



Our ref.: 01194/2018/OBS/CBS/TECO-2018

1 February 2018

Annexes: 2

Subject: Announcement and call for participants and papers for the 2018 Commission for Basic Systems Technical Conference (CBS-TECO-2018)

- Actions required:
- (1) To distribute the announcement to interested parties, and to submit abstracts of papers via the WMO/CBS website as soon as possible, but not later than **23 February 2018**
 - (2) To nominate experts from your Country or Territory for participating at the Technical Conference

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to my letter 37328/2017/OBS/CBS/TECO dated 9 November 2017 informing you about the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) process for adopting CBS Recommendations to the seventieth session of the Executive Council (EC-70, 2018) and the Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18, 2019). As part of the process, which is detailed in Annex 1, and in order for the CBS Management Group to be able to receive appropriate feedback and guidance from WMO experts, the CBS Technical Conference 2018 will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 26 to 29 March 2018, and you and/or your representative(s) are cordially invited to participate in the Technical Conference. The theme for the conference will be *"Preparing for key strategic decisions to be made by the World Meteorological Congress in 2019 with regard to data, infrastructure and services issues"*.

CBS-TECO-2018 is for experts in basic operational meteorological systems from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), international operational and research institutes and the private sector. Its aim is to explore emerging trends in information, including Big Data, and to explore how NMHSs might manage, use and extract value from this explosion of data to address emerging user needs. It will consider how the basic systems and services of NMHSs might evolve in this changing context. It provides an invaluable opportunity for training and capacity development, particularly for participants from developing countries, who are strongly encouraged to present their work at the Conference.

An International Programme Committee (IPC), co-chaired by the vice-president of CBS, Professor Meiyuan Jiao (China), and by CBS Management Group member and CBS Coordinator on Disaster Risk Reduction, Mr Fred Branski (USA), will oversee the Conference and will be responsible for the selection of papers for oral presentations.

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives
Presidents and vice-presidents of technical commissions
Presidents of regional associations
Members of CBS
Director General, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, ASECNA
Executive Secretary, HMEI

I should, therefore be grateful to receive as soon as possible the names and addresses of experts from your country or territory who you wish to attend the Conference, with a clear indication of who should be the lead expert to coordinate their advice. In the event of your country having already nominated experts as members of the Commission for Basic Systems, it would be an advantage to the work of the technical conference if these members could be included in the delegation of your country.

Limited financial support may be available for selected participants from developing countries, who are presenting papers or foreseen to play a key role in the discussions.

As the technical conference will seek expert guidance and feedback with regard to draft decisions and recommendations to be promoted by the CBS Management Group to EC-70 and Cg-18, the agenda of the conference will focus on discussing and commenting on anticipated EC-70 and Cg-18 draft decisions and recommendations, and be structured around the four CBS Open Programme Area Groups (OPAGs). Cross cutting issues will also be discussed such as Public Private Partnership, and the CBS Led Review on Emerging Data Issues. As part of the conference programme, opportunity will be given for specific presentations to be made by selected experts.

The purpose of this letter is to announce the Conference and to invite submission of abstracts. The Conference Announcement is provided in Annex 2 and additional information, including the Provisional Annotated Agenda and the explanatory memorandum for the Technical Conference and other documents will also be available at:

<http://meetings.wmo.int/cbs-teco-2018/>.

Those wishing to present an oral or poster presentation at CBS-TECO-2018 concerning the key issues listed in Annex 2 are kindly requested to complete the electronic version of the Abstract Submission Form, which is available on-line from the website above.

For technical reasons, consideration can only be given to abstracts, in English, of less than **300 words**, which are submitted on-line as soon as possible but not later than **23 February 2018**. Lead authors of papers selected by the IPC will be advised by 7 March 2018 with further instructions concerning the format and submission deadline for papers.

I should be grateful if you could make this announcement widely known within your respective Service and beyond.

Yours faithfully,



(W. Zhang)

for the Secretary-General

PROCESS FOR ADOPTING CBS RECOMMENDATIONS TO EC-70 AND CG-18

(Annex 2 of WMO circular letter 37328/2017/OBS/CBS/TECO dated 9 November 2017)

In view of the timing of the next session of the Commission, and the need to be in position to propose appropriate draft Recommendations and Decisions on the critical issues listed in Annex 1 to EC-70 and Cg-18 in 2019, the following mechanism is proposed (listed in chronological order):

