



Our ref.: 8384-16/WDS-DPFS/New Manual on GDPFS-2016

GENEVA, 15 June 2016

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Revision of the *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485)

Action required: To confirm the mapping of the WMC and/or RSMC currently hosted by your Service onto the new designations (taking into account their functions described in the revised *Manual on the GDPFS*) at your earliest convenience **but not later than 15 August 2016**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485) is the single source of technical regulations for all operational data-processing and forecasting systems of WMO Members, including their designated meteorological centres. Following the request by the Commission for Basic Systems, at its fourteenth session (CBS-XIV, 2009), progress has been made with the revision of the Manual on the GDPFS, including the development of an outline for a new Manual, which was adopted by the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-XVI, 2011) through Resolution 6 (Cg-XVI). Noting that the new Manual introduces a number of changes to the current procedures, the Commission for Basic Systems, at its 2014 extraordinary session (CBS-Ext.(2014)), considered the comprehensive summary of changes of functions and procedures that would ensure a smooth transition to the new Manual. Acknowledging that the new Manual is being developed in accordance with quality management principles, which ensure its sustainability as part of the WMO Quality Management Framework (QMF), and would facilitate the review of compliance of GDPFS Centres against the designation criteria, CBS-Ext.(2014) recommended a roadmap for the completion of the new Manual (which will replace the current version), including transition arrangements for its implementation to manage the technical changes and the initial designation of the GDPFS Centres as defined in the new Manual, including World Meteorological Centres (WMCs) and Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs), which were approved by the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17, 2015) in Resolution 12 (Cg-17).

I wish to bring to your attention that the new Manual introduces a clear definition for a WMC, for which a WMC shall be appointed if fulfilling the following functions:

- RSMC for global deterministic numerical weather prediction;
- RSMC for global ensemble numerical weather prediction; and
- RSMC for global numerical long-range prediction (known as Global Producing Centre for Long-range Forecasts).

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, Fiji, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Korea (Republic of), Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, UK, USA and Uzbekistan
Director General of ECMWF

In addition, as per the summary of changes of functions and procedures, RSMCs with geographical specialization would become RSMCs with specialization in one (or more) of the following activities:

- RSMC for regional severe weather forecasting;
- RSMC for global deterministic numerical weather prediction;
- RSMC for limited-area deterministic weather prediction;
- RSMC for global ensemble numerical weather prediction; and
- RSMC for limited-area ensemble numerical weather prediction.

RSMCs with other activity specialization are redefined in the new Manual for clarity in the description of functions, not altering the designation criteria.

As part of the above-mentioned roadmap, WMO Members hosting a WMC and/or an RSMC are invited to confirm the mapping of the WMC and/or RSMC currently hosted by your Service (as per Appendix I-1 of the current version of the Manual on the GDPFS, Annex I) onto the corresponding designations (taking into account their functions described in the revised Manual on the GDPFS) at your earliest convenience **but not later than 15 August 2016**. Also for your easy reference, I wish to inform you that the draft version of the revised Manual (table of contents given in Annex II) is available on the WMO website at:

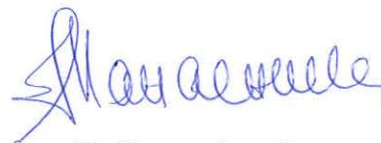
https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/DPS/Manual/Table-of-content_Manual-gdpfs.html

This version takes into account comments received by WMO Members following the request to review its content in the WMO circular letter ref. WDS-DPFS/New Manual on GDPFS-2015, dated 11 May 2015.

I wish to recall that as part of the transitional arrangements recommended by CBS-Ext.(2014), Cg-17 agreed that the existing WMCs and RSMCs will retain their status until the Eighteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18) in 2019; and to retain status after Cg-18, they need to demonstrate compliance by Cg-18.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to you and your Service for your continued support in making meteorological products of the WMO's Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS), including Emergency Response Activities (ERA), increasingly more relevant in the world.

