

**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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Annexes: 3 (Annexes 2 and 3 available in English only)

Subject: Establishment of an Advisory Group on Severe Weather Forecasting

Action required: Notify the WMO Secretariat of the nomination of your expert to serve in the Advisory Group on Severe Weather Forecasting by **15 February 2022**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the Executive Council, at its seventy-third session in June 2021 (EC-73), approved [Resolution 25 \(EC-73\)](#) - Rules of Procedure for Technical Commissions, and its Annex. One of the Amendments is the possibility to establish a new type of subsidiary body, the Advisory Group, of which generic description is reproduced in [Annex 1](#).

Following the recommendation by the Standing Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services at its second meeting (SC-DRR-2, 6 July 2021), the President of the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) has approved the establishment of an Advisory Group on Severe Weather Forecasting (AG-SWF) after review of its Terms of Reference (ToR) by the SERCOM Management Group. The AG-SWF ToR are available in [Annex 2](#).

In this connection, I am pleased to invite you to nominate a representative from the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre mandated by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for regional severe weather forecasting (RSMC SWF) or the regional forecast support centre or facility (providing regional severe weather forecasting) that your country is hosting, according to the above-mentioned ToR, as listed in [Annex 3](#). As per the Rule of Procedures for Technical Commissions, please note that this representative should be registered for the AG-SWF in the Expert Network (as core or associate expert) and the nomination should go through the Expert Network beforehand.

Moreover, I would like to call your attention to the fact that this group's working language will be English only, hence Annexes 2 and 3 of this letter are in English only.

For administrative purposes, I should be grateful if you could notify the WMO Secretariat on or before **15 February 2022**, of the nomination of your expert to serve in the Advisory Group on Severe Weather Forecasting.

To: Permanent Representatives of France, India, Kenya, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam with WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Hydrological Advisers

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your continued support in promoting the activities of WMO including regional severe weather forecasting.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Elena Manaenkova
for the Secretary-General

**EXCERPT FROM THE ANNEX TO RESOLUTION 25 OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AT ITS SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION (EC-73)**

Rules of procedure for technical commissions

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5. Subsidiary bodies *[subsections to be renumbered in the editorial process]*

5.4.3.bis Advisory Group

- (a) Advisory groups may be established by a commission or, subject to the approval of the president of a commission, by a standing committee to guide and coordinate the delivery of globally consistent operational services and supporting expert technical and/or scientific advice for a specific application area, to facilitate and promote cooperation with other relevant international bodies and to carry out other tasks as required;
- (b) The continuing requirement for an advisory group should be periodically reviewed by the parent commission or standing committee in consultation with the president of the commission;
- (c) Advisory groups should be composed of representatives and experts designated by those Members or agencies with mandated responsibilities for a specific application area and registered by the relevant Permanent Representative or Approving Agency on the Expert Network. The selection of advisory group chairs should be approved by the president of the commission;
- (d) The number of advisory groups established by a commission or standing committee should be kept to a minimum. Advisory groups should work primarily through electronic means of communication; face-to-face meetings should be organized only if agreed to by the parent commission or standing committee.

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON SEVERE WEATHER FORECASTING (AG-SWF)

With the overall objective of providing technical guidance and global coordination in support of the delivery of severe weather forecasting services in various sub-regions, the Advisory Group on Severe Weather Forecasting (AG-SWF) shall:

