

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

IPM/2011/Doc. 5

INFORMAL PLANNING MEETING OF THE
VOLUNTARY COOPERATION PROGRAMME

ITEM: 3.5

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
11 - 12 APRIL 2011

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REPORT OF THE LAST EC- CB MEETING IN 2010

(Submitted by Secretary-General)

Summary and Purpose of Document

This document provides the report of the last Executive Council Working Group on Capacity Building held in October 2010.

ACTION PROPOSED

The meeting is invited to consider the information on the EC-CB report and provide advice in particular on the proposed actions for the various topics discussed by the EC-CB which are reflected in the DRA documents submitted for the next WMO Congress and EC.

THIRD MEETING OF EC WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY BUILDING
Geneva, Switzerland 11-12 October 2010

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was opened by the Chair of EC CB, Mr Tyrone Sutherland, 2nd Vice President of the WMO, who commented, that the Working Group has so far not achieved as much as he would have hoped. Noting however, that the Working Group's membership has changed substantially since the previous meeting and considering that, as the group has very little time left before Congress to provide some guidance, he encouraged Working Group members to use this opportunity and meeting to better define the role and function of the WG with a view to the operations of the EC CB or its successor in the next financial period.

The Assistant Secretary General welcomed the participants and stated that this group has a key role to play as it is essential to mainstream capacity building throughout WMO activities. She also stated that the focus is no longer merely on technical capacity building but rather on overall Capacity Development. Capacity development being one of the major WMO priorities for the next financial period.

The list of participants is given in **Annex 1**.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with one addition: The members of the Working Group requested to be briefed on WMO Post Disaster Assistance in Haiti and in Pakistan. The approved agenda is attached as **Annex 2**.

3. REVIEW OF EC-CB

3.1 Terms of Reference

Given the number of new members, the Working Group considered the ToRs. It was emphasized that the group was an Advisory Group and not an implementing body as such, there to give guidance and direction to WMO Capacity Development activities. EC-CB members have wide experience that could be used in sub-groups and task teams on specific focus areas to be determined here. It was recognised that EC CB should no longer focus on limited technical cooperation but that a strategy needed to be elaborated to consider the full spectrum of Capacity Development. TOR of the EC CB is provided at **Annex 3**.

Members of the Working Group noted that EC-CB should work more closely with the technical commissions and with a view to increased coordination in the planning and activities of technical assistance.

3.2 Report of previous EC-CB meeting and completion of actions

The meeting was provided with a brief overview of the history and progress of the EC-CB to date for the benefit of new members: the priority areas identified for the attention of the group at previous meetings since the inception of the group at EC-LIX post Congress in 2007; and, progress to date on these issues (**Annex 4**).

4. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

4.1 Resource Mobilization and Strategic Partnerships

An overview of major partnerships and projects under direct management of WMO were presented to give an example of the work done in various regions and areas. The working group members discussed new strategies for mobilizing resources, such as how to attract new partners, how to benefit best from current partnerships and entering partnerships with non-traditional partners. For example, the working group noted that with sources of funding available such as European Union and the Adaptation Fund, the availability of funds is not necessarily the problem but rather how members can access those funds. The group acknowledged with appreciation that WMO was continuing to build relationships with the EU, the Adaptation Fund and other facilities, recognizing that major funds from these sources requires significant effort to secure and maintain.

The need to capitalise on local partnerships at national levels was also discussed and how WMO could help with the approach to these. It was also noted that the interest in climate and the environment is greater than ever before and that advantage should be taken of this to tackle some key areas, especially such as ACP-funding, South-South cooperation, etc. It was cautioned that development banks can be a difficult financing partner, as they are more geared to providing loans rather than grants. The insurance industry is a potential target, eager for the availability of reliable weather and climate products. The EC-CB members agreed that funding of disaster risk reduction, food security and climate change adaptation remain priority areas for a number of development partners. However, as the funds are often allocated through the Ministry of Finance of the respective countries, the Meteorological Services will have to understand and engage in the processes of allocation at the national level.

