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| **World Meteorological Organization** |  | **ICG-WIGOS-5/Doc.4.3.1** | | |
| **INTER-COMMISSION COORDINATION GROUP ON WIGOS (ICG-WIGOS-5)** |  | Submitted by: | | Secretariat |
| Date: | | 16.XII.2015 |
| ***FIFTH SESSION***  GENEVA, SWITZERLAND  25-28 January 2016 | Original Language: | English | |
| Agenda Item: | 4.3 | |

# 4.3 PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION OF WIGOS

# 4.3.1. REVIEW OF OUTCOMES FROM TT-PWPP-2

(Submitted by the Secretariat)

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| **Summary and purpose of document**  This document provides information on outcomes from TT-PWPP-2. |

**Action proposed**

The session will be informed on the on outcomes from TT-PWPP-2 to be taken into account when considering the relevant Agenda Item.

**References:**

[Final Report from ICG-WIGOS Task Team on Planning for the WIGOS Pre-Operational Phase, Second Session, Geneva, 15-17 September 2015](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/WIGOS-WIS/reports.html)

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**4.3.1. REVIEW OF OUTCOMES FROM TT-PWPP-2**

**I. Background**

* + 1. The Second Session of the Inter-Commission Coordination Group on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (ICG-WIGOS) Task Team on the Plan for the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase (TT-WPP-2) was held at the WMO Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland, from 15 to 17 September 2015. The session was chaired by Dr Sue Barrell (Australia), Co-Chair of ICG-WIGOS and Vice President of CBS, and Prof Bertrand Calpini, Co-Chair of ICG-WIGOS and President of CIMO.
    2. The session discussed each of the five key priority areas for the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase (2016-2019). Concise timelines with deadlines and deliverables for each of the priority areas were developed ([See Appendices II – VI of the Final Report](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/WIGOS-WIS/reports.html)).
    3. TT-PWPP-2 further formulated the way forward for the WIGOS development and agreed on a number of deliverables to be presented to ICG-WIGOS-5, with a view to subsequent submission to EC-68 for approval (see below under II.).
    4. Finally, the session reviewed the linkages between WIGOS and other WMO priority areas and provided its recommendations on how to improve the exploitation of the synergies between them.

**II. Outcomes**

***i) National WIGOS Implementation***

* + 1. TT-PWPP-2 agreed that a ‘cookbook’ approach to the overall WIGOS implementation imposed on all WMO Members was not appropriate; however, a step-by-step guidance to OSCAR/Surface and WDQMS would be useful. It would be further developed and incorporated into the Guide to WIGOS.
    2. It was recognized that beyond the technical aspects involving OSCAR/Surface and the WDQMS, the biggest issue facing the WMO Members in their national implementations have to do with partnering with external (non-NMHS) data providers. It was agreed that there would be value in the development of a set of "partnership principles", with nationally relevant examples, to assist Members. The idea of establishing a Task Team on Data Partnerships was discussed, and it was recommended that ICG-WIGOS-5 establish such a team.
    3. It was agreed that successful national WIGOS implementation requires well-targeted communication at all levels in order to stimulate the uptake of WIGOS among the Members. It was further agreed that development and deployment of effective e-learning materials addressing technical and management aspects of WIGOS is essential to help prepare Members for being “WIGOS Ready” by Cg-18.
    4. The Secretariat was tasked to draft the concept of WIGOS readiness levels for approval at ICG-WIGOS-5. The lowest level of readiness would include (i) registration in OSCAR/Surface of all stations for which observations are exchanged internationally, (ii) implementation of WIGOS metadata; (iii) implementation of new Station IDs and (iv) development of a national process for receiving and acting on quality problem information from the WDQMS.

