

**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

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 – wmo.int

Our ref.: 6781105/2026/ESDP/INFCOM-4

15 September 2026

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Thematic information sessions prior to the fourth session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM-4)

Action required: Organize delegates' and experts' participation in the pre-session thematic information sessions

Dear Sir/Madam,

Reference is made to the notification letter ref.: 6771665/2026/HRCS/CNFT/INFCOM-4, dated 24 July 2026, concerning the fourth session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM-4), to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 23 to 27 November 2026 with the possibility of online participation.

Given the limited presentation and discussion time during the session, and with a view to ensuring adequate discussion with technical experts as well as with delegates who are planning to participate in the session, pre-session thematic information sessions have been planned, in virtual form, from 27 October to 12 November 2026. The tentative schedule is presented in the annex, with all times given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

The sessions will be held via Zoom. The updated schedule, together with the connection details for each session, will be published on the INFCOM-4 session website at [Pre-INFCOM-4 Information Sessions](#). These sessions will be delivered in English and will be open to anyone without registration. The programme of the session itself is set out in the [INFCOM-4 – Tentative Workplan](#).

Major decision documents will be explained, and questions will be answered either during the information session or later in writing. Recordings of each thematic session and the questions and answers will be published on the session website. Where two sessions are listed for the same topic, both cover the same documents and are offered at different times of day to suit different time zones; attendance at either one is sufficient.

We would appreciate to have your technical experts, programme focal points and delegates participate in these thematic information sessions. You are also encouraged to invite young and early-career professionals to participate, providing them with an opportunity to engage with INFCOM technical work and expert communities. For any questions, please contact the WMO Secretariat at zandreeva@wmo.int.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support to WMO technical commission activities.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ko Barrett', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Ms Ko Barrett
for the Secretary-General

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THEMATIC INFORMATION SESSIONS

[INFCOM-4 documents to be covered]

All times are given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). The sessions will be held via Zoom; the updated schedule and the connection details for each session will be published on the [session website](#).

Session*	Date and time (UTC)	Documents to be explained**
WIS 2.0	Tuesday 27 October, 08.00 – 09.30 Tuesday 27 October, 16.00 – 17.30	Doc. 4.3.1 – Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Information System (WMO-No. 1060), Volume II <i>INF. 4.3.1</i> – WIS 2.0 implementation report Doc. 4.3.2 – Update of the Guide to the WMO Information System (WMO-No. 1061), Volume II Doc. 4.3.5 – First-mile data exchange standard and certification <i>INF. 4.3.5</i> – First-mile data exchange standard
WIGOS – measurements	Wednesday 28 October, 08.00 – 09.00 Wednesday 28 October, 21.00 – 22.00	Doc. 4.1.2 – Proposed amendments to competency frameworks and other capacity development matters <i>Draft Recommendation 4.1.2/1</i> – Competency frameworks of relevance to the Infrastructure Commission Competency frameworks developed by SC-MINT Doc. 4.2.9 – Update of the Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation (WMO-No. 8) Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.2.10/1 – Change of Long-wave Irradiance Reference <i>INF. 4.2.10</i> – Traceability of Long-wave Irradiance Measurements Doc. 4.2.3 – Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160) Provisions 5.1.28 and 5.1.29 on irradiance references Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.2.11/1 – Call for studies on instrument coupling, environmental effects and siting impacts on measurements Doc. 4.2.12 – Harmonized concept for regional instrument centres
Future Data Infrastructure and Open-Source Software	Thursday 29 October, 08.00 – 09.30 Thursday 29 October, 16.00 – 17.30	Doc. 4.1.5 – Future data infrastructure for artificial intelligence <i>INF. 4.1.5</i> – Report from the Study Group on Future Data Infrastructure Doc. 4.3.4 – Guidance on Free and Open-Source Software
Capacity Development	Thursday 29 October, 11.00 – 12.00	Doc. 4.1.2 – Proposed amendments to competency frameworks and other capacity development matters Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.2/1 – Capacity Development Coordination within the Infrastructure Commission Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.2/2 – Guide to the Implementation of Education and Training Standards in Meteorology and Hydrology, Volume II: Hydrology

Session*	Date and time (UTC)	Documents to be explained**
Hydrology	Tuesday 3 November, 08.00 – 09.00 Tuesday 3 November, 14.00 – 15.00	Doc. 4.1.1 – Proposed amendments to Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49), Volume III Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.1/1 – Piloting of hydrological reference stations concept <i>INF. 4.1.1</i> – Background information on the proposed descriptions for hydrological reference stations Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.2/2 – Guide to the Implementation of Education and Training Standards in Meteorology and Hydrology, Volume II: Hydrology Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.3/1 – Road map for the designation and recognition of Global Hydrological and Climate Data Centres <i>INF. 4.1.3(1)</i> – Report of TT-GHyDaC and workplan Doc. 4.2.2 – Road map for the Global Basic Observing Network expansion <i>INF. 4.2.2</i> – Study paper on the Global Basic Observing Network expansion Doc. 4.2.3 – Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160) Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.1/2 – Flood Forecasting Framework (FFF) Concept Note and Implementation Road map