The involvement of development partners already present and active in-country was discussed and the question was raised as to how WMO could help National Meteorological Services to benefit from such opportunities. Currently, the WMO is involved with partners such as UNDP, World Bank, European Union and other Regional Development Banks on a regional scale but at the national level the NMHS are not always aware of these types of partnership opportunities involving their governments and are therefore not necessarily taking advantage of such opportunities. It was also questioned how Members themselves could better link to other regional activities on a technical level and the need for dynamic partnerships was stressed to develop the Meteorological Services. These partnerships would need to link across departments, offices and agencies, e.g. in the health sector. The working group suggested that this enhanced coordination could best be lead by the WMO Regional Offices.

Action: The Resource Mobilization Office should continue to place emphasis on finding new strategic partnerships. WMO and DRA especially will need to build greater awareness at national levels and within the UN system of WMO role and activities. EC-CB members were encouraged to help in these efforts.

Action: The Secretariat should consider how better to assist at sub-regional and national levels to engage development partners such as through sub-regional workshops with potential financing partners. This should include the further development of the mandate of the WMO Regional Offices with due consideration given to staffing implications.

4.2 Voluntary Cooperation Programme

An overview of the VCP was presented as being a long existing and important WMO programme, which was often seen as a major "life line" by many LDCs. The importance of maintaining and strengthening the VCP was stressed by all. Further details can be found in the website: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/dra/vcp/IPM2010.php>

4.2.1 Statement from the Chair of the IPM

The meeting heard from the Chair on the role of the IPM as a mechanism to coordinate between the various WMO donor members, where synergies may be found and collaborative actions considered. The various donor/partners allocate their support with regard to their national agendas, as some focus more on technical support, such as equipment and some more on training and CD. There is a need to find coherence between the requirements of the region, the knowledge of the partner/donor and what the members would like to fund. The Regional Strategic Plans and defined regional needs need to be taken into account in projects and funding. More, and different, funding opportunities are needed, even though national commitments are the most stable ones. The IPM was also recognized as a good pool of expertise to draw from, e.g. how to secure funding. It was stressed that the IPM does not have an official role but is often asked for recommendations by EC or EC-CB or other WGs, etc.

4.2.2 Review of Overhead Cost Policy

The Overhead Cost Policy was considered (See **Appendix II**) and some changes were suggested to adapt the document to current needs. It has not been amended since its inception at EC-LVI [RESOLUTION 19 (EC-LVI) (2004)].

Action: Secretariat was requested to take this amended document to next EC for consideration

5. BUILDING CAPACITY IN DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

5.1 Global Framework for Climate Services

The Working Group was informed on the GFCS and on the progress made by the High Level Task Team towards the development of the GFCS.

The Meeting noted that the GFCS, if broadly endorsed by Congress in May 2011, would provide National Meteorological Services with a range of opportunities. It was further stressed that the NMHSs have always been, and should continue to be the national authoritative voices on, and source of weather and climate information and services in the countries, hence the NMHSs should play the focal point for the implementation of the GFCS. As the NMHSs are the technical, operational agencies in their countries in weather and climate services they are therefore the most appropriate entities to play the focal and pivotal role in the implementation of the GFCS.

5.2 Service Delivery

The meeting considered the matter of improved service delivery within the WMO community using the draft WMO Strategy for Service Delivery as a starting point. This 3-point plan suggests that a strong service delivery process needs to be put in place, a user centered culture needs to be introduced, and the work force skills and capabilities enhanced. For good service delivery, a clear agreement between users, suppliers, providers and partners is needed. The Working Group members requested the Education and Training Office to include management training courses for middle management to educate staff on service delivery. NMHSs need to become more customer oriented, applying standards and measurements, not only to technical delivery of products but also to service delivery. The Working Group called for information on the needs of specific sectors (agriculture, fisheries, tourism, etc) to be provided to meteorological services to help them be able to reach out to potential customers. To achieve good service delivery, better communication is essential and a good quality management system should be put in place. The ultimate goal should be to deliver every time, on time. The EC-CB supported the draft WMO Strategy for Service Delivery and suggested general guiding principles on how to implement the policy be developed.

