

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale  
Organización Meteorológica Mundial  
Всемирная метеорологическая организация  
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية  
世界气象组织

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Ref.: 16437/2021-1.61

Our ref.: 16437/2021/I/ONM/MQC/TB-LC

5 August 2021

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Transition to the WMO Measurement Lead Centres

Action required: To express your willingness and capabilities to provide your services as a designated Measurement Lead Centre with the terms of references provided in the annex, by informing the president of INFCOM, through the WMO Secretariat, not later than **30 September 2021**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Testbed and Lead Centres have played a critical role in supporting the activities of WMO through its Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM), by leading and providing testing, development and standardization of instruments and their performance for the benefit of all WMO Members, thus contributing to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS).

I am pleased and WMO is very grateful that your service is hosting such a centre.

At its first session, Part III, INFCOM decided to replace the existing concepts of Testbeds and Lead Centres by a single concept of Measurement Lead Centres, and in this regard, INFCOM adopted the generic Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres which are reproduced in the [annex](#).

[Resolution 5 of INFCOM-1\(III\)](#) - Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres, requested all Members hosting the designated WMO/CIMO Testbeds and Lead Centres to inform the president of INFCOM, with a copy to the WMO Secretariat, about their willingness and capabilities to continue providing services as designated Measurement Lead Centres, and to adapt their services and activities accordingly, by 1 July 2022.

Following this Resolution, I would appreciate receiving your response to this request at your earliest convenience, but not later than **30 September 2021**.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your continued contribution to WMO, and the activities of its Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Wenjian Zhang  
for the Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives of Finland; Germany; Hong Kong, China; Netherlands; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Spain; Switzerland; Italy with WMO (limited distribution)

## Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres

Ref.: 16437/2021-1.6.1

- (1) The purpose of the Measurement Lead Centre (MLC) shall be:
    - (a) To provide high-level expertise in the testing of surface-based remote sensing and in situ instruments and in standardization of instrument performance, interoperability and compatibility in support of the Earth system observation; and
    - (b) To capture and distribute openly, as appropriate, the results and supporting data, upon request and, if appropriate.
  - (2) The MLC shall be a "centre of excellence" where latest instrument technology, systems and techniques are applied and explored, towards, among others, providing advice on their potential for operational and cost-effective use by Members.
  - (3) The MLC shall publish and promote, as appropriate, details of its capabilities, expertise, facilities and services offered to Members. The MLC shall publish contact details through which Members can seek expertise and services.
  - (4) The MLC shall provide, publish and promote, as appropriate, their achievements and findings, in particular on integration of surface-based remote sensing and in situ measurements, as well as on the development of standard procedures related to instrument use, operation and maintenance.
- Note: Achievements and findings can be published as reports and guidance documents in the relevant WMO publications (for example, IOM reports) or scientific journals, and presented at relevant conferences (for example, TECOs).
- (5) The MLC shall be instrumental in the efforts of INFCOM/Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT) to bridge the gaps between countries by assisting INFCOM/SC-MINT in conducting training and capacity development. Where appropriate, the MLC should develop a special relationship with a companion facility from a developing country.
  - (6) The MLC should collaborate with other MLCs and WMO regional centres with focus areas of common interest, other scientific and development institutions and agencies, and instrument manufacturers.
  - (7) The MLC should implement and maintain a quality management system.
  - (8) The MLC shall provide at least one report every two years to INFCOM/SC-MINT. The MLC's activity will be regularly evaluated by INFCOM/SC-MINT to ensure they are delivering the expected outcomes.
  - (9) The MLC shall nominate a contact person responsible for communication between the MLC and the INFCOM/SC-MINT. The MLC shall be collaborative with INFCOM/SC-MINT and responsive to their requests, including contribution to the activities of relevant expert team(s), as appropriate.
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