



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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TEMPS – CLIMAT – EAU

WEATHER – CLIMATE – WATER

Our ref.: CLET/RES/ARE/WWR

GENEVA, 30 January 2012

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Announcement of the 3rd WMO International Symposium on Nowcasting and Very Short-Range Forecasting (WSN12), 6-10 August 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Action required: To circulate the information to relevant institutions and individuals working in the field of nowcasting and very short-range forecasting research

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the Brazilian Meteorological Society (BMS) kindly accepted to host the 3rd WMO International Symposium on Nowcasting and Very Short-Range Forecasting (WSN12) that will be held from 6 to 10 August 2012 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil).

The aim of the Symposium is to review the capabilities, opportunities and requirements for improved forecasts in the 0-6 hour timeframe. Special emphasis will be placed on forecasts of high impact weather (heavy rain, hail, lightning, high winds, snowstorm, blizzards, etc.). Since the 0-6 hour period spans the timeframe where both traditional Nowcasting techniques and Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) can contribute useful information, both approaches will be covered at the Symposium as well as methods that combine nowcasting and NWP.

The Symposium Announcement, available in English only (see Annex), is attached herewith for your information. Further details are available on the Symposium Website at the following address: <http://www.wsn12.com>.

Interested persons intending to submit extended abstracts are requested to submit them via the Symposium Website before **15 April 2012**. Notification on abstract acceptance will be circulated by **15 May 2012**.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6615)
President of the Commission for Atmospheric Sciences
President of the Commission Basic Systems

cc: Members of the Working Group for Nowcasting Research (for information)

It would be appreciated if you could distribute the Announcement as widely as possible, to bring it to the attention of interested persons in your country, including those in institutions outside the meteorological service.

Limited WMO funds are available to provide financial support to early-career scientists from developing countries whose extended abstracts have been accepted. Requests for financial support should be received in the WMO Secretariat on, or before, **20 May 2012**.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General



WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
3rd WMO International Symposium on
Nowcasting and Very Short-Range Forecasting (WSN12)
6-10 August 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The World Meteorological Organization is pleased to announce that the third WMO Symposium on Nowcasting and Very Short-Range Forecasting (WSN12) will be held in Rio de Janeiro from 6 to 10 August 2012. This is the pre-eminent scientific meeting on nowcasting. It will bring together the world's researchers and practitioners of nowcasting to review the state-of-the-art in nowcasting science and operations. Nowcasts are tactical predictions with 0-6 hour lead times. Nowcasting involves creativity, innovations and extends the boundaries of observational technologies, their quality control, their analysis, use in operational systems and engagement and integration into end-user decision-making processes.

The lead group within WMO is the Working Group on Nowcasting Research under the World Weather Research Programme of the Commission for Atmospheric Sciences. The mandate of the Group is to advance and promote the transfer of technology related to nowcasting science to WMO Members.

The Symposium will review the current status of nowcasting, review outcomes of recent workshops on nowcasting and NWP, and be informed on the recently completed Research Develop Project SNOW-V10 associated with the Vancouver Winter Olympics in 2010. The Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology is going through a strategic visioning exercise for 2025 and nowcasting will be an important component of the activity. Contributions from the Symposium on this subject are welcome. It is also an exciting time for Brazil, with the forthcoming Football World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in 2016 for which nowcasting will provide key information on weather at very short time scales. There are other projects in South America and around the world (e.g. Russia, Japan, Argentina) that are in the planning stages that will be discussed in Rio de Janeiro. Progress in mesoscale modeling, verification and societal impacts related to nowcasting will also be reported on.

The Symposium will be held at the Centro de Convenções – Bolsa do Rio de Janeiro. Prof. Augusto Pereira (University of Sao Paulo) is the chair of the Scientific Commity of the Symposium. For detailed information, please visit the WSN12 Website at www.wsn12.com.

Limited WMO funds are available to provide financial support to early-career scientists from developing countries whose extended abstracts have been accepted. Requests for support should be sent to the WMO Secretariat on, or before, **20 May 2012**.

A 3-day post-symposium training programme on nowcasting (13-15 August 2012) will also be conducted. Applications for attending the training event are due by **15 May 2012** and should be sent to Prof. Pereira at apereira@model.iag.usp.br. Details will be posted on the Symposium Website under "training".

Meeting deadlines:

- Submission of the extended abstracts by **15 April 2012**;
- Notification on the acceptance of extended abstracts by **15 May 2012**;
- Request to WMO for support by **20 May 2012** (limited fund available for early-career scientists from developing countries with accepted abstract).