5.3 Assistance to LDCs and SIDS

The meeting was informed on the programme activities and actions undertaken for the LDCs and SIDS, including:

- Support to LDCs participation in special meetings and training events;
- Focus and high priority on needs and requirements of NMHSs of LDCs and SIDS by all scientific and technical programmes;
- Implementation of specific capacity building and advocacy activities under DRA/LDCR, particularly assistance provided to LDCs and SIDS in the preparation of the development plans of their NMHSs and in the formulation and execution of small pilot projects on socio-economic benefits valuation of NMHS's services to sectors such as agriculture and rural development, hydro-electric power generation and marine and port services;

The meeting was provided with the outline of a brochure on "WMO and the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) " to be published in order to help WMO and NMHS staff in their interaction with policy makers and development partners and to highlight the contribution of WMO and NMHSs to the achievement of the MDGs, particularly in the LDCs.

The meeting was informed on the preparatory process of the Fourth United Nations Conference on LDCs (UN-LDC IV) to be held in June 2011 in Turkey and was reminded of the Executive Council request for an active participation of WMO in this important conference.

The meeting recalled the cross-cutting nature of the WMO Programme for the LDCs and stressed the need for more coordination with other ongoing programmes and projects. It further recognized the need for:

- Additional assistance to implement NMHSs Development Plans prepared for LDCs and SIDS
- Training of NMHSs Senior Staff on the contribution of WMO and NMHSs to achieving the MDGs
- WMO active participation in UN-LDC IV preparatory process and the Conference itself, for GFCS to meet the special needs of LDCs and SIDS as requested in the TOR of HLTF

5.4 Expert Panel on Education and Training

The Working Group was informed of: the Terms of Reference for the EC Panel of Experts on Education and Training; composition and activities for 2008 – 2011; and, activities planned for 2012 to 2015. The EC-CB noted the requirement of having experts in the field serve on the Panel and echoed the general comments within EC-LXII on the success of the Panel over the recent past. The EC-CB agreed with the planned activities for 2012 to 2015: support to Members to implement the qualification and competency standards; develop a framework for Human Resource Development activities; support the five WMO high priority areas; and, increase the use of distance learning.

The use of Distance Learning was discussed at length by the Working Group with all agreeing on its potential for Continuous Professional Development. Some members of the Working Group noted that the educational authorities in their, or neighboring countries, did not accept online courses for the basic qualifications such as degrees and identified this as an area that the WMO community may be able to address in the future.

The Working Group identified a number of areas where the EC-CB could assist the EC Panel address the education and training needs of Members by: advocating for additional funding and resources for the Education and Training Programme through the Regular Budget and also through the Regional Associations in advocating with banks, foreign aid bodies, private philanthropists etc for further support to the fellowship activities; through the Regional Associations

Presidents and Management Groups better identifying the training needs of their members; and, by the Regional Associations actively promoting Members to use, support and develop the education and training facilities in their Region.

5.5 WMO Post Disaster Assistance: Haiti and Pakistan

The WMO Secretariat briefed the Working Group on the progress made with post disaster assistance in Haiti and Pakistan.

The members of the Working Group thanked the Secretariat for the excellent coordination of immediate emergency assistance to Haiti and acknowledged that emergency assistance is an important part of WMO's capacity building efforts. However, members recalled that sustainability of the assistance needs to be addressed in future, both in the case of Haiti and also in other emergency assistance operations.

Action: The Working Group agreed that the DRR programme in cooperation with Technical Commissions should:

- Develop guidelines for Directors of NMHS for self-assessment of their core capacities post disaster (Post Disaster Needs Assessment – PDNA);
- In cooperation with Members, identify a roster of experts from NMHS that can support WMO for post-disaster missions, proposal development and system design (OBS, TEL, Forecast, HR, partnership);
- Identify a network of RSMCs and RTCs that can specialize in provision of regional hydrological, meteorological and climate product and services for NMHSs in the region post disaster;
- Propose the establishment of task teams that identify requirements of DRR stakeholders.

