

**WMO OMM**

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

Secrétariat

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13 March 2024

Annexes: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Scoping of Severe Weather Forecasting Programme (SWFP) implementation in the Southeastern Asia-Oceania subregion

Action required: Designate a representative/focal point for the SWFP-Southeastern Asia-Oceania from your Service and send the nomination to the WMO Secretariat as soon as possible but preferably not later than 25 March 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

The World Meteorological Organization ([WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Programme \(SWFP\)](#)) has been implemented in nine subregions of the world, mainly in Africa and Asia, to strengthen the capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of WMO Members that are developing countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs), or Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The SWFP aims to deliver improved forecast and early warning services related to severe weather to reduce the adverse impacts on lives and livelihoods, property, and infrastructure.

SWFP regional subprogrammes in each subregion are managed and overseen by a Regional Subprogramme Management Team (RSMT) which mainly comprises the designated representatives from the participating NMHSs and the contributing global and regional centres. With contributions from the most advanced [WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System \(WIPPS\)](#) Centres, SWFP makes efficient use of the “Cascading Forecasting Process” to improve availability and accessibility of high value Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) products from global to regional to the national level.

Global NWP outputs are made available from the contributing World Meteorological Centres (WMCs) and the daily severe weather forecast guidance product is issued to the NMHSs in each subregion by the relevant Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) or agreed regional centre(s) after doing analyses of the NWP outputs and satellite information. Severe weather guidance products are generally issued for short- and medium-range forecast for heavy rainfall, strong winds and high waves. These guidance products are useful for the NMHSs of participating countries to translate the information into their national/local forecasts and to issue alerts and warnings for severe conditions as needed.

In support of the [United Nations \(UN\) Early Warnings for All \(EW4All\) Initiative](#), SWFP is being scaled up in collaboration with Members and with support from our development partners and donors including for its geographical expansion to more countries and subregions as feasible, in addition to improving severe weather guidance products for existing hazards (i.e., heavy rainfall, strong winds and high waves) and exploring the potential to provide guidance for additional priority hazards (e.g. heat/cold waves, severe storms, forest/wildfires etc.) as appropriate.

To: Permanent Representatives of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Timor-Leste, Australia, China, Japan, Hong Kong China, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland & Director General of ECMWF

cc: Presidents of Regional Associations II and V

The UK Met Office, through the [Weather and Climate Information Services \(WISER\) programme](#) for Asia Pacific (WISER Asia Pacific) (2022–2029) funded by the UK Government’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), is one of our development partners to support SWFP subregional activities in Asia and Pacific. Recent informal discussions between the relevant staff of the UK Met Office and the WMO Secretariat have indicated that WISER Asia Pacific is willing to support SWFP implementation in the Southeastern Asia-Oceania subregion, as feasible, should there be clear needs such a framework would address, with involvement of NMHSs from potential participating countries in the subregion and support from the potential global and regional centres willing to contribute.

In view of the above, we are liaising through this letter with the potential participating countries in Southeastern Asia-Oceania subregion and the relevant WMCs/RSMCs who may potentially wish to contribute to SWFP implementation in the subregion as feasible and needed. You are, therefore, requested to kindly designate a focal point/representative from your Service/Centre in case you are willing to join the SWFP implementation in Southeastern Asia-Oceania subregion. Later, the WMO Secretariat in collaboration with development partners will organize online meeting(s) of the designated representatives/focal points to scope out the needs and requirements for SWFP implementation in the subregion. This scoping exercise will be useful in advancing the preparatory work that may be necessary for initiation of SWFP implementation including for consideration of organizing a face-to-face technical planning workshop and to establish a RSMT for SWFP-Southeastern Asia-Oceania as feasible and beneficial to the subregion.

You are kindly requested to send designation of your representative/focal point using the prescribed form ([Annex](#)) to Mr Ata Hussain (ahussain@wmo.int) and Ms Karla Lienhart (klienhart@wmo.int) at the WMO Secretariat Headquarters in Geneva, with a copy to Mr Jochen Luther (jluther@wmo.int) at the WMO Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific (RAP) in Singapore, as soon as possible but **preferably no later than 25 March 2024**. Later, the WMO Secretariat (both HQ and RAP) will coordinate with the designated representatives/focal points directly including for their participation in the virtual meeting(s) as feasible.

I would like to express my appreciation for your continuing support to WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General

WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Programme (SWFP)
SWFP Regional Subprogramme for Southeastern Asia-Oceania

Ref.: 03515/2024.15 S

DESIGNATION FORM

Note: In case of NMHS, please designate an expert from your Service as national focal point for SWFP. Preferably he/she should be head/deputy head of the national forecasting office in your Service.

The Permanent Representative of [Member name] with WMO designates the following expert to serve as national SWFP focal point.

Family name:

First name(s):

Gender:

Academic title (if applicable):

Date of birth:

Present position and responsibilities at NMHS/Centre:

Work address:

Telephone:

Mobile phone:

Email address:

Education/Qualification:

Experience:

Language skills:

English (Yes/No):

Other languages:

Date:

Name of Permanent Representative: _____

Signature of Permanent Representative: _____

Note: Please complete and submit this form to Mr Ata Hussain (ahussain@wmo.int) and to Ms Karla Lienhart (klienhart@wmo.int) at the WMO Secretariat Headquarters in Geneva, with a copy to Mr Jochen Luther (jluther@wmo.int) at the WMO Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific (RAP) in Singapore, at your earliest convenience, but **preferably no later than 25 March 2024**.