



World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Weather • Climate • Water  
Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: ETR/CRS-515

GENEVA, 7 May 2015

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: International Workshop on Rainfall Nowcasting, 7-11 December 2015, Hong Kong, China

Action required: For information and appropriate action, as necessary

Dear Sir/Madam,

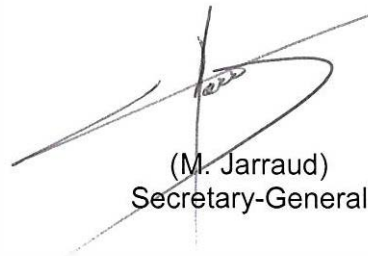
I have been advised by the Permanent Representative of Hong Kong, China with WMO that an international workshop on Rainfall Nowcasting will be held in Hong Kong, China, from 7-11 December 2015.

The workshop will introduce the basic principles and the latest developments in rainfall nowcasting techniques using radar and satellite data. The nowcasting system of the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) "SWIRLS" to provide quantitative precipitation estimation and forecast will also be introduced with a view to enhancing the capacity of NMHSs in severe weather forecasting and warning.

The workshop is designed for forecasters and researchers involved in the development of nowcasting systems and related forecast. Preference will be given to RA II Members and participating countries of the WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP). The HKO are prepared to offer up to 20 fellowships which cover tuition and per diem expenses. A brief description of the workshop is given in Annex I.

Interested candidates are requested to complete the attached Participant Nomination Form given in Annex II and return it directly to the Hong Kong Observatory (e-mail: tkung@hko.gov.hk; fax: +852 2375 2645; telephone: +852 2926 8319) not later than **15 August 2015**.

Yours faithfully,



(M. Jarraud)  
Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6845)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**  
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ETR/CRS-515, ANNEX I

**WMO VCP WORKSHOP ON RAINFALL NOWCASTING  
7-11 DECEMBER 2015 HONG KONG, CHINA**

**Objective**

To introduce the basic principles of rainfall nowcasting and highlight the recent developments in rainfall nowcasting techniques using radar and satellite data with a view to enhancing the capability of Members in severe weather forecasting and warning.

**Contents**

- i. Basic principles of rainfall nowcasting using radar and satellite data;
- ii. Quantitative precipitation estimation (QPE);
- iii. Quantitative precipitation forecast (QPF);
- iv. Applications of radar and satellite data in nowcasting to short-range forecasting of rainstorms and tropical cyclones;
- v. Introduction to the Hong Kong Observatory's rainstorm nowcasting system "SWIRLS" (Short-range Warning of Intense Rainstorms in Localized Systems);
- vi. Sharing of experience from WMO Members; and
- vii. Practical sessions and discussions.

**Language of instruction**

English

**Course Date**

7 to 11 December 2015

**Deadline for application**

The completed WMO Fellowship Nomination Form should be returned to the Hong Kong Observatory with a copy to the WMO Secretariat by **15 August 2015**.

**Places offered**

A maximum of 20 participants. Preference will be given to qualified applicants from RA II Members as well as participating countries of the WMO Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP).

**Qualification of trainees**

- Trainees are required to be proficient in English;
- Trainees should have relevant skills in information technology related to the processing and use of radar and/or satellite data;
- Trainees should have experience or strong interests in the application of radar and/or satellite

- data in severe weather forecasting;
- Trainees are expected to take a role in the development or applications of radar and satellite data to support severe weather forecasting activities in their respective NMHSs after training;
- All trainees are required to provide the course organizer with feedback on the usefulness of the knowledge and skills acquired for the use of radar and satellite data as well as the applications of nowcasting techniques within 6 months after the workshop;
- All trainees are encouraged to actively maintain technical exchange and communication with the organizer and among themselves after the workshop.

### **Fellowship**

- Tuition fee will be waived. Lodging will be provided, supplemented by a per diem allowance of HK\$180 per day;
- The costs of air passage and related insurance costs between Hong Kong, China and the home town of participants will have to be borne by the recipient WMO Members. In the event any Member is unable to meet the air passage costs, the Hong Kong Observatory is prepared to offer a limited number of air passages for those in need, on a case-by-case basis.

### **Insurance**

The course organizer does not hold any responsibility for compensation in the event of death, illness, injury or loss of property during the course period. The same applies to the duration of travel in the event the Hong Kong Observatory provides the air travel. Participants are therefore fully responsible for arranging life, health, and other forms of insurance as appropriate and necessary.

### **Enquiries**

Mr Terence Kung, Scientific Officer, Hong Kong Observatory, Hong Kong, China. E-mail: [tkung@hko.gov.hk](mailto:tkung@hko.gov.hk), fax: (852) 2375 2645, tel: (852) 2926 8319.

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**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

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**ETR/CRS-515, ANNEX II**

**PARTICIPANTS NOMINATION FORM**

**VCP Workshop on Rainfall Nowcasting  
Hong Kong, China, 7-11 December 2015**

The Government of \_\_\_\_\_  
nominates the following candidate as a participant of the above workshop.

1. Family name (in capitals): \_\_\_\_\_  
2. First name (in capitals): \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Male ☐ Female ☐  
Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_  
Passport No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of issue: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Qualifications (certificates, diplomas or degrees):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Present position and brief description of duties:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. What roles or tasks will your participant be required to undertake after this workshop to enable your service to make the most of the opportunity to develop new knowledge and skills?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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8. Working language: .....

(Note: *For applicants whose working language is not ENGLISH, this nomination form must be accompanied by English proficiency certification.*)

9. Contact person in emergency:

Name: .....

Address: .....

Tel: ..... Fax: .....

E-mail: .....

10. Financial assistance for travel required: Yes ☐ No ☐

11. I fully understand that the organizer does not hold any responsibility for compensation in the event of death, illness, injury or loss of property during the period of the workshop.

Permanent Representative: ..... (Signature)

..... (Block letters)

Date: .....

To be completed and sent to reach the following address on or before **15 August 2015**:

Director of the Hong Kong Observatory  
(Attn: Mr Terence Kung, Scientific Officer)  
134A, Nathan Road  
Hong Kong, China  
Tel: +852 2926 8319 Fax: +852 2375 2645  
E-mail: [tkung@hko.gov.hk](mailto:tkung@hko.gov.hk)

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