



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300 – CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse

Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11 – Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81

wmo@wmo.int – www.wmo.int

Weather • Climate • Water
Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: OBS/OSD/IMO/CIMO-TF

GENEVA, 7 March 2014

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Contribution to the CIMO Trust Fund

Action required: To inform the Secretariat whether your country will contribute to the CIMO Trust Fund

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that a CIMO Trust Fund was established to strengthen the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observations (CIMO) resource mobilization and allow external resources to support critical CIMO activities, such as instrument intercomparisons or the development of updates to the CIMO Guide that cannot be fully supported under the WMO regular budget. You will find the Terms of Reference of the CIMO Trust Fund in the Annex to this letter.

This year, I would like to specially draw your attention to two activities, the first one is the WMO Solid Precipitation Intercomparison Experiment (SPICE) that is currently on-going and the second one is a possible update of the International Cloud Atlas that could only be carried out if sufficient external funding is raised.

WMO Solid Precipitation Intercomparison Experiment (SPICE)

CIMO instrument intercomparisons provide information on instrument's performance that enables Members to make informed decisions when renewing their networks. They have a direct impact on lowering costs and foster advances in instrument's technologies as they provide clear advice to manufacturers on how they can improve their products to meet WMO Members requirements. However these intercomparisons require significant resources, both in terms of manpower to conduct the intercomparison and data evaluation as well as financial resources for the instrumental set-up and operation of the facilities provided by the host countries. NMHSs that are hosting CIMO intercomparisons are providing a significant in-kind contribution to WMO, of the order of several hundred thousands of francs.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6752)

cc: CIMO Management Group members)
HMEI Executive Secretary) (for information)

Currently, CIMO is coordinating SPICE, which is being conducted on 20 sites in 15 countries. Over 30 different instrument models in multiple configurations are being tested, covering all major measurement principles for measuring solid precipitation and snow on the ground. These have been provided by the host organizations, reflecting their national interest, and by 18 manufacturers.

Solid precipitation is one of the more complex parameters to observe and measure at automatic stations. SPICE addresses this topic to provide advice to Members that wish to automate their manual observations without compromising climate requirements for the quality of solid precipitation measurements. The results of SPICE will be relevant to several WMO Programmes, and several groups (such as GCW, EC-PORS, JWGFVR of WWRP, the Commission for Climatology, etc.) have expressed interest for the SPICE results.

Because of the complexity of the SPICE experiment a dedicated Data Analysis Team was assembled bringing together experts from the participating countries. However, the efforts required for the data analysis and interpretation of results significantly exceed the resources available within the current project team. It is therefore critical to raise additional financial resources for the data analysis to acquire the services of a data analyst, working under the guidance of the SPICE Data Analysis Team to enable the timely publication of the Final Report for use by all interested parties, thus, financial contributions towards SPICE from Members with a particular interest in the measurement of solid precipitation will be critical for publishing the final report soon after completion of the experiment.

International Cloud Atlas

CIMO is placing particular attention on capacity development of Members overall. This is achieved primarily through the development of guidance and regulatory material (CIMO Guide, IOM reports), the organization of technical conferences on the latest developments related to instruments and methods of observations, and by conducting regional training workshops.

A new capacity development activity having a very strong focus on support to less-developed countries is an extensive revision and update of the International Cloud Atlas (ICA, WMO-No. 47, Vols I (1975) & II (1987)), to restore its position as the undisputable web-based global reference standard for the classification and reporting of clouds and meteors. These documents, which were originally only produced as hard copy publications, have not been updated for decades and are in urgent need of modernization. Because they have not been available in a convenient, modern form on the World Wide Web, numerous privately-sponsored web-based alternatives have appeared, none of which is entirely consistent with the ICA. This jeopardizes the global standardization of cloud classification, with potential implications for the global climate record and other application areas such as severe weather warning services.

CIMO has developed a relatively modest proposal to perform an extensive update to the International Cloud Atlas, which will make it conveniently available on the World Wide Web, will include a number of new formal cloud classifications, will contain improved colour images to aid in the unambiguous classification of clouds worldwide, and updated explanatory text to improve understanding of the unique features of particular cloud types and their differences from other similar clouds. The planned update will be available in a convenient modular form to make it easily adaptable as a training aid for education and training purposes.