1. We are organizing a CBS Technical Conference (TECO) at the WMO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, from 26 to 29 March 2018, prior to EC-70.
2. In January 2018, the Presidents of Technical Commissions and Regional Associations (PTC/PRA) meetings will be informed about the process.
3. If necessary, a Webinar could be organized with the Presidents of Regional Associations to inform them about the process and to obtain their feedback.
4. Following reviews by the management teams of the CBS Open Programme Area Groups (OPAGs), draft technical content for decisions and resolutions of EC-70 and Cg-18 should be published in English on the internet in January 2018 to allow Members time to consider them before CBS TECO-2018.
5. CBS TECO-2018, 26-29 March 2018, will discuss scientific and technical issues normally discussed at a Technical Conference, but will also focus on the critical issues above, considering the technical contents of draft recommendations to EC-70 and Cg-18. Each OPAG will be allotted about six hours of the TECO. Holding the meeting in Geneva will allow some financial savings.
6. A meeting of an extended CBS Management Group will be held in Geneva during the afternoon of 29 March 2018 (i.e. after the end of the TECO at noon of 29 March 2018). The goal will be to review the outcome of CBS TECO-2018, consider the draft recommendations and possibly update them. In particular, the Presidents of Regional Associations and the chairs of the expert teams who have interest in the above issues will be invited.
7. As appropriate some of the proposed recommendations will be submitted to EC-70 and others would be submitted to Cg-18. The remainder of this process addresses the latter.
8. The CBS President, advised by the CBS Management Group meeting, will recommend to EC-70 topics for inclusion on the agenda for Cg-18. This will take the form of a recommendation submitted by the President of CBS. The recommendation will also inform EC-70 of the remainder of the process being used by CBS to prepare recommendations to Cg-18.
9. The CBS President will provide the drafts of proposed technical content for Cg-18 decisions and resolutions to EC-70 as information papers.
10. Following EC-70, CBS experts will continue to work on the draft texts taking into account feedback from CBS TECO-2018, CBS Management Group and Members.
11. In November 2018 modified drafts of the proposed content for Cg-18 decisions and resolutions will be published in official languages on the internet and Members invited to provide their comments and suggestions.
12. In February 2019 decisions and resolutions for Cg-18 will be drafted based on the feedback provided by Members and reviewed by the President of CBS.

*The World Meteorological Organization is pleased to announce***The WMO 2018 Commission for Basic Systems Technical Conference (CBS-TECO-2018)****Geneva, Switzerland, 26-29 March 2018****Theme: *Preparing for key strategic decisions to be made by the World Meteorological Congress in 2019 with regard to data, infrastructure and services issues***

Ref.: 01194/2018-1.1 OBS-WIGOS/WIGOS

1. Background

Taking into account the decisions of CBS-16 (Guangzhou, China, November 2016), the Seventeenth Session of the CBS Management Group (Geneva, Switzerland, 27 February – 1 March 2017) discussed the needs of the Organization for updating or drafting Technical Regulations and guiding the organization on data, infrastructure and service issues. This guidance is necessary in a context where technology and science is advancing quickly, and in which Members need to respond rapidly to changes in order to continue to address their needs and the WMO mandate in the most effective way in weather, climate and water operations and services. It identified the following areas where CBS action is particularly needed in preparing key strategic decisions to be made by the eighteenth World Meteorological Congress in 2019 on such issues.

The WMO Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) will therefore hold a Technical Conference on 26-29 March 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland at the WMO Headquarter, and will address the following issues.

2. Key issues to be discussed

It is to be noted that this CBS TECO will not be organized as a normal Technical Conference where scientific and technical issues are the major focus. In this case it will bring a focus on the critical issues listed below with a view to receiving feedback and guidance from CBS experts, allowing the CBS Management Group to then recommend related decisions for adoption by WMO Executive Bodies.

Strategic issues, including emerging data issues and engagement with the private sector

The TECO will focus on a few strategic areas for consideration, so as to give Members the most recent information on the implementation of WMO programmes and demonstration projects and to promote the effective implementation of the decisions made by the Commission.

Evolving issues such as emerging data, and the developing role of the private sector in weather prediction and the provision of weather services, make it critical to come up with appropriate decisions and recommendations to the Executive Council. Discussion will also be required on how to progress the Service Delivery Strategy and in particular how to adapt to the increasingly active private sector engagement in service delivery. It will be essential to enhance communication and discussion within the Commission on such issues, with a view to achieving a consensus and will support the authoritative voice of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). Public Private Partnership (PPP) will help to explore and consider pathways for coordinated development between NMHSs and private sectors. It is expected that discussions on PPP matters would also help resolve the emerging issue of certain critical weather observational data available through some private providers not being shared freely with the WMO community.

