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Our ref.: SG/CER/Cg-17

GENEVA, 12 March 2015

Subject: Credentials for delegations of Members to the Seventeenth session of the World Meteorological Congress

Action required: Submission of credentials conforming to the provisions of the General Regulations

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to the Seventeenth session of the World Meteorological Congress, which will be held in Geneva from 25 May to 12 June 2015.

I am writing to invite your attention in this connection to the provisions relating to the submission of credentials for delegations to this session. These provisions are contained in Regulation 21 of the WMO General Regulations. The text of the relevant part of this regulation is quoted below for your convenience.

"Prior to a session of a constituent body other than the Executive Council, each Member should, if possible, communicate to the Secretary-General the names of the persons composing its delegation to that body, indicating which of these shall be regarded as its principal delegate.

Besides this communication, a letter giving these particulars and otherwise conforming with the provisions of the Convention and of these Regulations and signed by, or on behalf of, an appropriate governmental authority of the Member shall be sent to the Secretary-General or handed to his representative at the session...."

You will note from the above that the credentials should be "signed by, or on behalf of, an appropriate governmental authority of the Member". I should be grateful if you would kindly ensure that credentials for your delegation to the above session, conforming to the requirements stated above, are sent to the Secretary-General prior to the session, or handed over to the Cabinet of the External Relations Department (CER) or to the Registration Desk of the Congress. I need hardly stress the importance of observing this requirement, compulsory for the accreditation of your delegation at the session and in particular the exercise of Member's voting rights.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6833)

In order to facilitate the various organizational and other arrangements for the session, it would be highly appreciated if the credentials for your delegation could be communicated to the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization by 30 April 2015.

All Members of WMO are kindly invited to continue to include hydrological advisers of Permanent Representatives or representatives of their Hydrological Services in their delegations to Congress.

In those cases where there are no diplomatic relations between a Member and Switzerland and in other cases where the former considers that some difficulties may be experienced in obtaining visas, a request to Switzerland for visas should be submitted through the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization, as specified in Annex I to the General Regulations of the Organization. Such requests must contain all the necessary details (name, surname, date and place of birth, father's name, nationality, passport number, date and place of issue, expiry date, profession, place where the visa is to be issued and duration of stay in Switzerland) and should be received by the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

I should be greatly obliged if you would assist as far as possible in ensuring that the above procedures are followed.

Yours faithfully,

(E. Manaenkova) for the Secretary-General