WMO OMM

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Our ref.: CLW/CLPA/CCI/TECO-2014

GENEVA, 25 February 2014

Annex:

1 (available in English only)

Subject:

Technical Conference on "Climate Services - Building on CLIPS Legacy"

(Heidelberg, Germany, 30 June-2 July 2014)

Action required:

Nomination of an expert to participate in the Technical Conference by

14 March 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to my letter ref. SG/CER/CCI-16, dated 23 January 2014, which was copied to you regarding the holding of the sixteenth session of the Commission for Climatology (CCI-16) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Heidelberg, Germany, from 3-8 July 2014.

I am pleased to inform you that a Technical Conference on "Climate Services – Building on CLIPS Legacy" will be organized at the same location prior to the sixteenth session of CCl, from 30 June to 2 July 2014. The First Announcement for the Technical Conference, which provides a brief background, specific objectives and expected outcomes is attached herewith for your information. Further information on the event can be found on:

http://www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014

Other matters pertinent to the organization of the Conference, including visa and customs formalities, will be sent in due course and also posted at the Conference website.

The Conference will be conducted in English only.

I should be grateful if you would kindly examine the possibility of an expert from your Service attending this Conference. To this purpose, I would like to invite you to complete the electronic version of the Provisional Registration Form (to be downloaded from the Conference website http://www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014) and return it **by e-mail** to the WMO Secretariat (cca@wmo.int) no later than **14 March 2014**. In case it is not possible to send by e-mail, the same form can be printed and faxed to WMO at the **Fax No. 0041 22 730 80 42**.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6750)

cc: Presidents and vice-presidents of technical commissions)
Presidents of regional associations) (for information)
CCI rapporteurs and working group members who)

are not CCI members

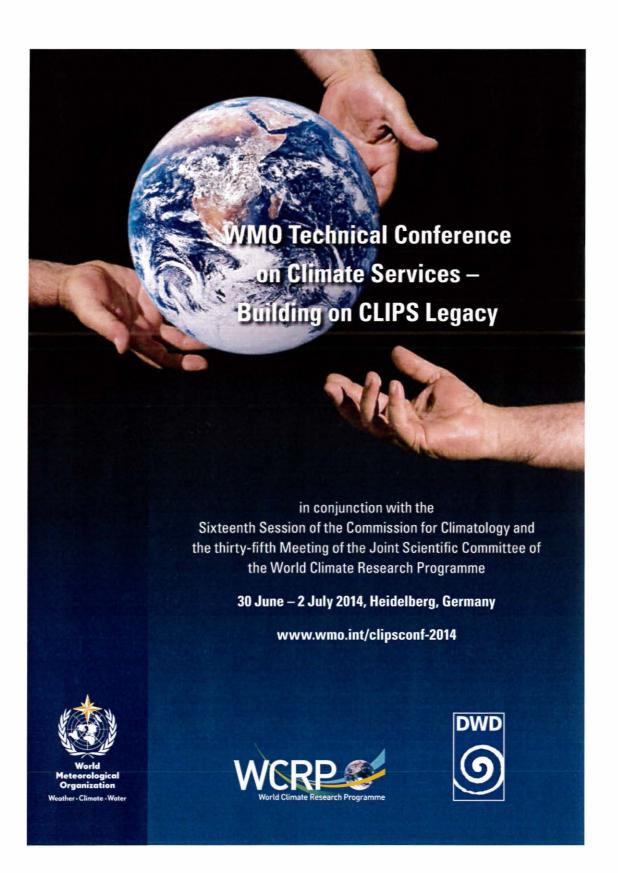
It is hoped that the costs of participation of your expert will be borne by the Government of your country. However, if it is not possible for your Government to meet all the expenses for the attendance of your expert, WMO is prepared, upon request, to consider providing some financial support for this purpose.

Given the limited financial resources available for this Conference, funding has been set aside to provide air tickets and a lump sum in lieu of per diem support, for a limited number of participants. Priority will be given to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and to those who will be attending the CCI-16 session.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued cooperation and support to WMO Programmes and activities.

Yours faithfully,

(J. Lengoasa) for the Secretary-General



BACKGROUND AND GOALS

The Climate Information and Prediction Services (CLIPS) project was established by the World Meteorological Congress at its Twelfth Session in 1995, recognizing the need for an integrated approach to climate services. The mission of CLIPS was defined as follows: "to provide the best possible climate information, including expectations of future conditions, to improve economic and social decisions that will reduce risks and improve economic vitality as well as quality of life." Over the past couple of decades, CLIPS has been striving to help exploit the existing databases for increasing our climate knowledge and improving the prediction capabilities, and to develop the capacities of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) for the delivery of climate information to meet the needs of their users.

