

**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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Our ref.: 16542/2021/GS/LCC/CNF/Cg-Ext

15 July 2021

Annexes: 2

Subject: Extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-Ext(2021))

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the President of the World Meteorological Organization, I have the honour to inform you that an Extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-Ext(2021)) will be held from 11 to 22 October 2021 as a series of online meetings. In addition, an online session of the Executive Council (EC-74) will be held from 25 to 29 October 2021. These two sessions are being held online due to the persistence of the global COVID-19 pandemic and its outlook for the remainder of 2021.

The Extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress is being convened following the decision of the Eighteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress to address specific items of the highest importance to the Organization: progress with the WMO reform, WMO support for the global water agenda and the Earth System Data Exchange. The provisional agenda for Cg-Ext(2021), developed by the Executive Council, is provided in [Annex 1](#), and the annotated agenda is available on the session website. A Hydrological Assembly, as an open committee of Congress, will be convened as an online parallel event.

Article 7(b) of the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization states that each Member shall designate one of its delegates, who should be the Director of its Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Service as its principal delegate. In addition, the Executive Council invites Members to include in their national delegations a Hydrological Adviser, in accordance with General Regulation 5(b) of the General Regulations of the World Meteorological Organization, as well as any other representatives of national hydrological services or agencies they wish to include. The widest possible representation of Members of the Organization is highly desirable, and it is sincerely hoped that your government will find it possible to send a delegation to the session. I should be grateful if, in compliance with Regulation 20 of the General Regulations, you would inform me of the names of the persons composing your delegation and the capacity in which each person will attend.

In due course, all documentation and information related to Cg-Ext(2021) will be accessible on the [session website](#) as it becomes available.

Given our experience with online sessions for constituent bodies, and with a view to ensure, as far as possible, the equitable participation of all Members in light of time zone differences, information and consultation meetings have been scheduled to allow for adequate time for debate ahead of Cg-Ext(2021). Please see the schedule of these meetings in [Annex 2](#).

To: Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States of the World Meteorological Organization

In view of their official status with WMO, Permanent Representatives are kindly invited to act as focal points for the online registration of their delegation to Cg-Ext(2021). The link to the online [Event Registration System](#) and the corresponding username and password that were sent to Permanent Representatives by email remain valid for all upcoming WMO meetings.

Please note that the online registration will close on **1 October 2021**. For further information concerning online pre-registration, please do not hesitate to contact the WMO Secretariat by email at: registration@wmo.int.

Please also note that the submission of information through the online event registration system *does not exempt Members from the need to provide valid credentials* for the participating delegation.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Permanent Representative and Hydrological Adviser of your country with WMO, as well as to Permanent Missions of Member States of WMO to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, the presidents of regional associations and technical commissions and chairs of WMO bodies.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Prof Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General

Provisional agenda of Cg-Ext(2021)

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- 1. Agenda and organizational matters**
 - 2. WMO reform assessment and further directions**
 - 2.1 Reform status — advancements and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic
 - 2.2 Enhancement of regional working mechanisms
 - 3. WMO support to global water agenda**
 - 3.1 Hydrology in the twenty-first century — WMO strategy and plan of action
 - 3.2 Water declaration, including water and climate coalition to accelerate implementation of SDG 6
 - 4. Policy and practice for Earth System Data Exchange**
 - 4.1 WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data
 - 4.2 Enhancing data availability, data access and sharing for Earth system monitoring and prediction — Systematic Observations Financing Facility
 - 4.3 WMO response to global crises — ensuring continuity of observations, operations and essential services through technical support and funding mechanisms
 - 5. Amendments to the WMO regulations**
 - 5.1 General regulations
 - 5.2 Technical regulations
 - 6. Closure of the session**
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Schedule of the information and consultation meetings

Region- and language-based information and consultation meetings for Members ahead of Cg-Ext(2021) on the model of Cg-18. Feedback to be reflected as comments in draft documents.

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RA II & RA V	RA II & RA V	RA III & RA IV	RA III & RA IV	RA I & RA VI	RA I & RA VI
Monday 30 August 0600–0900 UTC	Tuesday 31 August 0600–0900 UTC	Monday 30 August 1400–1700 UTC	Tuesday 31 August 1400–1700 UTC	Wednesday 1 September 1100–1400 UTC	Thursday 2 September 1100–1400 UTC
English, Chinese, French	English, Chinese, French	English, Spanish	English, Spanish	English, French, Russian, Spanish	English, French, Russian, Spanish
WMO unified data policy	Hydrology, Regional concept	WMO unified data policy	Hydrology, Regional concept	WMO unified data policy	Hydrology, Regional Concept