



WMO OMM

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

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: 20344/2018/SG/LCP/CNF/CHy-Ext

30 August 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that by Resolution 18 (EC-70) an extraordinary session of the Commission for Hydrology (CHy-Ext) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) will be held at the WMO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, **to lay out the path forward with regard to the major WMO developments in hydrology and to propose the necessary organizational arrangements for the hydrological community to deliver on relevant strategic objectives defined in the WMO Strategic Plan.** The session will take place from the afternoon of 13 February to 14 February 2019 and will be preceded by a Technical Conference on Future Hydrological Priorities and Arrangements from 11 February to the morning of 13 February 2019, to discuss the functional requirements needed for future and anticipated activities in hydrology within the ongoing WMO process reform.

According to Regulation 192 of the General Regulations, the extraordinary session of a commission shall consider only the question for which the session was convened as highlighted above. The provisional annotated agenda for the session will be accessible in due course on the session website: <http://meetings.wmo.int/CHy-Ext>.

I should be grateful in compliance with Regulation 21 of the General Regulations, if you would inform me, as soon as possible of the names of the persons composing the delegation which will represent your country, with clear indication of the head of delegation and alternate head of delegation and send me in due course the credentials of your delegation, signed by, or on behalf of, an appropriate governmental authority of the Member. In view of the extraordinary character of this session dedicated to strategic and organizational questions, it would be advisable to designate lead hydrological experts who should be involved in water administration and/or hydrological service in a key position in your country. In the event of your country having nominated experts as members of the Commission for Hydrology, it would be an advantage to the work of the session if those experts could be included in the delegation of your country.

To assist participants in preparing for the session, an online pre-session discussion forum will be available from October 2018.

Please be aware that the World Meteorological Congress has made no provisions in the regular budget of WMO to fund the participation of representatives of its Members in sessions of constituent bodies, including technical commissions, as delegates are representatives of their respective Governments. However, WMO will make limited funds available for participation in the Technical Conference, with priority for experts from least developed and developing countries.

Information concerning the visa application and other practical details for participants will be provided in the INF. 1(1) document, posted in due course on the session website.

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

Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO are kindly invited to act as focal points for the online registration of their delegation to the TECO and the session. The link to the online Event Registration System (ERS), the username and password that were sent to Permanent Representatives by e-mail remain valid for all upcoming 2019 WMO meetings (<https://eventregistration.wmo.int/register/>).

Please note that the online registration will close on **30 January 2019**. For further information concerning online pre-registration, please do not hesitate to contact the WMO Secretariat by e-mail 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 with WMO to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva; members of the Commission for Hydrology (CHy) and presidents of technical commissions and regional associations.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



(P. Taalas)
Secretary-General