**Commission for Hydrology**

The Commission for Hydrology (CHy) made minimal progress in contributing to WIGOS during its past intersessional period (2008-2012). In February 2009, the CHy Advisory Working Group (AWG) recommended that the Southern African Development Community-Hydrological Cycle Observing System (SADC-HYCOS) and Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) in Southern Africa be integrated as a pilot project under WIGOS. Challenges arose in implementing this project, however, and these prevented the demonstration of potential future benefits to the hydrological community of contributing to WIGOS. The SADC-HYCOS project itself has not proceeded past Phase II and it was under Phase III that the focus was to shift from installation of equipment to the development and delivery of information and products. Also, the implementation of the FFGS in Southern Africa has not proceeded as quickly as planned. Thus, the environment has not been conducive for closer alignment of the data collection and service delivery with WIGOS and WIS.

At its Fourteenth session in November 2012, the Commission agreed that coordination of its WIGOS related activities should rest with its AWG member responsible for Data Operations and Management, thereby ensuring that there was appropriate expertise guiding the CHy efforts to support WIGOS. The Terms of Reference for this AWG member specify that he provide a focal point for and liaise with WIGOS and WIS (as well as other related areas such as the Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) and the Global Terrestrial Network – Hydrology (GTN-H)). It also specifies that he provide National Hydrological Services (NHSs) with guidelines, tools and techniques to participate in a federated global water data exchange infrastructure compatible with WIGOS, WIS, and GEOSS. So the Commission now feels that it is better positioned to support a closer integration of its activities with WIGOS going forward.