

**WMO OMM**

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

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Subject: Establishment of three new activities of the WMO WIPPS

Action required: Members to apply for establishing and designating Regional Specialized Hydrological Centres for:

- (a) Sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) hydrological prediction;
- (b) Snow cover prediction; and
- (c) Flash flood forecasting

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, during the seventy-sixth session of the Executive Council (EC-76) through [Resolution 30 \(EC-76\)](#) - Amendments to the *Manual on Global Data-processing and Forecasting System* (WMO-No. 485) jointly proposed by the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems and the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications, the establishment of three new activities of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) were approved. The activities are: (a) Sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) hydrological prediction; (b) Snow cover prediction; and (c) Flash flood forecasting; following a *Concept of the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) centres for hydrological services* approved by SERCOM ([Resolution 8 \(SERCOM-1\)](#) - Establishment of WMO Hydrological Centres in the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System) and INFCOM ([Resolution 12 \(INFCOM-1\)](#) - Concept of the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System centres for hydrological services).

WMO designates Members as Regional Specialized Hydrological Centres (RSHCs) conducting these activities to ensure the sustainable provision of high-quality products to WMO Members. The details of the Centres' designation criteria of the RSHCs are provided in [Resolution 30 \(EC-76\)](#) (please note that they will be included in the next version of the *Manual on Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485), which will soon be renamed as the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS)* (under preparation)), I nevertheless introduce the three new WIPPS activities briefly as follows:

- (a) Sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) hydrological prediction: a RSHC produces S2S ensemble forecasts for hydrological variables and provides S2S forecast data and products to NMHSs at appropriate spatial and temporal resolutions;
- (b) Snow cover prediction: a RSHC produces and provides analyses and forecasts of snow cover parameters over land surfaces to NMHSs and produce verification statistics;

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO
Dr Florence Rabier, Director of European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)
Dr André Kamga, Director General of the African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD)
Dr Mahalmoudou Hamadoun Maiga, Director General of the Centre Régional d'Agro-Hydro-Météorologie (AGRHYMET)
Mr Rodney Martínez, International Director, International Research Centre on El Niño/Southern Oscillation (CIIFEN)

cc: Hydrological Advisers

- (c) Flash flood forecasting: a RSHC produces flash flood products and provides specific products to NMHSs, support NMHSs in the generation of flash flood forecasting information and prepare verification statistics.

Since no RSHCs are designated yet, WMO is looking for Members and partner organizations to host these RSHCs. I therefore encourage you to consider applying for designation as a RSHC conducting one or more of the above three WIPPS activities. With your centre's designation, the hydrological forecast products will contribute to WMO Members and partner organizations in saving lives, as well as protecting their properties.

For more information about the designation criteria and process kindly contact the Secretariat at wipps@wmo.int. The Secretariat will provide comprehensive guidance for your application.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you and your Service for your continued support to the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General