6. WMO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Capacity Building is a cross cutting activity, impacting upon, and part of all WMO Programmes. The creation of the Development and Regional Activities Department (DRA) in the WMO Secretariat has provided a focus for the coordination and cooperation of technical assistance among Members, the Secretariat and WMO Programmes. Development of a crossing-cutting Strategy for Capacity Development will provide further focus for WMO's efforts in this regard. The cross cutting nature of capacity development is evident as the AgMP, HWRP, PWS, AMP and DRR Programmes will all focus on increasing capacity through human resource, technical and infrastructure development in NMHSs to support climate change adaptation in their countries. The WIS and WIGOS initiatives also have a significant component of capacity development that will primarily be overseen by the World Weather Watch Programme or its successor. It can be anticipated that in all of these Programmes it will be necessary to balance the needs of long term, large (multi-Member) high impact projects with activities of a short duration, low cost and medium potential impact with regard to number of beneficiaries, with approaches such as training of trainers, roving seminars and distance and blended learning to be principally pursued, resorting to regional or global face-to-face courses only when it is proven to be the most practical, or sole solution. Closer collaboration with ETR, greater involvement of Regional Training Centres (RTCs) in capacity building in climate- and water-related matters and joint capacity building activities between CCI, CHy, CAgM, CBS, CAeM and external partners will be integral to this strategy.

The Secretariat presented a concept for a WMO-wide Strategy for Capacity Development. The session noted that the development assistance has evolved from the 1970s where capacity building (at that time Technical Cooperation) was focused on training and provision of equipment to capacity building in the 1990's and early 2000's where assistance was more complete but did not necessarily include sustainability or incorporate local skills, expertise and existing infrastructure and institutional management.

Use of the term “Capacity Development”, rather than “Capacity Building” is indicative of a more comprehensive approach to technical assistance. Starting with an assessment of stakeholders needs, the approach would consider existing capabilities in the preparation of development projects at the regional and national level including improved feedback mechanisms. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on national management of the process of development. While technical assistance in specific programmatic areas would continue, the Strategy is intended to provide an umbrella for the Capacity Development activities already identified under the five priority areas for the next Financial Period such as GFCS, DRR, WIS/WIGOS, qualifications and competencies for aeronautical meteorological personnel, and general capacity development of NMHSs and their personnel (particularly in Least Developed and Developing Countries and SIDSs).

The session decided that, given the need to respond to increasing demand for enhanced capacity of NMHSs, it may be beneficial to consider changes in the current WMO Programme structures related to capacity development to streamline the planning, implementation and monitoring of the activities inline with the new priorities.

Action: The Working Group members supported the creation of a WMO Strategy for Capacity Development and recommended this be taken to Congress.

7. VOLUNTEERISM WITHIN THE WMO COMMUNITY AS A MEANS OF SUPPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

The WMO Secretariat introduced to the Working Group a Concept Note for a new initiative of the WMO Community that would place skilled volunteers in developing and least developed countries, as well as offering rapid expert support in emergency situations (Annex 5).

The EC-CB agreed that volunteerism could be an excellent instrument to support developing countries requiring assistance under normal and emergency situations and that the Secretariat should explore this idea wider. Volunteerism is already an existing value in the WMO Community, which could be further strengthened by institutionalizing this instrument through a more formal process.

Action: The Secretariat was asked to provide a concrete proposal on the development of a Volunteer Programme within the WMO Community by World Meteorological Congress XVI.

Some members of the working group underlined that even though they support the initiative, it should not replace other capacity development activities in the Member countries. The members of the Working Group also recommended that WMO should explore possibilities to collaborate with already existing volunteer programs and try to find synergies and support.

8. COUNTRY PROFILE DATABASE

The WMO Secretariat informed the meeting of the progress made on the development of the Country Profile Database. The Working Group was also reminded that the maintenance of the Country Profile Database is not just a responsibility of the Secretariat, and since the database will be a strongly member driven tool, participation from the Member countries is crucial.

9. FUTURE ORGANISATION AND WORK OF THE EC-CB

The Working Group discussed how to move forward the Capacity Development Strategy within WMO and the future organization and workings of the EC-CB in supporting articulation of a CD Strategy within WMO that brings together the various related areas and programmes (Least Developed Countries, Regional Coordination, Education and Training, Resource Mobilization and Regional Offices) in more coordinated and comprehensive manner.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No additional items were raised.

11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman expressed appreciation on behalf of all participants to the staff of the WMO Secretariat for the organization and facilities which were made available in support of the meeting.