1. Develop and submit proposals for standards and technical guidance for WMO technical regulations in relation to severe weather forecasting (SWF) activities in consultation with the Standing Committee on Data Processing for Applied Earth System Modelling and Prediction (SC-ESMP) under the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM);
2. Consider and advise on the concept, objectives, expected benefits/costs, strategy, action plan and provide recommendations to the further development of the existing and new SWF regional sub-programmes and their transition to operation, making proposals where necessary for any remedial actions;
3. Monitor and evaluate the progress, the usefulness and the efficiency of SWF regional sub-programmes and suggest recommendations as appropriate;
4. Support the integration of new components in regional SWF, including addressing synergies with other regional programmes, projects and activities (of WMO, UNESCO/IOC, UNESCO/IHP, WB etc.) to provide operational support for multi-hazard early warning services (MHEWS);
5. Support the relevant subsidiary bodies in implementing the relevant resolutions, decisions or recommendations of the Congress and the Executive Council;
6. Review and updating of the regional SWF guidance documents (Overall Plan and Guidebook);
7. Provide technical guidance for sharing of satellite data & numerical model output among regional SWF participating countries and support sharing of technical knowledge among National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs);
8. Develop recommendations to ensure the effective contribution of the World Meteorological Centres (WMCs) and to support the full and sustainable participation of NMHSs, including those from least developed countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in regional SWF activities and to provide guidance for downscaling activities that serve national MHEWS;
9. Provision of recommendations on capacity building, promotion of the research to operations (R2O) process and strengthening linkages with the Research Board;
10. Liaise with relevant subsidiary bodies of WMO to support:
 - a. contributions of the Global Data-Processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) and benefits of the new developments and advances in Earth System Prediction (ESP) for regional SWF activities;
 - b. regional SWF synergies and collaboration with other relevant operational activities, initiatives and systems including the Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS), the Coastal Inundation Forecasting Initiative (CIFI), the Tropical Cyclone Programme (TCP) etc. and regional SWF integration into MHEWS interoperable environment as appropriate and feasible;
 - c. flood forecasting activities of WMO by liaising with the Flood Forecasting Initiative Advisory Group (FFI-AG).

Membership/Composition

- Designated 'expert' representation from those Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) for SWF mandated by Congress/Executive Council to provide severe weather forecasting guidance to the NMHSs in the specified sub-regions. The Chair and vice-Chair will be selected and notified according to the Rules of Procedure for Technical Commissions.
- Designated 'associate expert' representation from those regional SWF operational centres that whilst not RSMCs for SWF, are providing sub-regional severe weather forecasting guidance as part of the WMO SWF Programme.
- A representative from a contributing World Meteorological Centre (WMC) as appropriate (to be appointed in consultation with chair of SC-ESMP under INFCOM) (He/she would collect information from all contributing WMCs to provide updates to the advisory group).
- Technical Focal Point(s) to be selected from relevant specific areas as/if needed (subject to approval by the President of SERCOM).

Modalities of work

- Correspondence including email exchange and other appropriate online interactions as needed.
- Virtual meetings every six months, or as the needs arise.
- Face-to-face meeting every two years or as needs arise if agreed to by the SERCOM/SC-DRR.
- Report regularly (e.g. every six months and/or after every virtual or face-to-face meeting) through the Chair and in writing, to the SC-DRR.

**LIST OF RSMCs SWF AND REGIONAL OPERATIONAL SWF CENTRES HOSTED BY
WMO MEMBERS**

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RSMCs SWF		
WMO Member	Relevant sub-region & SWFP web portals	Potential representation in AG-SWF
Kenya	Eastern Africa: http://rsmc.meteo.go.ke/rsmc/	Core Experts to be nominated/designated by PR of the respective Members in the WMO Experts Network database
New Zealand	South Pacific: http://swfddp.metservice.com/	
Senegal	West Africa & Central Africa: http://rsmc.anacim.sn/en/user/	
South Africa	Southern Africa: http://rsmc.weathersa.co.za/login.php	
United Republic of Tanzania	Eastern Africa: http://tma.go.tz/portal/rsmc-login	
Regional SWF centres/facilities (whilst not yet RSMCs SWF)		
France	Eastern Caribbean: https://pro.meteofrance.com/	Associate Experts to be nominated/designated by PR of the respective Members in the WMO Experts Network database
India	South Asia: https://nwp.imd.gov.in/mme/fdp-bob/login.php	
Russian Federation	Central Asia: http://swfdp-ca.meteoinfo.ru/	
Viet Nam	Southeast Asia: http://www.swfdp-sea.com.vn/	