The Climate Information and Prediction Services have been instrumental in the development of the concept of Regional Climate Centers (RCCs) and their formal establishment around the world. They have also played a key role in the development of Regional Climate Outlook Fora (RCOF) as effective platforms for generating consensus-based seasonal climate outlooks at the regional scale. Such efforts by the WMO Commission for Climatology (CCI), in coordination with NMHSs, the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and other relevant bodies, have enabled systematic production of operational climate information at global and regional levels. These initiatives together with the CLIPS training workshops have helped build capacities for climate services. The achievements of CLIPS significantly contributed to the formulation of the WMO-led Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to better manage the risks and opportunities arising from climate variability and change.

This technical conference, organized on the eve of the sixteenth session of the Commission for Climatology and the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) of WCRP, is therefore devoted to reviewing CLIPS activities and determining its legacy, as well as considering the relevant research and operational aspects to provide guidance for future CCI/WCRP activities and their joint contributions to GFCS.

THEME

Under the banner *Climate Services – Building on CLIPS Legacy*, the conference will address the following thematic threads:

- Evolution and achievements of CLIPS Facilitating standards and consistency in the preparation of seasonal outlooks through RCCs and RCOF
- Importance of the systematic collection and archiving of climate data for reliable climate services
- Improvements needed to better monitor the climate and to provide outlook products for climate information services at global, regional and national levels
- Research challenges for improving climate predictions at the regional scale

SESSIONS

The conference sessions will be spread over the three days, concluding with the CCI/WCRP joint session. The tentative outline of the sessions is as follows:

DAY 1: 30 JUNE 2014 - EVOLUTION AND LEGACY OF CLIPS

- CLIPS achievements
- Global climate information
- Panel discussion: Enriching climate information at Regional and National Climate Outlook Fora – Improving dialogue between operational, research and stakeholder communities and initiatives focused on linkages with Climate Outlook Fora

DAY 2: 01 JULY 2014 - OPERATIONAL CLIMATE SERVICES - TOWARDS GFCS

- Climate data and monitoring systems (including data rescue)
- Putting together a climate service toolkit
- Building user interface for effective use of climate information
- Panel discussion: Transitioning CLIPS into GFCS Creating information systems for climate services

DAY 3: 02 JULY 2014 - NEW RESEARCH AND OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES AND PERSPECTIVES (JOINT CCL/WCRP SESSION)

- Research contributions to operational climate information and services: Focus on sub-seasonal to seasonal prediction
- Beyond interannual predictions: Decade and century climate predictions/projections
- Regional climate information: Challenges of downscaling (including COordinated Regional climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX))
- Limits to predictability and communication of uncertainty, using uncertain information in climate risk management
- Panel discussion: Recommendations on research gaps and operational requirements – Joint CCI-JSC statement

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved linkages between climate researchers and operational climate service providers
- Lessons learned from CLIPS and their relevance for implementing GFCS at regional and national levels
- Research agenda for addressing the gaps in the provision of climate information
- Proposals for effective user engagement to optimally exploit the benefits of climate information and services

PARTICIPATION

The technical conference will consist of oral presentations on key topics by invited speakers and poster presentations of papers selected from among the submitted abstracts. Poster presenters shall also have an opportunity to make short oral (five-minute, quick-fire) presentations. Early career scientists and students will have the priority for poster and short oral presentations. They may also obtain travel support if coming from developing countries (subject to availability of funds).

CALL FOR REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACTS

Participants will be able to register and submit their abstract on the conference webpage www.wmo.int/clipsconf-2014. Deadline for abstract submission is 31st March 2014. Both invited speakers and poster contributors will need to submit abstracts of their proposed presentations. No registration fee is required. Full papers based on both oral and poster presentations will be considered for publication, through a peer review process, in a suitable international scientific journal.

SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Mr Rodney Martinez, CIIFEN (Chair) Mr Jean-Pierre Ceron, France Dr Clare Goodess, UK Dr Agnes Kijazi, Tanzania Prof Fred Semazzi, USA Ms Barbara Tapia, Chile

Prof Manola Brunet, Spain Dr Filippo Giorgi, Italy Dr Andre Kamga, ACMAD Mr Stefan Rösner, Germany Dr G. Srinivasan, India Dr William Wright, Australia

ORGANIZERS

World Meteorological Organization (WMO): www.wmo.int World Climate Research Programme (WCRP): www.wcrp-climate.org

Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD): www.dwd.de

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