The Meeting closed at 18h00 on Tuesday 12 October 2010.

ANNEX 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS EC Working Group on Capacity Building

Geneva, Switzerland 11-12 October 2010

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Mr Jeff Wilson (D/ETR, DRA)
Mr Kaliba Konare (D/LDCR, DRA)
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ANNEX 2

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

THIRD MEETING EC WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY BUILDING

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
11-12 OCTOBER 2010

AGENDA

- 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**
- 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. REVIEW OF EC CB**
 - 3.1 Terms of Reference**
 - 3.2 Report of previous EC-CB Meeting and completion of actions agreed.**
- 4. WMO VOLUNTARY COOPERATION PROGRAMME**
 - 4.1 Resource Mobilization and strategic partnerships**
 - 4.2 Voluntary Cooperation Programme**
 - 4.2.1 Brief Statement from Chair of Informal Planning Meeting of the VCP**
 - 4.2.2 Review of Overhead Cost Policy**
- 5. BUILDING CAPACITY IN DEVELOPING AND LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES**
 - 5.1 Global Framework for Climate Services**
 - 5.2 Service Delivery**
 - 5.3 Assistance to LDCs and SIDS**
 - 5.4 Expert Panel on Education and Training**
 - 5.5 WMO Post Disaster Assistance: Haiti and Pakistan**
- 6. VOLUNTEERISM WITHIN THE WMO COMMUNITY AS A MEANS OF SUPPORTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**
- 7. COUNTRY PROFILE DATABASE**
- 8. FUTURE ORGANIZATION AND WORK OF THE EC-CB**
- 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 10. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

Resolution 10 (EC-LX)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Noting:

- (1) Resolution 1 (EC-LV) – Executive Council Advisory Group of Experts on Technical Cooperation,
- (2) Resolution 24 (Cg-XV) – The WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme,
- (3) Resolution 4 (EC-LIX) – Executive Council Working Group on Capacity-Building,

Considering the need for a continued mechanism to review on a regular basis issues related to capacity of members in respect of:

Expected result 7: Enhanced capabilities of Members to provide and use weather, climate, water and environmental applications and services, and

Expected result 9: Enhanced capabilities of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in developing countries, particularly least developed countries, to fulfil their mandates,

Decides:

- (1) To revise the terms of reference of the Executive Council Working Group on Capacity-Building established by Resolution 4 (EC-LIX) to address all aspects of assistance provided by WMO and its partners to developing and least developed Members, and to request the Working Group on Capacity-Building to provide advice and pursue a coherent approach towards:
 - (a) Improving capacity in least developed countries and small island developing States;
 - (b) Advocating socio-economic benefits of products and services of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, including their achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals;
 - (c) Developing strategic partnerships with external stakeholders;
 - (d) Mobilizing resources in support of the above;
- (2) To achieve these objectives the Working Group shall:
 - (a) Consider priority items as outlined in the WMO Strategic Plan, Regional Strategic Plans and Technical Commission Operating Plans;
 - (b) Consider matters which the Executive Council may specifically request to assist in managing risk;
 - (c) Provide guidance on the coordination of the Voluntary Cooperation Programme and Trust Funds to the Informal Planning Meeting;
 - (d) Strengthen the interface between technical and human resource development including the establishment of appropriate coordination with the Executive Council Panel of Experts on Education and Training;
 - (e) Strengthen the interface between WMO and relevant organizations such as the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the Group on Earth Observations;
 - (f) Invite relevant funding and development agencies including the World Bank and the European Commission to participate in the work of the Working Group;

- (g) Invite interested Members to designate experts in capacity-building to participate in the work of the Working Group and attend sessions of the Group at their own expense;

Authorizes the Working Group to establish sub-groups and task teams as and when required;

Requests the Secretary-General to promote partnerships between the WMO departments leading to externally funded development projects and take relevant actions to support the Working Group's activities;

Requests the Chairperson in consultation with Working Group members, the Secretary-General, relevant technical commissions, regional associations and WMO departments to refine the terms of reference of the Group as required.

Note: This resolution replaces Resolution 4 (EC-LIX), which is no longer in force.

