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| **World Meteorological Organization**  **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PANEL OF EXPERTS ON POLAR AND HIGH MOUNTAIN OBSERVATIONS, RESEARCH AND SERVICES**  **Seventh Session** Ushuaia, Argentina, 21 to 24 March 2017 | **EC-PHORS-7/****Doc. 3.1(2)** |
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# CIMO Contribution to the Observations Framework

### SUMMARY

This document provides information on contribution of the Commission on Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO) to the observational framework in the Polar and High Mountain regions and proposes potential ways for strengthening the collaboration between CIMO, EC-PHORS and the Global Cryosphere Watch (GCW).

### DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED: Strengthening of collaboration with CIMO.

### ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED: Possible collaboration with CIMO.

### REFERENCES: None.

### ANNEXES: None.

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1. **DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED**

### The Panel is invited to consider the proposed ways for strengthening the collaboration between CIMO and GCW, through proposed joint workshop, development of guidance material to be published in the CIMO Guide, and updating the CIMO Guide to address the measurement requirements from the severe climate conditions encountered in polar and high mountain regions.

**2. ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED**

CIMO recognizes WMO Polar and High Mountain Regions activities (P&HM), and in particular GCW, as one of the high priorities of WMO and has been working on enhancement of its contribution to the quality of measurements under observational framework of EC-PHORS and GCW.

A very efficient collaboration between CIMO and GCW has been taking place within the WMO Solid Precipitation Intercomparison Experiment (SPICE). The measurement part of SPICE, as well as data analysis, is completed and the final report is expected to be published very soon. Outcomes from the final report, together with other GCW material on best practices and standards related to measurements, could serve as a basis to develop guidance material relevant to the measurement of snow, suitable to be published in the Guide to Meteorological Instruments and methods of Observation, WMO-No. 8 (CIMO Guide) and/or possibly other documents.

Existing guidance material in the CIMO Guide is mostly related to the regions with moderate climate, but not to those with extreme climate conditions. In this regard, CIMO MG at its last session agreed to invite GCW to contribute to the update of the CIMO Guide to address measurements in harsh environments, thus making the CIMO Guide content relevant also to GCW.

CIMO had agreed to organize a joint Workshop on Observations at Mountain Stations in collaboration with, and on request from, Regional Association VI (RA-VI), with the aim to address specific problems encountered at mountain observation stations in the RA-VI. CIMO had approached the GCW office to contribute to this workshop. Due to the lack of clearly specified needs and expected outcomes from RA-VI, CIMO is proposing to modify the concept of this workshop from focusing on Region VI related aspects, to a workshop that should foster collaboration with GCW looking at possible synergies to address aspects of common interest, such as measurements of traditional meteorological variables in mountain and polar regions, building up on the outcomes of SPICE, and other possible areas. It is proposed that the workshop be used to identify possible areas for collaboration, and as a starting point to develop relevant guidance material that could be included in the CIMO Guide, and to enhance its relevance to GCW in general.

As mentioned at the EC-PORS-6, CIMO is ready to support EC-PHORS in conducting a survey of WMO Members on their specifications for instruments and observational practices in polar and high mountain environments, if desired.

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