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| **World Meteorological Organization**  **Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation**  **CIMO Management Group**  **Fifteenth Session** Geneva, Switzerland, 26 – 29 March 2018 | **CIMO/MG-15/Doc. 4.3** |
| Submitted by: The Secretariat  21.03.2018 |

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# the future cimo working structure

**Update of the CIMO working structure and mechanisms**

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| **Summary and purpose of document**  This document provides a proposal for a new structure of CIMO, as well as proposal to establish a pool of experts for the update of the CIMO Guide. |

**Action proposed**

The Meeting is invited to:

1. Review the proposed new CIMO structure and make amendments as needed based on its deliberations, and the constantly evolving context of the WMO restructuring.
2. Review the proposal to abolish the OPAG concept.
3. Review the proposal for a pool of expert for the update of the CIMO Guide.
4. Consider how, by whom and when the relevant documents with the Terms of Reference of the teams, etc., should be developed.

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**Appendix:**  [Tentative new structure for CIMO](#Appendix)

**Reference:** [Report of the Sixteenth Session of CIMO](https://library.wmo.int/pmb_ged/wmo_1138_en.pdf)

**UPDATE OF THE CIMO WORKING STRUCTURE AND MECHANISMS**

1. The CIMO Strategic Management meeting that took place in Geneva from 27 to 29 June 2017 proposed a new working structure for CIMO, that is simpler than the current structure. It is aimed at ensuring that key activities are given proper focus, and at ensuring that relevant tasks/teams could be easily transferred to the new WMO technical commission structure, when the reorganization will take place. The working structure should make best use of the human and financial resources available, provide an effective mechanism to respond to new requests/activities needing CIMO’s support, and facilitate the WMO technical commission reorganization. The proposed new structure is provided in the Appendix. The very end of the document includes a proposal to establish a pool of experts for the update of the CIMO Guide.
2. The content below explains the consideration made by the CIMO Strategic Management meeting in developing its proposal, as background information and justification.
3. In view of the plan to submit the Vision for the future of environmental measurements for approval by CIMO-17, it was necessary to ensure that the CIMO working structure would enable to achieve the goals set out in the vision document. Therefore, the Strategic Management meeting reviewed the current CIMO working structure, ensuring that successful activities are not being discarded, and developed a proposal that could be put in place at the seventeenth session of CIMO, in 2018, and be in force until further restructuring of the WMO technical commissions.
4. The CIMO Strategic Management meeting recognized the following:

* The new structure and the experts working in it will need to be agile, adaptable and flexible. They will also need to be impartial and open-minded.
* The new structure needs to have the flexibility to create task teams, among others to adapt to emerging needs.
* Establishing an Inter-Programme Expert Team on Operational Weather Radars with CBS has been very successful. Even if it takes time to establish a joint team with another WMO body, it is worthwhile, as it enables to better use the human resources and to avoid duplication of work.
* Focussed teams are usually very effective. It is better to do less but of higher quality, than to have too many activities and produce low-quality results.
* CIMO intercomparisons are costly. They should therefore only be envisaged if there is no other way to achieve their desired outcomes. They are in particular justified, when there is no clear traceability path from the metrology for a specific type of measurement.

1. The CIMO Strategic Management meeting noted in particular the need to ensure that sufficient time will be allocated to ensure the survival of the WIGOS measurement community in the new structure of WMO technical commissions. Therefore, it will probably be needed to limit the number of activities that the commission will be doing to ensure that the transition into the new constituent body structure will be successful. Indeed, it is expected that this period of change will require a lot of investment in time from the CIMO management, as well as from the Secretariat, which will limit the time available to support regular activities.
2. The CIMO Strategic Management meeting expressed the strong desire to work in partnership with all the other technical commissions involved in measurements to achieve the strategic goal of having an ongoing measurement community.
3. The meeting also reviewed the performance of the current CIMO structure – what worked well and what does not work so well. It recognized that:

* The boundary between ET-OIST and ET-DIST is fuzzy, which provides the potential for joining them.
* Groups working on instrument intercomparison feasibility studies should include potential host to be more concrete and could be handled as Task Teams.
* TT-RadRef has a very limited scope. Therefore, other radiation experts, or radiation-related tasks are currently not included in that TT. Having again an ET (or IPET) on Radiation would be more effective.
* ET-ORST was impacted by the formation of the IPET-OWR. Possibility to join it with ET-NRST.
* TL-RFP mechanism is not working as expected and could be better dealt with at the level of the CIMO MG.
* ET-OpMet should continue, but preferably with smaller number of tasks, precisely defined.
* CIMO Editorial Board mechanism is working well. Currently modifications are mainly based on specific activities of ET. In the future, it should be more pro-active at ensuring that all chapters are regularly and entirely reviewed.
* TL-RFP activity is very important and is very close to the border with CBS. It will be important to carefully assess where to embed this activity in the new technical commission structure.
* TTs on Competences and on International Cloud Atlas were very productive.
* CIMO Editorial Board will have to be in charge of monitoring the status of the ICA website once it is completed.

1. The CIMO Strategic Management meeting participants agreed that:

* The matter of radio-frequency protection should be dealt with by a liaison at the level of the management group to respond to special requests from CG-RFP.
* The CIMO Editorial Board Terms of Reference should be amended to include “regular auditing of the ICA website” to avoid changes being inadvertently made to it.
* Consider establishing an IPET with CAS on the future of radiation measurements.
* Consider establishing an IPET with CBS on Aircraft-based Observations.
* Establish a team developing capacity building material (to teach down in the management hierarchy chain) and a team developing outreach material (to teach up in the management hierarchy chain).
* Abolish the concept of OPAGs that do not bring much added value, but assign each teams directly to the CIMO Management Group.
* Reduce the size of the CIMO Management Group.
* Proposed structure is provided in the Appendix.

***Consideration by the Secretariat***

1. The update of the WMO Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO Guide) requires a lot of coordination. During the last intersessional period significant amendments were proposed. However, it has also been noted that in some cases, the experts teams proposing those changes were not able to review some other parts of those chapters. The reasons for that were varying, but included also the absence of appropriate knowledge, for example on older technologies.

10. It would be useful to have access to a larger pool of experts for update of some CIMO guide chapters, so that those working in the ET have a task directly relevant to a particular CIMO Guide chapter. It is therefore proposed to request experts being proposed to work for CIMO in the next intersessional period to indicate not only which ET they would be interested to work in, but also on which chapter of the CIMO Guide they have knowledge. This would enable the CIMO Editorial Board and the Secretariat to coordinate updates of the CIMO guide.

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**TENTATIVE NEW STRUCTURE FOR CIMO**

(an outcome of the CIMO-MG strategic planning meeting, Geneva, June 2017)

Ideas for other possible IPETs, if appropriate:

**IPET – Operational Weather Radars (CIMO – CBS)**

**IPET – Aircraft–Based Observations (CBS – CIMO)**

**IPET – Radiation & Atmospheric Composition (CIMO – GAW)**

**TT – Transition to new structure**

**TT – Siting Classification**

**TT – Future Intercompa-risons**

**CIMO Management Group**

**President**

**Vice-president**

**TT – Table 1.E of CIMO Guide**

**CIMO Editorial Board**

**ET – Metrology**

**ET – Capacity Development**

**ET – In Situ Technologies**

**ET – Remote Sensing Technologies**

**Facilitator A Facilitator B Facilitator C Facilitator D Facilitator E**

**Facilitator A**

**Facilitator A**

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**TT – Education on Measurement**