



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: SG/CER/BUR-73

GENEVA, 13 March 2015

Subject: Outcomes of the seventy-third session of the WMO Bureau, 26 to 27 January 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

As requested by the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress, I am pleased to bring the recommendations of the seventy-third session of the WMO Bureau to the attention of Members and the presidents of technical commissions. This session of the Bureau focused on organizational matters for the seventeenth session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17).

Its main recommendations were as follows:

1. Congress procedures

- The importance of advising participants, especially new delegates and particularly those of small delegations, on the procedures followed in sessions of the Congress, with a view to optimize time management, reducing informative aspects and facilitating decisions. To this end, the existing guide for PRs was updated and will be mailed to delegates ahead of Cg-17. Moreover, an information session for PRs is scheduled at the beginning of Congress.

2. Plenary meetings

- Conduct of Cg-17 through plenary meetings split into four groups sequentially: G, A, B and C. The avoidance of parallel sessions would allow small delegations to attend all discussions, save time through direct approval of straightforward documents and allow more time and efficiently use interpretation resources.

3. In-session committees

- Establishment of Committees during Congress to address emerging issues to be resolved during the Congress to ensure efficient and effective use of the time available. In addition to the statutory Credentials and Nomination Committees and the customary Coordination Committee, consideration should be given to establishing Committees early to support the Congress's decisions on Strategic Planning and Budget, climate data exchange policy, and number of EC seats.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services of Members of WMO (PR-6832)
Presidents of technical commissions

cc: Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva (for information)

4. Allocation of time

- The Bureau considered allocation of time and key issues for the main agenda items of Cg-17 and endorsed the tentative workplan.

I trust you will find this summary useful and will take these recommendations into account for your preparations leading into Cg-17. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'D' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

(D. Grimes)
President of WMO