



Our ref.: 6771694/2026/HRCS/CNFT/INFCOM-4

24 July 2026

Annexes: 2

Subject: Notification of the fourth session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM-4)

Action required: Inform on participation in the INFCOM-4 session

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to be represented at the fourth session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM-4) which will take place on 23–27 November 2026, in Geneva, Switzerland, with the possibility of online participation.

The provisional agenda is provided in [Annex I](#). Please note that the provisional annotated agenda and documents for the session will be posted on the [INFCOM-4 session website](#) in due course.

In order to assist WMO in the preparation for the session, I should appreciate receiving, as soon as possible, the name(s) of the person(s) designated to participate in the above session. All the representatives of international organizations and non-Members invited as observers to the session are kindly required to provide, in advance, a letter of representation signed by the appropriate authority from their organization, together with the contact information of the delegation to be registered by the WMO Secretariat.

To facilitate the preparation of upcoming meetings of technical commissions, I should also appreciate it if a focal point could be designated and the email address sent to the WMO Secretariat at registration@wmo.int for future communications.

Yours faithfully,

Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General

6771694/2026/HRCS/CNFT/INFCOM-4, ANNEX I

INFCOM-4**(Geneva, 23–27 November 2026)****PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

Item	Title
1	Agenda and organization of the session
2	Consideration of the report by the president of the Commission
3	Consideration of the WMO Programmes and strategic planning 2028–2031 relevant to the Commission
4	Technical Regulations and other technical matters
4.1	Cross-systems
	Proposed amendments to Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49) and piloting of hydrological reference station concept
	Proposed amendments to competency frameworks and other capacity development matters
	Road map for Global Hydrological and Climate Data Centres Designation and Recognition
	Implementation Plan of Global Cryosphere Watch
	Future data infrastructure readiness for artificial intelligence
4.2	WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)
	Vision for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System in 2050
	Road map for the Global Basic Observing Network expansion
	Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160)
	WMO Position Paper on the World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 Agenda
	Harmonized concept for regional instrument centres
	Other relevant WIGOS technical matters
4.3	WMO Information System (WIS)
	Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Information System (WMO-No. 1060), Volume II
	Guidance on free and open-source software
	First-mile data exchange standard and certification
	Other relevant WIS technical matters
4.4	WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS)
	WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System Strategy
	Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 485)
	Update of the Guide to the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 305)
5	Review of previous resolutions and recommendations of the Commission and evaluation of implementation of relevant actions
6	Review of resolutions and decisions of Congress and the Executive Council related to the Commission
7	Work programme and subsidiary bodies of the Commission
8	Date and place of next session

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I. Introduction

1. The Secretary-General places before the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM) for its consideration, the following observations and information regarding the organization and conduct of its fourth session (INFCOM-4) and the adoption of the agenda.

II. Organization of the session

2. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the Commission to the convening of the session in Geneva, Switzerland, with the possibility of virtual participation as outlined in the attached notification.

3. The Secretary-General further draws to the attention of the Commission that a naming convention will be employed to facilitate the participation of online participants in the session. Details may be found in the annex of this Memorandum.

Quorum and decision-making

4. Presence shall be confirmed based on both physical presence of the members of the Commission with voting rights who will be in attendance in Salle Obasi, WMO, as well as those members with active online connections. A quorum of the simple majority of the members with voting rights represented on the technical commission will be established at the beginning of the session and confirmed at each plenary meeting.

5. If a quorum is not obtained at a meeting, the decisions adopted by a simple majority vote of the members present shall be referred by correspondence to members represented on a commission. Any such decisions shall be considered a decision of the Commission only when it has been approved by a simple majority of votes cast for and against, within 90 days after it has been sent to members.

6. In view of the participation of a number of members of the Commission online, the provisions of [Rule 6.9](#) of the *Rules of Procedure for Technical Commissions* (WMO-No. 1240) and its related [Annex VI](#), on the application of the Remote Participation Regime, shall be duly applied.

Opening and closing dates

7. In accordance with the provisions of [General Regulation 146 \(c\)](#) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), the Secretary-General in consultation with the president of INFCOM, decided that INFCOM-4 will take place on 23–27 November 2026.

Plenary and committees

8. The president of INFCOM will invite the Commission to work in plenary throughout the session. Committees for the session will be established and will include:

- (a) Drafting Committee (if required);
- (b) Coordination Committee.

9. The Commission may wish to nominate a Rapporteur on Previous Resolutions and Recommendations of the Commission and relevant Resolutions of Congress and the Executive Council, and establish, for the duration of its session, other committees as it deems necessary.

