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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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27 August 2018

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Global Weather Enterprise Conference (GWEC-2018) – Announcement

Action required: For information and distribution the announcement to interested parties

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in coordination with the World Bank Group Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (WBG/GFDRR) and the Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry (HMEI) is organizing a Global Weather Enterprise Conference (GWEC-2018) on 11 and 12 October 2018 at the RAI Amsterdam (<https://www.rai.nl>), the Netherlands. The event is organized within the programme of the Meteorological Technology World Expo 2018 (<http://www.meteorologicaltechnologyworldexpo.com/en/>) and in part jointly with the CIMO TECO-2018 (<https://www.wmocimo.net/>). It is organized in line with the WMO Policy Framework on Public-Private Engagement adopted by the Executive Council (Resolution 33 (EC-70) refers) to promote active engagement between the public, private and academic sectors, and all stakeholders to successfully manage and participate in the Global Weather Enterprise.

GWEC-2018 will provide an opportunity for continuation of the dialogue between the public, private and academic sectors on the present and future issues of the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) – a subject that has been actively discussed at many recent WMO events as well as events organized by our partners. As of April this year, the dialogue has been steered by the GWE Forum, a formation supported by the WMO, WBG/GFDRR and HMEI as a platform for consultation and coordination.

The theme of the Conference is:

“DATA – Co-operation to shape the future of Global Weather Enterprise”

The objective of this event is to stimulate discussions on various technical and institutional aspects of the Global Weather Enterprise with particular focus on observational data. It will contribute to raising the awareness and understanding of the global community concerning the big challenges the GWE is facing and related need for innovation and collaboration between all stakeholders. Further information is provided in the Concept Note in the Annex to this letter (also available on the conference website).

The intended audience includes representatives of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS), private sector companies, and academic institutions dealing with meteorological/hydrological/climatological data operations and research, related regulations and policies, and development aspects.

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

The conference will comprise a blend of keynotes, presentations and panel discussions structured in three sessions as follows:

- Session 1: Business and operating models for data generation and delivery;
- Session 2: Measurement community meets the GWE think tank to discuss sustainable measurements, innovation, related standardization and quality issues;
- Session 3: Data for all – data sharing mechanisms, policies and governance – new perspectives brought by the GWE.

Registration for the Conference should be done online at <https://public.wmo.int/en/events/meetings/gwec2018>. Queries to WMO Secretariat concerning information about the Conference should be addressed to Mr Dimitar Ivanov, Executive Assistant to Secretary-General on Public-Private Partnerships (e-mail: divanov@wmo.int).

I should be grateful if you would make this announcement widely known within your respective Service and other relevant organizations from public, private or academic sectors engaged in various meteorological, hydrological and climatological activities in your country.

Yours faithfully,



(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General

GLOBAL WEATHER ENTERPRISE CONFERENCE – 2018

Amsterdam, 11-12 October 2018

CONCEPT NOTE

Ref.: 22789/2018-15 CER

1. BACKGROUND

Global Weather Enterprise is the global dimension of the multi-national multi-stakeholder weather enterprise encompassing all contributors to the Earth system monitoring, prediction and service provision from public, private and academic sectors, as well as learned or civil society entities.¹

Starting from the WMO World Weather Open Science Conference (WWOSC) in 2014, there has been a rigorous dialogue in the meteorological community on the nature of the Global Weather Enterprise, its current characteristics, future development and related challenges and opportunities. The discussion has focused on the need for better engagement between the public, private and academic sectors in order to respond jointly to the grand societal challenges summarized in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>). There is a global consensus that the ambitious SDGs could be achieved only through a participatory approach to partnerships between state and non-state stakeholders.

Based on this understanding, WMO, WBG/GFDRR and HMEI are supporting a newly-established independent consultative platform called the GWE Forum (GWEF)² with equal representation of selected leaders from public, private and academic communities. The GWEF initiated its work in April 2018 and established its work programme with a strong emphasis on communication and engagement of all sectors.

The GWE Conference 2018 is one of the initiatives for continuing and enhancing the dialogue between GWE stakeholders. It builds on a series of events that have been carried out in the last three years in cooperation between the WBG/GFDRR, WMO and HMEI (see <https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/how-we-do-it/partnerships/Public-Private-Academic%20Sectors%20Engagement> for details).