REPORT
EC Working Group on Capacity Building (EC-CB)
Meeting on the margins of the EC-LXII

June 8th 2010, 13.15 to 14:30, Press room, WMO Headquarters Geneva

1. The Chair, Mr Tyrone Sutherland opened the meeting noting that there have been several changes to EC-CB membership in the past year due to changes of EC Membership with 5 positions changing. Therefore this short side meeting was intended to reconfirm the focus of the EC-CB and identify key priority areas for the further attention of the WG to December 2011 and also to report results of the WG to the next Congress.
2. The Chair advised that it is intended to convene a full meeting of the EC-CB in the late 3rd early 4th quarter 2010 (mid Sept/mid Oct) to determine the work plan for the remaining financial period. Further dialogue will be held by email as appropriate to further define priority areas for the attention of the WG in the interim. The Chair noted that the EC-CB has not been as active as it could be in terms of active participation in the work of the group and urged members to commit to more active engagement for the remainder of the financial period.
3. The meeting was provided with a brief overview of the history and progress of the EC-EC to date for the benefit of new members: the priority areas identified for the attention of the group at previous meetings since the inception of the group at EC-LIX post Congress in 2007 (See Annex I) and progress to date on these issues. It was noted that progress tended to occur due to Secretariat interaction with individual members of the group rather than concerted effort of the group per se and while this progress was welcome it would be desirable to have also some concerted effort by the group as a whole on some key priority areas.
4. The Chair invited the group to consider what should be the focus of the group for the remainder of the financial period.
5. The meeting proposed that one significant area for the attention of the EC CB would be that of operationalizing of Regional Strategic Plans being adopted in many regions and in particular regarding the funding for implementation. WMO could be called upon to assist with development of Operational Plans and also mobilizing of resources.
6. The question of the UN Climate Change Adaptation Fund was raised in terms of what the Secretariat was currently doing vis a vis the Adaptation Fund. The Secretariat advised that application had been made to the Fund for accreditation of WMO as Multilateral Implementing Agency (MIA) to the Fund. The review process is currently ongoing. Additionally an approach had been made to the Global Environment Facility for accreditation also. In this regard, lobbying by national governments with representation on the relevant decision making bodies of these mechanisms in favour of WMO accreditation may assist. The Secretariat undertook to investigate this further.
7. The Chair cautioned that the EC-CB needs to take a broader view beyond that of funding when considering capacity building as a whole. Funding, while a critical component, is also a means to an end and should not be the driving factor. Rather, the EC-CB needs to focus on priorities at regional and sub-regional levels and then consider funding requirements noting that many financing institutions seem to prefer projects with regional approaches.
8. The Secretariat also reminded the meeting that Capacity Building was one of the 4 major initiatives put forward in the Budget for the next financial period, noting that the other initiative areas (DRR, WIS/WIGOS and GFCS) all had oversight bodies of some type and that perhaps the

group could also consider its role relative to the Capacity Building initiative into the next financial period.

9. Participants proposed that the WG really should define what it really wants to achieve and what kind of progress it wants to see over the next 18 months, settling on one or two items from the focus areas identified by EC (Appendix – Res 10 EC-LX). The WG needs to support the Secretariat rather than task the Secretariat in this regard. While the Secretariat can develop ways it can assist Members, input and guidance as well as active involvement of the members of the EC-CB is needed to achieve maximum success.

10. It was suggested that the WG could look into the matter of better cooperation within and between RAs in terms of capacity building and the benefits that might accrue there. Some success stories can already be found there in terms of actions already initiated that could benefit from additional support to bring them to full fruition, especially Regional Centres (e.g. Regional Climate Centres).

11. On the issue of financing support for regional initiatives, it was proposed that greater engagement at regional levels with funding mechanisms, such as Development Banks, EU Commission, GEF and other such mechanisms should be pursued through advocacy and other interventions. This would sensitize the regional and national focal points to the role of NMHS in development and the need to improve NMHS capacity at all levels based on national and regional strategic plans. This might be carried out through a series of regional and sub-regional engagements and information and advocacy sessions. Additionally we could look at models that would assist the national authorities to approach these major donors.