Rationalization of work

10. To optimize discussions of documents and facilitate a balanced treatment of agenda items during the session, members of the Commission are encouraged to submit comments on documents to plenary@wmo.int prior to the session, preferably one week before the opening of the session.

11. In accordance with [Rule 6.15](#) of the *Rules of Procedure for Technical Commissions* (WMO-No. 1240), the president of the Commission may decide to convene technical expert segment(s) of a session in which delegates may meet in breakout groups for discussion of technical issues that need clarification. Such technical segments should be conducted as non-intergovernmental with experts participating in personal capacity.

Schedule of meetings

12. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of INFCOM to the tentative workplan which will be available on the session website at [INFCOM-4 – Tentative Workplan](#).

Conduct of business

13. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of INFCOM to the relevant regulations regarding the conduct of business in meetings of constituent bodies, namely [General Regulations 77 to 91](#) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)).

14. The Secretary-General further draws attention to the practice for taking the floor whereby Members represented in the Commission (principal delegates or their alternates/advisers/delegates on their behalf) intervene first, followed by observers.

15. Participants should signal their wish to speak using the videoconference system, as will be indicated on the INFCOM-4 website.

16. Individual statements are normally limited to three minutes.

17. Participants are encouraged to submit written comments on documents following their intervention to plenary@wmo.int.

Records of meetings

18. In accordance with the provisions of [General Regulation 95\(c\)](#), audio recordings of plenary meetings shall be made and retained for record-keeping purposes.

Resolutions, decisions and recommendations

19. The Secretary-General draws the attention of INFCOM to the provisions of [General Regulation 94](#) on the recording of resolutions, decisions and recommendations of the Commission.

20. Pursuant to the provisions of [General Regulation 95\(a\) and \(b\)](#), after the sessions of a constituent body, the resolutions, decisions and recommendations shall be recorded in the final report of the session and published by the Secretariat. Information documents and statements shall be included in the final report.

21. In addition, summarized minutes of the discussion at plenary meetings of constituent bodies shall be prepared by the Secretariat only where there is a specific request from the plenary.

Languages

22. In accordance with the provisions of [General Regulation 97](#), the Secretary-General, following consultation with the president, has determined that all official languages will be the working languages of the session.

Documentation

23. Documents for the session will be made available and managed following normal practice through the INFCOM-4 website.

24. In addition, and in accordance with the provisions of [General Regulation 92](#), any document shall be made available in sufficient time, before the opening of the plenary meeting at which it will be discussed. The time should be specified by the Commission.

25. Other international organizations with which the Organization has concluded arrangements or agreements may submit documents to sessions of constituent bodies or subsidiary bodies on agenda items of direct interest to them within the time fixed for the different bodies. In this case, such documents should be made available to the Secretary-General for circulation in accordance with the regulations.

III. Adoption of the agenda

26. In accordance with the provisions of [Rule 6.13](#) (*Rules of Procedure for Technical Commissions* (WMO-No. 1240)), the provisional agenda for the INFCOM session has been prepared by the president of the Commission, in consultation with the Secretary-General.

27. The Secretary-General draws the attention of the Commission to [Rule 6.13.6](#) that the provisional agenda should be submitted for approval by the Commission as soon as possible after the opening of the session. In the course of the session, the agenda may be amended at any time.

Annex**NAMING CONVENTION FOR ONLINE PARTICIPATION AT INFCOM-4**

WMO Members	Principal Delegate(s), Alternate(s), and Delegate(s) ☐ Principal Delegate (PD): Member name/PD/Surname ☐ Alternate: Member name/Alt/ Surname ☐ Delegate: Member name/Del/ Surname
Officers of the Organization	☐ President of WMO: P/WMO ☐ Vice-Presidents of WMO: First VP/ WMO; Second VP/WMO; Third VP/WMO
Presidents and vice-presidents of technical commissions, presidents and vice-presidents of regional associations, regional hydrological advisers, chairs of WMO bodies and invited experts	☐ Presidents of Technical Commissions: P/INFCOM, P/SERCOM ☐ Vice-presidents of Technical Commissions: VP/INFCOM/Surname, VP/SERCOM/Surname ☐ Presidents of Regional Associations: P/RA VI (I through VI) for presidents ☐ Vice – presidents of Regional Associations: VP/RA I (I through VI) ☐ Regional Hydrological Advisers: HA/RA I (I through VI) ☐ Chairs of WMO Bodies: Chair, body acronym: (C/HCP) ☐ Invited Experts: Expert/Surname
Representatives of international organizations/ Non-Members	☐ Organization name/Surname ☐ Non-Member name/Surname
WMO Secretariat	☐ Secretariat/Surname