However this planned update is not without cost, and is currently not provided for within the WMO regular budget, so will be dependent on voluntary contributions from those Members with an interest in ensuring continued global standardization of cloud classifications.

As you can see, there is much that CIMO could achieve in 2014 given sufficient resources, so I would be most grateful for an indication of whether your country is able to consider a contribution to the WMO CIMO Trust Fund in 2014. Assistance to the WMO Secretariat in the form of expert consultancies to carry out specific activities of the IMOP programme would also be most welcome. Should you be able to help, an early indication of the amount that you may be able to contribute to the Trust Fund or other support that you are prepared to offer would be much appreciated. Should you wish your contribution to be used for a specific purpose, please feel free to specify the purpose for which you wish it to be used.

I look forward to working with you in strengthening WMO CIMO's activities, to the benefit of the global community.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends to the right.

(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
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OBS/OSD/IMO/CIMO-TF, ANNEX

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CIMO TRUST FUND

1. The purpose of the CIMO Trust Fund is to support the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme and CIMO activities.
2. The CIMO Trust Fund is established according to the provisions of Articles 9.7, 9.8 and 9.9 of the WMO Financial Regulations (2010 edition). The CIMO Trust Fund is governed by the WMO Financial Regulations and Rules.
3. The CIMO Trust Fund shall be managed according to an annual budget adopted by the CIMO Management Group (MG).
4. The budget will be constructed according to a format agreed by the MG, in which all income and expenditures will be identified in general articles and specific chapters. The format of the budget may be revised by the MG as necessary.
5. The unit of account shall be the Swiss Franc. When commitments are made, the appropriate funds will be converted, as necessary, to the currency of commitment in at least the amount of the commitment. In accordance with Resolution 19 of EC-LVI, the programme support cost charges represent 7% of the directly identifiable charges.
6. The income of the CIMO Trust Fund will include:
 - (i) Annual voluntary contributions;
 - (ii) Funds deposited for specific purposes are hereafter referred to as deposits;
 - (iii) Other contributions;
 - (iv) Interest on investments as may be made by the Secretary-General in accordance with the provisions of Financial Regulation 12.2; and
 - (v) Miscellaneous income.
7. The CIMO Trust Fund will help in meeting the requirements of WIGOS and GFCS and will be used as agreed by the CIMO MG:
 - (i) To support instrument standardization activities, such as:
 - CIMO intercomparison activities;
 - Consultants and seconded experts to update the CIMO Guide and develop related regulatory material;
 - Improve dissemination of WMO guidance material and standards;
 - Evaluation of new technologies;
 - (ii) To support technology transfer to developing countries, such as:
 - Participation in CIMO technical conferences;
 - Organization of and participation in CIMO capacity building and training activities;

- (iii) To support the development of observing capabilities on climate and disaster risk reduction through activities, such as:
 - Development of guidance material for severe weather and harsh environment;
 - Consultants and seconded experts to improve the traceability, long-term homogeneity and quality of observations for climate;
 - (iv) To support the funding for additional staff positions (technical expert) in the CIMO Secretariat.
8. Authority for the disbursement of funds, in respect of contracts and agreements properly concluded, will be delegated to the president of CIMO, together with the Secretary-General of WMO, or his representative. The president of CIMO will authorize the Secretary-General of WMO, or his representative to disburse the funds by means of a written communication to the WMO Secretariat.
 9. Any change to the terms of reference of the CIMO Trust Fund shall require the acceptance in writing by the president of CIMO and the Secretary-General of WMO or his representative.
 10. The CIMO Trust Fund shall be maintained on a continuous basis and amounts standing to the credit of the CIMO Trust Fund at the end of any biennial period shall remain in the Fund for use in the subsequent period.
 11. Upon liquidation of the CIMO Trust Fund for any reason, the CIMO president together with the Secretary-General of WMO shall decide on the use of remaining funds in a support for the CIMO and IMOP activities.
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