12. Additionally, the meeting proposed that the Secretariat should consider creating the post of economist to undertake and publish widely further case studies that clearly demonstrate the socio-economic benefits of weather and climate services to the national economy.

13. In summing up, it was explained that this meeting was almost an introductory session given the number of new members to the WG and considering the above, that the group should in advance of the full meeting:

- give serious consideration to regional/sub regional focus for actions, including workshops involving regionally active funding institutions/partners.
- consider how the EC-CB can advise the Secretariat and assist WMO Members reach out to the leading funding institutions with specific projects, requirements and approaches.
- consider a possible focus on strengthening of the regional climate centres especially Regional Climate Centres
- place emphasis on providing stronger advice to the EC, as well oversight and partnerships in capacity building over the next few years and in preparation for the next financial period.

14. The participant list is attached at Appendix 1.

Background to EC Working Group on Capacity Building (EC-CB)

Congress and EC LIX (2007)
EC LX & EC-CB (2008)
EC LXI EC-CB (2009)

Resolution 4 of EC-LIX (2007) established the Executive Council Working Group on Capacity Building and requested it to: address all aspects of development cooperation, in particular, resource mobilization, socio-economic benefit studies, and strategic partnerships with external stakeholders, with the project proposals.

Resolution 10 of EC-LX (2008) further revised the TOR and requested the EC-CB to focus on the following:

- (a) Improving capacity in least developed countries and Small Island developing States;
- (b) Advocating socio-economic benefits of products and services of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, including their achievement of the United Nations MDGs
- (c) Developing strategic partnerships with external stakeholders;
- (d) Mobilizing resources in support of the above;

To achieve these objectives the working group shall:

- (a) Consider priority items as outlined in WMO's Strategic Plan, Regional Strategic Plans and Technical Commission Operating Plans;
- (b) Consider matters which the Executive Council may specifically request to assist in managing risk;
- (c) Provide guidance on the coordination of VCP and Trust Funds to the Informal Planning Meeting;
- (d) Strengthen the interface between technical and human resource development including the establishment of appropriate coordination with the EC Panel of Experts on Education and Training;
- (e) Strengthen the interface between WMO and relevant Organizations (e.g. UNESCO-IOC, FAO, ISDR, GEO);
- (f) Invite relevant funding and development agencies including the World Bank and European Commission to participate in the work of the Group; and
- (g) Invite interested Members to designate experts in capacity building to participate in the work of the Group and attend sessions of the Group at their own expense;

EC-LX & EC-CB 2008

- a) Develop an advocacy strategy aimed at increasing the political profile of the WMO Community and the awareness of the socio-economic value of the products and services delivered by NMHSs
 - International Conference on Technical Cooperation
 - Side session on technical cooperation at the WMO "Technical Conference on Meteorological and Environmental Instruments and Methods of Observation" and the "Exhibition of Meteorological Instruments, Related Equipment, and Services" (METEOREX)
- b) Assist with donor engagement to enhance the level of externally funded development projects in Member countries, by:
 - Establishing at least one new public or private partnership relationship leading to successful applications for funding; and
 - Developing one fully-costed proposal to assist in mobilizing resources for the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of the LDCs and SIDS;

- c) Develop a strategy to derive benefits to Members from the World Climate Conference – 3, including funding support for LDC participation.
- d) Support extension of the Severe Weather Demonstration Project within RA I and to RA V.
- e) Assist with donor engagement to enhance the level of externally funded development projects in Member countries, by:
 - establishing at least one new public or private partnership relationship leading to successful applications for funding; and
 - developing one fully-costed proposal to assist in mobilizing resources for the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of the LDCs and SIDS.
- f) Prepare a policy statement on WMO/NMHS role in mitigating the food crisis

EC LXI & EC CB 2009

- a) Demonstration Projects for LDCs – to demonstrate what is entailed in the migration to and full participation in WMO Integrated Global Observing System and WMO Information System (WIGOS & WIS) including implementation plans at country / regional scale
- b) With CBS and its relevant bodies develop a mechanism e.g. group of experts to help evaluate specifications and procurement of goods and services through the VCP (F), Emergency Assistance or Trust Fund projects.
- c) Focus on NMHS development plans and stress greater emphasis on management training for staff of developing country NMHSs.

(ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL)

RESOLUTION 19 (EC-LVI) (2004)

WMO PROGRAMME-SUPPORT COST POLICY

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

NOTING:

- (1) The decisions of Fourteenth Congress contained in the *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 960), general summary paragraph 10.1.14,
- (2) The report of the Joint Inspection Unit on Support Costs Related to Extrabudgetary Activities in Organizations of the United Nations System (JIU/REP/2002/3),

CONSIDERING that:

- (1) The findings of the cost measurement exercise carried out by the Secretariat indicated that less and less donors complied with the standard programme-support cost rate of 14 per cent for the recovery of such costs incurred for the management of extrabudgetary activities,
- (2) Regular budget resources increasingly supported the management of extrabudgetary activities during the thirteenth financial period (2000-2003),

NOTING that the cost measurement methodology used highlighted the following:

- (1) Programme-support costs are classified under two categories, namely, variable and fixed,
- (2) Variable costs are incremental costs that would not be incurred if the Organization did not administer extrabudgetary funding including the work effort directly affected by transaction volume,
- (3) Fixed costs are a share of the Organization's fixed expenditures for infrastructure attributed to extrabudgetary funding on the basis of the work measurement, and
- (4) Only variable costs should be recovered through the programme-support cost arrangement,

TAKE INTO ACCOUNT that the above cost measurement methodology and the review of the WMO programme-support cost arrangement are in line with the latest outcome of the United Nations system-wide review of the programme-support cost issue;

DECIDES:

- (1) To Establish a programme-support cost recovery rate of 13 per cent for technical cooperation projects, including VCP projects, for which the following flexibility might be granted, even cumulatively where applicable:
 - (a) In the case where the recipient government is the donor and the recipient/donor assumes responsibilities for certain functions which could otherwise be performed by the WMO Secretariat, a reduction in the rate by up to 2 per cent shall be granted, which corresponds to the amount of savings resulting from the assumption of the responsibilities by the recipient government;
 - (b) In the case where the technical cooperation project consists only of the procurement of equipment, supplies or materials, a rate of 9 per cent shall be applied instead of 13 per cent;

- (c) In the case where the donor accepts simplified reporting with a narrative report describing the use of funds and the results achieved, the reduction in the rate by 1 per cent shall be granted, on the understanding that the financial performance will be reported within the framework of the statutory biennial closure of accounts;
- (2) To establish a rate of 7 per cent for funds-in-trust which finance those normative activities which supplement regular budget programmes with no component of technical cooperation activities;
- (3) To confirm the 12 per cent rate for support costs for the management of the funds for Junior Professional Officers ;
- (4) To agree that the rates for UNDP projects should be those set by the UNDP Executive Board;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General:

- (1) To take measures to apply the WMO new programme-support cost policy to future agreements with donors for extrabudgetary activities as of January 2005;
- (2) To take measures with a view to compensating for the costs of incremental (variable) services provided by the WMO Secretariat for administering the funds-in trust for GCOS, IPCC and JCRF, consistent with any agreements in place with WMO's partners in these activities;
- (3) To revise the presentation of the budget and financial statements for GCOS, IPCC and JCRF to include not only the cash income and expenditures in the funds-in-trust, but also the staff and services contributed through the WMO regular budget, including provisions for office space and financial administration, and any similar contributions of staff or resources made by other sponsors;
- (4) To establish appropriate procedures to protect WMO from the currency risk caused by changes in the relationship between the Swiss franc in which programme-support costs are incurred, and other currencies (in particular the United States dollar) in which the programme-support cost income is credited to WMO;
- (5) To ensure that the following charges are included as direct costs when concluding agreements with donors and designing terms of reference for funds-in-trust: (a) telephone and postage costs; (b) staff travel for specific technical cooperation project operations, monitoring and evaluation; and (c) costs of technical services such as project appraisal, technical monitoring and evaluation;
- (6) To monitor the implementation of the new programme-support cost policy during the 2004-2005 biennium; and
- (7) To report to the fifty-eighth session of the Executive Council in 2006 on the progress made in the implementation of this resolution.