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7 June 2022

Subject: Invitation to the GDPFS Symposium on Requirements for NWP Data and Products, Geneva, Switzerland, 29–31 August 2022

Action required: (1) To respond to an online survey on requirements for Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) data and products no later than **30 June 2022**; and  
(2) To register your participation in the Symposium preferably by **30 June 2022**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) Symposium on Requirements for Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Data and Products will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 29 to 31 August 2022.

As you will recall, an important outcome of [Resolution 1 \(Cg-Ext\(2021\)\)](#) - WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data, adopted by the recent World Meteorological Congress at its extraordinary session, is broader and easier access to high-quality NWP and analysis products for Members. The Commission for Observation, Infrastructure, and Information Systems (INFCOM) was requested to review the NWP data and products specified in the [Manual on the GDPFS](#) (WMO-No. 485) and update the list of core data to meet the needs of Members.

The Symposium will seek to accelerate the evolution of the GDPFS, improve data discoverability and accessibility, and better understand the needs of Members on NWP data and products. Key objectives of the Symposium will be, inter alia, to:

- Review the existing capabilities and activities of the GDPFS for short-range to seasonal numerical prediction;
- Articulate Member requirements for data and products of short-range to seasonal numerical prediction, and understand shortcomings and gaps in current capabilities;
- Identify concrete actions to ensure that the GDPFS meets all key requirements from Members;
- Develop a coordination mechanism among World Meteorological Centres (WMCs) and Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) to better leverage GDPFS activities.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO  
Ms Florence Rabier, Director General, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)  
Mr Andre Kamga Foamouhoue, Director-General, African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)

cc: Principal of Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH)  
Head of Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC)  
Director of International Research Centre on El Niño (CIIFEN)

The Symposium will be conducted primarily as a face-to-face meeting; however, remote access will be made available in case any participant is not able to attend in person. More information, including registration details, is available on a dedicated [web page for the Symposium](#). You are invited to register your participation, preferably by **30 June 2022**. I should be grateful if you or your designated representatives and experts could participate in the Symposium.

To prepare for the Symposium, [an online survey](#) has been launched with the aim of articulating user requirements for NWP data and products. It comprises three parts, spanning timescales from short- and medium-range, sub-seasonal, and seasonal prediction. The online survey is available in English only; however, the questions have been translated into all official UN languages and provided as PDF files on the landing page of the survey.

You are kindly requested to submit your response online. I would greatly appreciate your response on or before **30 June 2022** to ensure that your requirements for NWP data and products will be well considered. Assuming that each Member submits one response for each part, your last submission will be considered as your formal response. The WMO Secretariat is available to assist you with any questions and technical support. Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat at [dpfsmail@wmo.int](mailto:dpfsmail@wmo.int).

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you and your Service for your continued support to the WMO Global Data-processing and Forecasting System.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang  
for the Secretary-General