Yours faithfully,



(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General

Confirmation form for mapping of the WMC and/or RSMC hosted by your Centre

WMO MEMBER:
Focal Point:
E-mail address:

Q1. World Meteorological Centre (WMC)

The new Manual introduces a clear definition for a WMC, which WMC shall be appointed if fulfilling the following functions:

- RSMC for global deterministic numerical weather prediction;
- RSMC for global ensemble numerical weather prediction; and
- RSMC for global numerical long-range prediction (known as GPC).

If you currently host a WMC, please answer *YES* or *No* to confirm your will to map its functions onto a new designation of WMC.

Designated Centre	Mapping confirmation (Yes/No)
Melbourne (southern hemisphere only)	
Moscow	
Washington	

Q2. Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) with geographical specialization

RSMCs with geographical specialization would become RSMCs for one (or more) of the following activities:

- (1) RSMC for regional severe weather forecasting;
- (2) RSMC for global deterministic numerical weather prediction;
- (3) RSMC for limited-area deterministic weather prediction;
- (4) RSMC for global ensemble numerical weather prediction; and
- (5) RSMC for limited-area ensemble numerical weather prediction.

If you currently host an RSMC with geographical specialization, please answer *YES* if you confirm your will to map its functions onto a new designation(s) of one (or more) of RSMC(s).

Designated Centre	(1) RSMC for regional severe weather forecasting	(2) RSMC for global deterministic numerical weather prediction	(3) RSMC for limited-area deterministic weather prediction	(4) RSMC for global ensemble numerical weather prediction	(5) RSMC for limited-area ensemble numerical weather prediction
Algiers					
Beijing					
Brasilia					
Buenos Aires					
Cairo					
Dakar					
Darwin					
Exeter					
Jeddah					
Khabarovsk					
Melbourne					

Miami					
Montreal					
Moscow					
Nairobi					
New Delhi					
Novosibirsk					
Offenbach					
Pretoria					
Rome					
Tashkent					
Tokyo					
Tunis /Casablanca					
Washington					
Wellington					

Q3. Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) with activity specialization

If you currently host an RSMC with activity specialization, please answer *YES* or *No* to confirm your will to map its functions onto a new designation of its corresponding RSMC.

Designated Centre	Mapping confirmation (Yes/No)
Global Producing Centre for Long-range Forecasts (GPC)	
Beijing	
CPTEC (Brazil)	
Exeter	
Melbourne	
Montreal	
Moscow	
Pretoria	
Seoul	
Tokyo	
Toulouse	
Washington	
European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)	
Tropical Cyclone Centre / Hurricane Centre / Typhoon Centre	
Nadi – Tropical Cyclone Centre	
New Delhi – Tropical Cyclone Centre	
Miami – Hurricane Centre	
Tokyo – Typhoon Centre	
La Réunion – Tropical Cyclone Centre	
Honolulu – Hurricane Centre	
RSMC for Atmospheric Sand and Dust storm Forecasts	
Barcelona	
RSMC for Nuclear Environmental Emergency Response and/or Backtracking	
Beijing	
Exeter	
Melbourne	
Montreal	
Obninsk	
Offenbach (backtracking only)	
Tokyo	
Toulouse	
Vienna (backtracking only)	
Washington	

Regional Climate Centre		
Africa hosted by the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) (RA I)		
Beijing (RA II)		
Tokyo (RA II)		
Moscow (RA II)		
Western South America hosted by the International Research Centre on El Niño (RA III)		
Network (RA VI)	De Bilt (Climate Data Service)	
	Offenbach (Climate Monitoring)	
	Toulouse (Long-range Forecasts)	
	Moscow (Long-range Forecasts)	

If you currently host an RSMC with activity specialization for Region VI (Europe), please answer *YES* or *No* to confirm your will to map its functions onto a new designation and indicate the corresponding RSMC.

Designated Centre	Mapping confirmation (Yes/No), if yes, please indicate the corresponding RSMC
RSMC for Medium-range Weather Forecasts for Region VI (Europe)	
ECMWF	
RSMC for the Provision of Ultraviolet-index forecasts for Region VI (Europe)	
Offenbach	

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