

**DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVER-ARCHING
WIGOS DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

***Status of WIGOS/WIS Pilot Project on
Elaborating the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of
the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme in the context of WIGOS***

(Submitted by the Secretariat)

Summary and Purpose of Document

This document presents a Draft Pilot Project on the elaboration of the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of the Instrument and Methods of Observation Programme in the context of WIGOS. The draft pilot projects aims at developing those role and responsibilities in a rapid future to ensure that the programme would optimally serve all the WIGOS components and ensure necessary coordination among the various WIGOS components on topics related to instruments and methods of observations. Upon approval by EC of the new/revised roles and responsibilities of the IMOP, a later step could be envisioned, consisting in the development of an appropriate implementation plan.

ACTION PROPOSED

Following the mandate given by the Executive Council to the Working Group, the meeting is invited to review the Pilot Project, provide additional advice and guidance for its further development, and to support the establishment of the “ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS”.

ANNEX: Draft Pilot Project 3

References:

1. Cg-XV, PINK 7.4(3), Evolution of NMHSs and WMO, Towards Enhanced Integration between the WMO Observing Systems.
2. Res. 2/4 (EC-LIX) - Executive COUNCIL WORKING GROUP on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and the WMO Information System (WIS).

**PILOT PROJECT 3 –
Elaboration of the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of the
Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme in the context of WIGOS**

Background

1. Fifteenth Congress (Geneva, May 2007), when discussing the concept of integration between WMO Observing Systems, agreed that planning and implementation of the integration process should proceed in phases defined by the annual meetings of the Council in order to assure oversight, review and direction. The process foreseen is one where planning and implementation of an integrated WMO observing system and of the WIS would culminate with Cg-XVI (2011) adopting improvements towards strengthening the WMO programme structure and the system of technical commissions, which would be positioned to extend the benefits of the integration into the service and application components of the overall WMO Programmes at both the national and international levels. Congress also agreed that several “Pilot Projects”, as proposed by the EC Task Team, should be designed to test concepts, identify problem areas, and to help in elaborating the Plan. It recommended that possible candidate Pilot Projects include:

- (a) Integration of WWW/GOS and GAW;
- (b) Initiation of a Global Hydrologic network addressing a GCOS requirement;
- (c) Elaborating the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme;
- (d) Integration of AMDAR into the WMO global observing systems;
- (e) Integration of marine meteorological and other appropriate oceanic observations into the WMO global observing systems.

2. EC-LIX (Geneva, May 2007) established an Executive Council Working Group on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and the WMO Information System (WIS) with terms of reference as follows:

- (1) Provide advice and guidance in the preparation of an over-arching WIGOS Development and Implementation Plan;
- (2) Refine the WIS Development and Implementation Plan and ensure coordination between WIGOS and WIS plans to allow for an integrated WMO end-to-end system of systems;
- (3) Monitor the development and implementation of WIGOS and WIS through a “rolling review” mechanism;
- (4) Monitor WIGOS/WIS “Pilot Projects”, as identified by Cg-XV, to test concepts, identify problem areas, and to help in elaborating the Development and Implementation Plan;

Role and responsibilities of the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme

3. CIMO, being responsible for matters relating to international standardization and compatibility of instruments and methods of observation of meteorological, and related geophysical and environmental variables; its involvement in the development of WIGOS is crucial. In this context, the role of CIMO should be to coordinate the development and the maintenance of observing standards for all types of observations carried out within WIGOS, in particular, as far as observing requirements for different applications (and networks) is concerned, and to ensure and promote traceability of observations to SI units, through proper traceability chains. This might imply, among others, responsibilities related to instrument performance and intercomparisons and interoperability of instruments and systems.

4. CIMO recognizes the current and future benefits available to WMO Members through WIGOS and is in the process of establishing an “ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS” with the following Terms of Reference:

- (a) *Produce an outline for a CIMO Pilot Project Plan for review and consideration by the EC Working Group on WIGOS/WIS. The Pilot Project Plan will result from the first meeting of the “ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS”. The Pilot Project Plan should support the high level WIGOS/WIS goal to establish a comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable system of WMO observing systems with ensured access to its component observing systems' data and products through interoperable arrangements.*
- (b) *Following approval by the CIMO Management Group, the “ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS” will work with the WMO Secretariat, Observing and Information Systems Department and relevant CIMO expert teams and rapporteurs to facilitate implementation of the Plan during two years (2008-2009).*

Proposed Members of the “ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS” are:

CIMO President (J. Nash)

CIMO OPAG-Surface Co-Chair (B. Calpini)

CIMO OPAG Upper-Air Co-Chair (R. Stringer)

CIMO ET-SBII&CM Chair (M. Leroy)

CIMO Rapporteur on CIMO Guide (I. Zahumensky)

**PILOT PROJECT 3 –
Elaboration of the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of the
Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme in the context of WIGOS**

1. Background

Assisted by Cg-XV, the high level WIGOS/WIS goal is to establish a comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable system of observing systems with ensured access to its component observing systems' data and products through interoperable arrangements. WIGOS is the system of observing systems and WIS provides the access through the interoperable arrangements. WIGOS/WIS will address all WMO Programme requirements, ensure availability of required information, meet data quality standards, and facilitate access in real/quasi-real time as well as to archived information. The CIMO Pilot Project will make an important contribution in the development of WIGOS/WIS.

Factors bearing on planning:

- EC WIGOS/WIS Working Group Meeting Dec 2007 or January 2008
- CIMO MG meeting to be held in early 2008
- TECO-2008 (27-29 Nov. 2008)
- Ad-hoc (reduced) CIMO MG meeting, in conjunction with TECO-2008

2. Elaboration of the underpinning/crosscutting role and responsibilities of the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme

To accelerate implementation of WIGOS/WIS, the CIMO pilot project (including relevant WIS items) mandated by Cg-XV should, as a first step, develop a draft pilot project plan through an "ad-hoc CIMO expert group on WIGOS". Follow-on steps envision meetings of the CIMO Management Group (MG) and appropriate OPAG ETs to finalize the project plan and facilitate its implementation as well as reporting to the MG and the EC WIGOS/WIS Working Group. The project plan should result in the elaboration of the "cross-cutting role and responsibilities of the IMOP Programme in WIGOS."

3. Proposed Schedule and Actions:

- (i) November 2007: Nomination proposal for members of the "ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS" by CIMO President;
- (ii) December 2007: Meeting of the EC WIGOS-WIS working group to support establishment of "ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS" and provide additional guidance;
- (iii) Mid-December 2007-Mid-January 2008: Development of a preliminary draft Pilot Project Plan by the Expert Group and submission to CIMO MG for consideration;
- (iv) Late January 2008: CIMO MG meeting to approve preliminary draft plan and provide additional guidance to "ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS";
- (v) Q1 2008: Meeting of CIMO Expert Group to develop Project Plan
- (vi) June 2008: EC-LX to give guidance on WIGOS/WIS further development and project, and approve CIMO Pilot Project Plan;
- (vii) July-August 2008: The "ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS" finalizes the Pilot Project Plan according to guidance from EC-LX;
- (viii) September-October 2008: The "ad-hoc CIMO Expert Group on WIGOS" develops detailed lists of responsibilities and, as far as possible, a mechanism that would be needed to implement proposed responsibilities within WIGOS/IMOP/CIMO;
- (ix) November 2008: Wide consultation of CIMO Members during TECO-2008 and CIMO MG meeting to endorse the outcomes of the Pilot Project;
- (x) 2009: Finalization of outcomes of the Pilot Project and submission to EC-WIGOS-WIS Group.