



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
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Subject: Publication of the revised *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485) and *Guidelines for Nowcasting Techniques* (WMO-No. 1198)

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may recall, the *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485) is the single source of technical regulations for all operational data-processing and forecasting systems of WMO Members, including their designated meteorological centres (Resolution 6, Cg-XVI). I am pleased to inform you that the new revised Manual on GDPFS, as approved by the WMO Executive Council in its sixty-ninth session (EC-69) in June 2017, Resolution 18 (EC-69), has been published on 16 February 2018 and available at the WMO website:

https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=4246

The revised Manual introduces a number of changes to the current procedures and functions of the centres. New types of centres have also been introduced in this revised Manual to provide guidance products and data as per mandate of each centre to fulfil the emerging needs of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs).

Furthermore, the Manual also introduces clear definition for all types of centres including World Meteorological Centre (WMCs), and Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres. Members who have demonstrated capacities and meet the criteria prescribed in the Manual and wish to be designated for one or more of the various types of GDPFS centres, may apply by sending their request to WMO.

In addition, I would like to inform you that, recently, WMO also has published the *Guidelines for Nowcasting Techniques* (WMO-No. 1198) which can be accessed at the WMO website:

https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3795

The purpose of the WMO nowcasting guidelines is to help NMHSs by providing them with information and knowledge on how to implement a nowcasting system with the available resources and an understanding of the current state of science and technology. NMHSs interested in building or developing nowcasting capability are, therefore, encouraged to make use of the guidelines.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to the WMO Programmes and activities including its Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS).

Yours faithfully,

(W. Zhang)
for the Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives
Director of ECMWF