

**WORKING GROUP ON PLANNING AND  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WWW IN REGION II  
FOURTH SESSION**

MOSCOW, 11-13 SEPTEMBER 2003

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ENHANCEMENT  
OF THE NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (NMSs) IN RA II**

*(Submitted by the Secretariat)*

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**Summary and Purpose of the document**

This document provides information on the implementation of the strategic plan for the enhancement of NMSs in RA II.

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**ACTION PROPOSED**

The group is invited to note the information given in this document and to provide guidance on the implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan related to the WWW

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- References:**
1. Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Twelfth Session of RA II(WMO-No. 924).
  2. Final Reports of sessions of the RA II Advisory Working Group
- Appendices:**
- A. Progress Report on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological Services (NMSs) in Regional Association II (Asia).
  - B. Text of the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological Services (NMSs) in Regional Association II (Asia).

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF NMSs IN ASIA**

### **Progress Report following the decision made by XII-RA II**

1. The twelfth session of Regional Association II (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 19 to 27 September 2000) approved the Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological Services (NMSs) in Regional Association II (Asia).
2. XII-RA II endorsed the steps of the implementation of the Strategic Plan and agreed that needs analysis for the development of NMSs in Asia be carried out to identify the requirement of NMSs at national, subregional and regional levels for the enhancement of their Services. It encouraged the chairpersons of its subsidiary bodies and rapporteurs to provide reports on the status of the NMSs in their fields or specialties.
3. XII-RA II encouraged the Members to make available some of their experts to carry out visits and needs analysis on voluntary basis and/or cost sharing basis taking into consideration the availability of limited fund.

### **Follow up to the decision of XII-RA II**

4. As requested by the Association, separate letters were sent to the chairpersons of RA II working groups and individual rapporteurs in November 2000 requesting them to provide reports on the status of the NMSs in the fields or specialties of their responsibility before the end of April 2001. Most of these chairpersons and rapporteurs have provided their reports.
5. The Secretary-General sent a circular letter (I/RA II/SPENMSs) of 15 June 2001 to all Members of RA II with the final version of the Strategic Plan. In the same letter, Members were invited to nominate their expert(s) to carry out visits and needs analysis on voluntary and/or on cost sharing basis when required. As of 22 October 2001, seven replies from Bangladesh, China, India, Japan, Pakistan, Russian Federation and Uzbekistan were received in the Secretariat and 19 experts have been nominated.
6. In respect of the Trust Fund for the development and implementation of the Strategic Plan, contributions were received from Hong Kong, China; Japan; Mongolia and Saudi Arabia.
7. The RA II Advisory Working Group (AWG) at its second session (Nanjing, China, 10 November 2001) reviewed the reports and proposals submitted by the chairpersons of the subsidiary bodies and rapporteurs and expressed the views that attention should be given to the following:
  - In order to save the cost of GPS sondes required by Members of the Region, the possibility of bulk procurement of GPS sondes could be explored through WMO Technical Cooperation Department;
  - Every effort should be made to have all NMCs of RA II connected to the GTS either with their national support or through appropriate WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP);
  - A general survey should be carried out in the Region covering the use and requirements of numerical weather prediction (NPW) products and training needs of Members in the use of GDPS products after which an appropriate training plan to be established including organizing of series of regional training workshops;

- Members of RA II were encouraged to participate actively in the use of Internet to disseminate official information and on making available to a central web site city temperatures of the world;
- It is important to organize series of regional workshops on operation and maintenance of automatic weather stations (AWS) in RA II to share experiences and to provide guidance materials to Members;
- RA II consists of several climate sub-regions, and therefore each or a group of Members have different needs and requirements for climate information. In this regard, a survey of needs and requirements for climate information to be carried out. A mechanism to prepare consensus forecasts for East Asian, Southeast Asian and Indian monsoons, those for arid/semi-arid areas is necessary;
- Opportunities should be sought by WMO along with relevant countries for having multilateral collaborations on the intercomparison of total ozone instruments on a regular basis;
- Greenhouse gases monitoring network particularly for CO<sub>2</sub> should be established in West, South and Southeast Asia, and inland area of Siberia. Extra funding should be explored by the GAW community;
- Additional stations should be established in this Region, in particular in low latitudes, to get longitudinal structure of vertical distribution of ozone in the atmosphere;
- Education, training and implementation support activities related to sea waves and storm surges due to tropical cyclones should be enhanced in collaboration with the Members of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones and the Typhoon Committee and through WMO Tropical Cyclone Programme.

8. The Secretary-General of WMO circulated the final report of the Second session RA II Advisory Working Group (AWG) to all RA II Members (Ref.: I/RA II/AWG dated 28 August 2002).

9. WMO, among its activities on the implementation of the Strategic Plan organized a Regional Workshop on Management: Strengthening Capacity Building of the National Meteorological Services of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Asia (Bangkok, Thailand, 16 to 18 October 2002).

10. Expert missions to some counties with the aim to assist them in establishing development plan for NMSs or in specific areas such as agriculture meteorology.

11. WMO and Republic of Korea are collaborating on formulation a regional project for Numerical Weather Prediction by using PC clusters. The Republic of Korea expressed its willingness to establish pilot projects in Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lank and at latter stage to expand to other NMSs in the Region.

12. WMO organized a Meeting of Directors of NMSs of Countries in Central Asia which was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 25 to 28 March 2003. The Directors and senior officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan with six invited experts from the Members of RA II attended the Meeting.

13. The RA II AWG at its fourth session (Geneva, 27 May 2003) was informed of activates undertook by WMO Secretariat and RA II Members on the implementation of the Strategic Plan, in particular:

- Assistance would be provided to NMCs Phnom Penh with appreciation by China. It also noted with appreciation that Japan provided assistance to Vientiane to connect it with RTH Bangkok and assistance still needed to connect Baghdad and Sana'a with an RTH.
- The Group reiterated its recommendation that a survey on the needs and requirements for climate prediction information including training and a survey on the needs and requirements for monitoring Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) and ozone observing stations be carried out.
- The Group noted that the Cg-XIV requested the Secretary-General to update the Regional Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of NMSs in Asia. It therefore agreed that all measure to be taken to update the Strategic Plan, which should be submitted to Members for review and comments before the next session of RA II (Hong Kong, China, in December 2004).
- The Group recommended that a Technical Conference or a Seminar be organized prior to the session of RA II to consider issues of concern in RA II including reviewing the proposed updated Strategic Plan.
- The Group expressed its appreciation and thanks to all those Members who provided funds, technical and expert supports for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. It encouraged all Members to continue providing voluntarily financial support to WMO Trust Fund for the implementation of the Strategic Plan and any other support to enable NMSs in Asia to enhance their Services.

14. A number of RA II Members informed WMO on their activities on the implementation of the Plan.

**Action proposed**

15. The Group is invited to review the steps undertaken on the implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan and to provide appropriate guidance on the implementation of the Plan related to the WWW.

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**TEXT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF  
NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (NMSs) IN REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II  
(ASIA)**

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