee into a Ministerial Meteorological Committee. The meeting requested more time for discussion before accepting the proposal.

6. GCC/UNEP Regional Workshop: Conference on Sand Dust and Dust Storms (Kuwait city, Kuwait, 20-22 November 2012)

The workshop assembled environmental and climate experts from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and from the region and hosted a number of international specialized experts in sand and dust storms monitoring, prediction and early warning. The conference offers a good opportunity for researchers and experts from different parts of the world to present new information, knowledge and to exchange ideas on the various issues of dust storms particularly early warning, mitigation and adaptation. WMO presented its SDS programme in this workshop.

7. Third meeting of the GCC Permanent Committee on Meteorology, PCM/GCC and Climate Change (Manama, Bahrain, 30-31 January 2013)

The meeting discussed issues of interest to NMHSs in GCC including: consideration of a working plan of the Committee, cooperation between NMHSs in GCC and CMA, progress on the GCC Weather Radar Network, creating a financial mechanism to support activities, creating a GCCNWP center, creating a GCCDRR and early warning system and GCC sand and dust storm initiative.

8. Thirteenth meeting of the League of Arab states Sub-committee on Communications and Meteorological Information Systems (Cairo, Egypt, 26-28 February 2013)

The TORs of this Sub-committee include: maintaining the Arab meteorological information system (AMIS), updating Arab NMHSs on outcomes of CBS and CIMO and insuring compatibility of Arab NMHSs with WIS. The meeting had discussed means of meeting these objectives

9. Twenty-ninth meeting of the League of Arab States' Standing Committee on Meteorology (Marrakesh, Morocco, 8-10 April 2013)

The meeting discussed and decided: training and capacity development, communication and meteorological information systems, climate and climate change, applied meteorology, QMS, cooperation with WMO and international agencies, GFCS and national policies on drought.