***ii) WIGOS Regulatory Material complemented with necessary guidance material to assist Members with the implementation of the WIGOS technical regulations***

* + 1. The 2019 edition of the *Manual on WIGOS* is planned to include (i) a full integration of the existing *Manual on the Global Observing System*, the existing version of which will be retired at that point, and (ii) new text on the Regional Basic Observing Networks (RBON), which will replace and expand upon the existing Regional Basic Synoptic Networks (RBSN) and Regional Basic Climate Networks (RBCN).
    2. Concerning the plans for the *Guide to WIGOS,* the participants were briefed on the need to have material available for Members by July 1 2016, which is the date on which the *Manual on WIGOS* takes effect. Guidance is most urgently needed in the following areas:
       1. OSCAR, Metadata, Station IDs and Quality monitoring;
       2. Regional WIGOS Centres, AWS, National partnerships;
       3. National observing strategy, RBON, and integration of space-based observations.
    3. The guidance material for the areas listed under item 1. in paragraph 4.3.1.10 is needed in the initial version of the Guide to WIGOS, and the material for those listed under 2. and 3. should be developed in subsequent steps.
    4. The initial Guide to WIGOS would be drafted by the Secretariat, and presented to ICG-WIGOS-5 in 2016 for review prior to submission to EC-68.
    5. It was decided that any regulatory and guidance material developed by the Secretariat should be reviewed by a Review Board prior to being submitted to the relevant Constituent Body Session. Such a Review Board would be constituted at ICG-WIGOS-5.

***iii) Further development of the WIGOS Information Resource (WIR), with special emphasis on the operational deployment of the OSCAR databases***

* + 1. TT-PWPP recognized the need for all WMO Members to be given the opportunity to participate in training for OSCAR. It also strongly recommended to investigate the potential use of e-learning tools in support of this, both due to the need of several staff from each NMHS being trained in this, and due to ongoing turn-over of staff.
    2. The “Standardisation of Observations References Tool” (SORT) was considered to be very useful, however such a tool should be based on a WMO-wide solution rather than on a custom solution unique to WIGOS. While waiting for such a solution to be developed, the design and definition work on SORT would be given lower priority.

***iv) Development and implementation of the WIGOS Data Quality Monitoring System***

* + 1. Since the WDQMS will be one of the most important areas of technical development in the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase, the idea of establishing an ICG-WIGOS Task Team to follow this development was discussed. The meeting agreed that since the scope of the overall Quality Management task in the WIGOS Framework Implementation Plan now had been down to focusing exclusively on observational data quality monitoring during the Pre-operational Phase, the work of the existing Task Team on WIGOS Quality Management (TT-WQM) should be considered finished, and the meeting thanked the members of TT-WQM for their contributions. The session decided to propose to ICG-WIGOS-5 the establishment of a new task team on Quality Monitoring.
    2. The WDQMS should be seen as an integral part of the WIR.

***v) Concept development and initial establishment of Regional WIGOS Centres***

* + 1. The Secretariat was requested to develop a short Concept Note for the Regional WIGOS Centres, focusing exclusively on the expected tasks and responsibilities of the RWCs, without going into detail regarding the process for proposing, approving, establishing and reviewing such Centres. This should be presented in a number of relevant WMO contexts for further developments, starting with the PTC/PRA meeting in January 2016.

***vi) Deliverables to ICG-WIGOS-5 and EC-68***

* + 1. TT-PWPP agreed that the following deliverables should be developed by the Secretariat and provided to ICG-WIGOS-5 for its consideration and further actions prior to submission to EC-68:

1. A set of simple timelines, one for each of the five priority areas;
2. An overarching roadmap for WIGOS Pre-operational Phase with a focus on the implications for the NMHSs;
3. A graphical representation of various stages of WIGOS Readiness of the WMO Members, the lowest stage of which should be reached by all WMO Members by the end of the Pre-operational Period.
4. A short (one-page) Concept Note for Regional WIGOS Centres, describing the main intended functions and responsibilities of the RWCs, but not the process for proposing, approving, establishing and reviewing them;
5. A draft updated and revised WIGOS Framework Implementation Plan reflecting the new tasks of the WIGOS Pre-operational Phase (updated in track change, referenced to the version approved by EC-66).

**Review of linkages with other WMO Priorities (GFCS, DRR, Polar Activities)**

* + 1. The need to strengthen the links to the other WMO priority areas and GCOS was stressed. It was noted that while several of them rely heavily on observations in order to meet their goals, engaging them in a dialog to articulate their requirements for observational data continues to be difficult.

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