The seventieth session of the WMO Executive Council (EC-70, June 2018), recognized the need for furthering the dialogue and cooperation between the GWE sectors and acknowledged the role played by the GWEF in this regard. It accorded high priority to the GWE as one of the key themes for the Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18) to be held in Geneva in June 2019. In the roadmap endorsed by the EC-70, the GWE Conference is placed as an important awareness raising event aimed at strengthening the dialogue between the public, private and academic sectors, and generating ideas and recommendations for the sustainable growth of the Enterprise. This in turn will enhance resilience of societies to extreme weather and climate change, and will benefit weather-sensitive industries through effective weather-informed decision making.

¹ This tentative definition of the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE) was endorsed by the seventieth session of the Executive Council as part of the WMO Policy Framework on Public-Private Engagement (PPE). WMO is working with its partners in defining further for universal use some basic terms related to the GWE and PPE.

² The idea for the GWE Forum arose at the GWE Workshop organized by the WBG/GFDRR in November 2017, Washington, D.C.

2. OBJECTIVE AND THEME

The GWEC-2018 is the next step in the ongoing process described above. It is organized within the programme of the Meteorological Technology World Expo (MTWE) 2018 (<http://www.meteorologicaltechnologyworldexpo.com/en/>) and in part jointly with the CIMO TECO-2018 (<https://www.wmocimo.net/>). The Conference will benefit from the worldwide attendance of experts from various GWE fields in the World Expo and will stimulate discussions on various technical and institutional aspects of the Enterprise, with particular focus on observational data. It will contribute to raising the awareness and understanding of the global community concerning the big challenges the GWE is facing and related need for innovation and collaboration between all stakeholders.

The theme of the conference is:

“DATA – Co-operation to shape the future of Global Weather Enterprise”

It is well known that **data is the fuel of the Global Weather Enterprise**. Data can be described as observational, forecast, climatological, hydrological, etc. All these data types flow constantly through the ‘value chain’ of the enterprise between its numerous stakeholders and serve the common goal of producing knowledge and information to support decision-making of vast number of end users across the globe. In the past the data flows have been easy to trace from originator through service provider to end user, and it has been correspondingly relatively straight forward to assign certain rules and procedures tackling quality, interoperability and accountability. However, the GWE of the future will be very different. It will be an abundant data environment with new and complex interactions between players and strong interdependencies. Thus, in a transition between the current and future enterprise, a paramount task is to identify business and operating models for data generation, supply and sharing, that would ensure the sustainability and progression of the global data network.

To help envision the future, the conference will review the current data supply landscape, the related governance layers and cost-effective business models. It will address the need for dealing with existing data gaps, the potential of new market-oriented approaches, and the evolving policy-making and governance layers. The ambition is to have a holistic approach to all data issues and come up with key messages and recommendations for resolving obstacles to ensure the amount and quality of ‘data fuel’ needed for the growth of the GWE.

3. INTENDED AUDIENCE, STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

An announcement for the GWE Conference has been issued to all WMO Members and through appropriate channels to stakeholders from private and academic sectors. The joint session with CIMO-TECO (11 September, p.m.) will provide for participation of CIMO experts in the various areas of instruments and methods of observations business.

The partners from WBG/GFDRR and HMEI will publicize the event through their channels to stimulate participation of their respective communities.

4. FORMAT AND ARRANGEMENTS

The conference will comprise a blend of keynote talks, thematic presentations including results of relevant studies, brief presentation of national cases, and moderated panel discussions.

The programme structure for the conference will focus on:

- Session 1: Business and operating models for data generation and delivery (including national cases) – are current models efficient and sustainable; what needs to be changed;
- Session 2 (joint with CIMO-TECO): Measurement community meets the GWE think tank to discuss sustainable measurements, innovation, related standardization and quality issues;

- Session 3: Data for all – data sharing mechanisms, policies and governance – new perspectives brought by the GWE;
- Panel sessions will be conducted in each session with the aim at deriving key issues and recommendations for inclusion in the Conference Statement.

All speakers and presenters will submit extended abstracts of their talks which will be published on the WMO website as an output material for future events.