Information Management

There is a need to follow closely and adapt to rapidly changing new technologies, and keep Members informed about such changes. This is particularly critical concerning standard practices for information management, especially for information available through WIS ("WIS Part C"). It is important to assess the plans for implementation of WIS 2.0 and how to monitor implementation of the WIS 2.0 Strategy. For example, CBS-16 identified the need for NMHSs to update and adjust their technological systems to adapt to emerging cloud technology and big data application. The role and involvement of the private sector need to be addressed. The implementation of WIS 2.0 should also accommodate the WMO Alert Hub being as a GMAS-related Data Collection and Production Centre (DCPC). Endorsed at EC-69, the Global Meteorological Alarm System (GMAS) is expected to aggregate multi-hazard alert information from Members to serve as one-stop-shop, which can serve UN Organizations, Members and other global users.

WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS)

Cg-17 decided that WIGOS would be operational by the end of this financial period. Much work remains to be done to address the full implementation of WIGOS in 2019, and the CBS has a strong role to play in this regard. In particular, in order to regulate RBON in the WIGOS framework, it will be necessary for CBS to take appropriate decisions and make appropriate recommendations to Cg-18.

Global Data Processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)

Resolution 11 (Cg-17) decided to initiate a process for the gradual establishment of a future enhanced, integrated and seamless WMO Data-processing and Forecasting System, in light of the conclusions of the first World Weather Open Science Conference (WWOSC-2014, Montreal, Canada, August 2014). Decision 55 (EC-68) established a Steering Group on Seamless Data-processing and Forecasting System (following the request by Cg-17), with representatives from technical commissions and regional associations, with the principal task of develop and tabling the implementation plan for consideration by EC-69. In addition, CBS-16 endorsed the new Manual on the GDPFS, which provides a new framework for standard procedures and for the network of centres operated by Members. The involvement of CBS experts is required in these developments as they will impact the manner in which Members operate in terms of their data-processing and forecasting systems. Providing guidance to Members on how to implement the GDPFS according to the new Manual on the GDPFS is vital for the management of the WMC/RSMC Network, and to assure continuity of the service.

Capacity development

One remaining problem is that many developing countries cannot effectively implement the Commission's technical decisions, action plans or demonstration projects due to insufficient exposure to and understanding of all the above matters, as well as constraints on resources. In order to mitigate this, consideration will be given to organize and record WebEx sessions for relevant topics. A CBS Technical Conference (TECO) will contribute to WMO Capacity Building by providing some mitigation of the widening gap between developed and developing countries.

TECO is a useful platform for both developing and developed countries to get knowledge and understanding of new trends of technologies and their implications for NMHSs' operational development. It also helps the organization to understand the need for capacity building from Members and facilitates technology transfer from developed countries to the developing ones.

Efforts will be made to enhance participation of developing countries at TECO, in particular for them to understand technology changes and threats, targeting RA-I, RA-II, and RA-III in particular.

3. Submission of abstracts and conduct of CBS-TECO-2018

CBS-TECO-2018 will be conducted in English only. All information concerning CBS-TECO-2018, including the Form for Submission of Abstracts and Papers, is available on the WMO/CBS website under: <https://public.wmo.int/en/events/meetings/commission-basic-systems-technical-conference-2018>.

The International Programme Committee will give preference to papers on the above-mentioned subjects.

The deadline for submission of full papers and posters in their required format will be provided in the acceptance letter to be sent to authors of selected abstracts, before 7 March 2018. Papers accepted for presentation will be published in their original form (without editing) in the WMO CBS website.

Abstracts of proposed papers, not exceeding **300 words**, in **English only**, should be submitted, using the electronic version of the Submission Form, via the above-mentioned web link, as soon as possible but not later than **23 February 2018**.

The International Programme Committee

Prof Meiyang Jiao

Vice-President, CBS
China Meteorological Administration
46 Zhongguancun Nandajie
100081 BEIJING
China
Fax: +86 10 6217 4797
Tel: +86 10 6840 6662 / 6146

Email: jaomy@cma.gov.cn,
guoji@cma.gov.cn

Dr Fred Branski

CBS Coordinator for Disaster Risk
Reduction
NOAA – National Weather Service
1325 East-West Highway
SILVER SPRING
MD 20910
United States of America
Fax: +(1 301) 713 9450
Tel: +(1 301) 713 3538, ext. 121

Email: fred.branski@noaa.gov

The WMO Secretariat

Mr Etienne Charpentier

World Meteorological Organization
7 bis, avenue de la Paix
Case postale 2300
CH 1211 Genève 2
Suisse
Tel.: +41 22 730 8223
Fax: +41 22 730 8021

Email: echarpentier@wmo.int