Report of the rapporteur: last session on Sept. 28, 2017

Question 5

Design and operation of HydroSOS is simpler when the meteorological and hydrological services are delivered by the same organization. However, in many countries, meteorological services are provided by one organization and the hydrological services by a different entity. In such cases, the meteorological inputs can be processed by the concerned agency and electronically transferred to the hydrological agency.

In some countries, different organizations are responsible for meteorological and hydrological services but they report to the same person and in such cases, coordination among the two agencies is simpler.

The group felt that cooperation and coordination to create nationally relevant products is of paramount importance. Before delivery of the outlook products, it is important that the products are useful to the users and are consistent.

Question 4

For sustainability and continued data sharing, it is necessary that the HydroSOS answers the needs of the users and adds value to their decisions. It needs to provide evidence-based support to their decision making. For example, in providing flood/drought compensation, the system may provide the big picture depicting where exactly flood or drought damages have taken place.

When a new project is announced, initially there is considerable enthusiasm. However, it is helpful to ask why we have a particular product. For the sake of sustainability, before initiating a new project, it is necessary to identify the users of the product and data providers and establish links with them.

Question 3

To identify the IT needs, it is necessary to first identify the requirements from the system. It will also be helpful to explore what support can be provided by the regional offices of WMO.

The requirements also need to worked out keeping in view the exciting development in Internet of Things (IoT). It is worthwhile to consider if the sensors and communication systems might be linked with the HydroSOS.

Question 2

The issues such as open source technologies, development, maintenance are important and also have budgetary implications. These need to be addressed along with the bigger issue of governance.

Question 1

The group did not have much information of WIGOS/WHOS.