Session*	Date and time (UTC)	Documents to be explained**
WIGOS – networks	Wednesday 4 November, 12.00 – 14.00 Wednesday 4 November, 20.00 – 22.00	Doc. 4.1.1 – Proposed amendments to Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49), Volume I Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.1.2/1 – Capacity Development Coordination within the Infrastructure Commission WIGOS training framework Doc. 4.2.1 – Vision for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System in 2050 Doc. 4.2.2 – Road map for the Global Basic Observing Network expansion <i>INF. 4.2.2</i> – Study paper on the Global Basic Observing Network expansion Doc. 4.2.3 – Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160) <i>INF. 4.2.3</i> – Additional information on the amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160) Doc. 4.2.4 – Update of the Guide to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1165), including the Technical Guidelines for Regional WIGOS Centres on the WIGOS Data Quality Monitoring System (WMO-No. 1224) <i>INF. 4.2.4</i> – Additional information on the update of the Guide to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1165) Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.2.5/1 – Approach to the WIGOS metadata standard and the replacement of the present OSCAR/Surface solution for sharing and cataloguing <i>INF. 4.2.5</i> – Status of the update of the WIGOS Metadata Standard (WMO-No. 1192) and the development of an OSCAR/Surface replacement Doc. 1, draft Decision 4.2.6/1 – Approach for the evaluation and designation of Regional WMO Integrated Global Observing System Centres <i>INF. 4.2.6</i> – Report of RWCs audit process and lessons learned Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.1/1 – Delegation of authority for the approval of publications

Session*	Date and time (UTC)	Documents to be explained**
WIPPS	Thursday 5 November, 08.00 – 10.00 Thursday 5 November, 14.00 – 16.00	Doc. 4.1.1 – Proposed amendments to Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49), Volume I Doc. 4.1.2 – Proposed amendments to competency frameworks and other capacity development matters <i>Draft Recommendation 4.1.2/1</i> – Competency frameworks of relevance to the Infrastructure Commission NWP skills framework and competency requirements Doc. 4.4.1 – Amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 485) <i>INF. 4.4.1(1)</i> – Additional information on the amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 485) <i>INF. 4.4.1(2)</i> – Findings from the first review cycle of the WIPPS designated centres' compliance <i>INF. 4.4.1(3)</i> – Executive summary of WIPPS pilot projects, including the Global Riverine Flood Prediction Pilot Doc. 4.4.2 – Update of the Guide to the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 305) <i>INF. 4.4.2</i> – Additional information on the update to the Guide to the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WMO-No. 305) Doc. 4.4.3 – WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System Strategy Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.1/1 – Delegation of authority for the approval of publications
GBON expansion	Thursday 5 November, 12.00 – 13.00	Doc. 4.2.2 – Road map for the Global Basic Observing Network expansion <i>INF. 4.2.2</i> – Study paper on the Global Basic Observing Network expansion
Programmatic items	Monday 9 November, 12.00 – 13.00	Doc. 3 – Recommendation on the revised expanded World Weather Watch Programme Doc. 7.1 – Work programme of the Infrastructure Commission <i>INF. 7.1(1)</i> – Additional information on the work programme for the next intersessional period <i>INF. 7.1(3)</i> – Report of TT-Projects Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.1/1 – Delegation of authority for the approval of publications Doc. 7.2 – Revision of subsidiary bodies of the Infrastructure Commission <i>INF. 7.2</i> – Additional information on the subsidiary bodies for the next intersessional period Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.2/1 – Chairs and vice-chairs of standing committees, advisory groups and coordinators Doc. 1, draft Decision 7.2/2 – Composition of the Management Group of the Infrastructure Commission
Radio-frequency spectrum	Tuesday 10 November, 08.00 – 09.00 Tuesday 10 November, 16.00 – 17.00	Doc. 4.2.7 – WMO Position on the agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2027 Doc. 4.2.8 – Guide on Access to the Radio-frequency Spectrum

Session*	Date and time (UTC)	Documents to be explained**
Cryosphere	Thursday 12 November, 13.00 – 14.00 Thursday 12 November, 21.00 – 22.00	Doc. 4.1.4 – Global Cryosphere Watch Implementation Plan
WIGOS Vision 2050	Thursday 12 November, 14.00 – 15.00	Doc. 4.2.1 – Vision for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System in 2050

* Where two times are shown, both sessions cover the same documents and are held at different times of day, to suit different time zones.

** Documents covered at the sessions remain provisional; the definitive numbering will be reflected on the INFCOM-4 session website.

Note: Draft decisions are not issued as separate documents. INFCOM-4/Doc. 1 contains the general summary of the work of the session and all draft decisions and will be updated each time a decision is adopted.
