WMO OMM



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Our ref.: 19413/2018/CLW/WCAS

Subject:

Launch of demonstration phase of Arctic Regional Climate Centre Network

(ArcRCC-Network)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that considerable progress has been made towards the implementation of the Regional Climate Centre (RCC) concept in the Arctic region under the guidance of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Executive Council Panel of Experts on Polar and High Mountain Observations, Research and Services (EC-PHORS) and its Services Task Team (STT).

Following extensive consultations among the relevant stakeholders during 2015-2017, including through a Scoping Workshop, Implementation Planning Meeting and endorsements by the concerned Regional Associations II, IV and VI, the structure for the ArcRCC-Network has been agreed to be composed of three geographically delineated nodes having sub-regional domains of responsibility, each of which performs all mandatory functions for the countries in its domain, and additionally, each node undertakes a significant cross-node mandatory function for the entire pan-Arctic domain. More specifically, the structure for ArcRCC-Network, endorsed by Decision 46 (EC-69) is as follows:

- North American Node led by Canada (with Canada and USA as members of consortium); Northern Europe and Greenland Node led by Norway (with Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and possibly other interested European countries as members of consortium); and the Eurasian Node led by the Russian Federation;
- Canada leads the Long-Range Forecasting (LRF) function; the Russian Federation leads the Climate Monitoring function; and Norway leads Operational Data Services function, for the entire Arctic domain;
- Norway provides overall coordination of the ArcRCC-Network, including a common web portal.

I am further pleased to inform you that ArcRCC-Network launched its demonstration phase on 17 May 2018, as part of the essential requirements to seek formal designation as a WMO RCC-Network. This immediately followed the first-ever session of the Pan-Arctic Regional Outlook Forum (PARCOF-1) that was successfully organized in Ottawa, Canada, on 15 and 16 May 2018, hosted by the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). These initiatives were endorsed by Decision 9/5 (EC-70).

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Presidents of RAs II, IV and VI President of CCL President of JCOMM President of CBS Co-Chairs, EC-PHORS All products and services provided by the ArcRCC-Network in the demonstration phase are accessible through the web portal (https://arctic-rcc.org). I would like to invite the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), particularly those of countries and territories within the domain of the ArcRCC-Network, to actively support the demonstration phase through (i) accessing and tailoring RCC products in support of national climate services; (ii) applying RCC products and services for national needs to the possible extent; (iii) supporting the generation of RCC products and services by sharing national data and expertise; and (iv) providing feedback in order to help ArcRCC-Network to further refine and improve their products and services.

For more information, you may contact Dr Helge Tangen of Norwegian Meteorological Institute (helge.tangen@met.no) and/or Dr Rupa Kumar Kolli (RKolli@wmo.int), Chief of World Climate Applications and Services Division of the WMO Secretariat.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation and support to WMO Programmes and activities.

Yours faithfully,

(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General