

**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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6 September 2023

Subject: Request to Members to establish and designate Global Producing Centres for Sub-Seasonal Forecasts

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, during its seventy-third session, the WMO Executive Council, in its [Resolution 23 \(EC-73\)](#) - Amendment to the Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting (WMO-No. 485) and the designation of new Global Data-processing and Forecasting System centres, approved the introduction of a new type of centre for sub-seasonal forecasts into the [Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System](#) (WMO-No. 485), which will soon be renamed as the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS)*. This resolution enables WMO Members to access seamless prediction products and services through Global Producing Centres for sub-seasonal to seasonal, seasonal and annual to decadal climate predictions.

During the Executive Council's seventy-sixth session, the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) was designated as the Global Producing Centre for sub-seasonal forecasts (GPC-SSF) and as the Lead Centre for coordinating multi-model ensembles for sub-seasonal forecasts (LC-SSFMMME) ([Resolution 26 \(EC-76\)](#) - Designation of an additional Global Producing Centre for long-range forecasts, a Global Producing Centre for sub-seasonal forecasts and the Lead Centre for sub-seasonal forecast multi-model ensembles). To increase the availability of seamless climate prediction products and services, Members are requested to designate themselves as GPCs-SSF.

In addition to the activities of your organization's and/or its related agency's Global Producing Centres for long-range forecasts (GPCs-LRF), your organization and/or its related agency has actively participated in the sub-seasonal to seasonal prediction project (S2S project) since its commencement in 2013. This collaborative research project was established by the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and the World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) to address the challenges of predicting on the sub-seasonal to seasonal timescale.

Your organization has already been providing its S2S forecast products to ECMWF. Recognizing that the migration from research activities to operations require substantial resources and commitments, I nevertheless encourage you to consider applying for designation as a GPC-SSF. With your centre's designation, the LC-SSFMMME can generate more reliable probabilistic forecasts by incorporating your centres' forecast products into their multi-model ensemble system. Consequently, these forecast products will contribute to WMO Members and partner organizations in saving lives, as well as protecting their properties.

To: Permanent Representatives of Australia, Canada, China, France, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America with WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Focal points of GPCs-LRF

If you would like to apply for designation as a GPC-SSF, kindly contact the Secretariat at wipps@wmo.int. The Secretariat will provide comprehensive guidance for your application.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you for your continued support to the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zhang', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General