



Our ref.: 27110/2019/CLW/CLPA/CCA-CCI

14 October 2019

Subject: Circular letter of the President of the Commission for Climatology (CCI) - Transition to the Services Commission

Dear Sir/Madam,

As most of you are already aware, the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18), held from 3 to 14 June 2019, decided to reform the current structure of WMO Constituent Bodies, including the Technical Commissions, moving from eight commissions to only two – the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information System (Infrastructure Commission) and the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (Services Commission), in addition to other bodies including a Research Board, a Climate Coordination Panel, a Hydrology Coordination Panel, a Scientific Advisory Panel and a Technical Coordination Committee (Look at: <https://public.wmo.int/en/governance-reform> for more insights).

The time line for the implementation of the Reform establishes April 2020 as the end of the transition period from the old to the new technical commissions. I appreciate that many of you continue to achieve many worthwhile deliverables, as you have always done. I also appreciate that many of you are helping to identify the priority work of the Commission for Climatology (CCI) that needs to be transitioned to the new structures. At its 18th Session, Congress agreed that the functions and deliverables approved at the 17th session of CCI (CCI-17, April 2018) remain important and should be continued. The challenge for the WMO Transition Team will be to determine which of these deliverables require immediate attention and how they will be organized under the new technical commission structure. More specifically, Cg-18 (Res. 7) requests the Transition Team to ensure the orderly transition of normative functions of the technical commissions active during the seventeenth financial period and effective incorporation of their work and deliverables, that are relevant to the priorities identified in the Strategic Plan, into the new structures. To this end, while it is not yet clear what the arrangements for transition to the new Technical Commission structures will be post April 2020, it is likely that the expertise agreed at CCI-17 will still be required under the new structures.

It is anticipated that most areas of activity, but not all, of the current CCI will fall within the Services Commission, which will be chaired by Mr Ian Lisk (UK) and have three Vice-Presidents, as elected at the Cg-18 (Res. 88), of which I will be one. This will be a key factor in preserving the continuation of the important work that your Service and its volunteers are committed to carry out during the transition period and beyond. Consequently, I commit myself to work with the new Commission Presidents and Vice-Presidents and in the context of the new Executive Council Climate Coordination Panel to find the most appropriate means to ensure that the ongoing functions and planned deliverables approved during CCI-17 are continued, as called for by Cg-18 (Res. 20).

Also, my interest and duty is to continue highlighting the exceptional contributions that CCI has made since it was established in 1929 by the International Meteorological

To: Members of the Commission for Climatology
Members of the CCI Management Group, Focus Areas and Experts
cc: Presidents of technical commissions
Presidents of regional associations
Chairpersons of regional associations' working groups (for information)
and regional associations' rapporteurs dealing with CCI-related matters

Organization (IMO) and, since 1951 as a WMO Technical Commission (see http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/ccl/documents/WMO1079_web.pdf and <https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/how-we-do-it/technical-commissions/commission-climatology-ccl>).

We know that it is often difficult to adjust to changes, especially when there are remaining uncertainties about what future work structures will be. However, I can assure you that thanks to the very good work of each of the CCI expert teams, our achievements (such as guidelines, software, publications, tools, trainings and other activities that support climate data management, monitoring and prediction and the generation of a wide variety of climate services) are increasingly required and valued. This value to the climate science community, and the people in climate-sensitive activities that rely on these developments, prompts me to encourage each of you to continue working hard during this transition period and beyond.

Earlier this year, WMO invited Members and partners to request their experts to register and enter their biographical information in the Expert Data base of the WMO Community Platform (<https://community.wmo.int>). In January 2020, WMO will ask the Members and cooperating partners to use this Platform to nominate experts for the two new technical commissions and their standing committees. I encourage you and those active in CCL to ensure your information is included and is up to date so that you -and your volunteers can be considered for the work of the new commissions.

Yours faithfully,



(M. Brunet)
President
Commission for Climatology