



Our ref.: 11635/2022/MS/RA/III/WIGOS/WIS/GDPFS

31 May 2022

Subject: Regional Workshop on WIGOS, WIS and GDPFS in RA III, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 19-21 July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is hosting a Regional Workshop on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS), the WMO Information System (WIS) and the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) in the Regional Association III (RA III) in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 19 to 21 July 2022. The aim of the workshop is to bring together the Permanent Representatives, the Chairs of the RA III Working Group on Infrastructure and Technological Development and the designated National Focal Points on WIGOS and WIS matters, regional experts and key stakeholders, in order to discuss the following three resolutions, approved at the World Meteorological Congress at its extraordinary session (Cg-Ext (2021)), and to find a consensus on ways to implement them at the regional level:

- [Resolution 1 \(Cg-Ext \(2021\)\)](#) - WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data,
- [Resolution 2 \(Cg-Ext \(2021\)\)](#) - Amendments to the Technical Regulations related to the establishment of the Global Basic Observing Network,
- [Resolution 3 \(Cg-Ext \(2021\)\)](#) - the Systematic Observations Financing Facility: Supporting Members in the implementation of the Global Basic Observing Network.

At the proposal of the organizing committee of the workshop, I would like to invite you as Permanent Representative and the two focal points on WIGOS and WIS matters to participate in this activity to engage key stakeholders in the knowledge on the expected benefits of initiatives such as GBON and WIS 2.0 and to improve technical support and capacity building within the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), in order to prepare RA III members to meet the requirements to ensure regional implementation and sustained operations of GBON.

The National Focal Points assume a particular relevance in ensuring meaningful and focused discussions and a successful outcome of this workshop. Facilitated by moderators, the participants are invited to address specific topics within the scope of the respective segment, with the goal of fostering open and focused discussions, and the engagement of participants during plenary sessions. The outcomes of this workshop are expected to facilitate synthesizing key recommendations for the Implementation Plan for 2022/2023 and the Strategic Plan for 2024/2027 in the region.

To: Permanent Representatives of WMO Members in RA III (South America)

cc: RA III Hydrological Adviser  
RA III President and Vice-president  
RA III Working Group of Infrastructure and Technological Development

Please note that it is the responsibility of your Service to provide the funding to cover the corresponding costs related to the attendance of your designated expert(s). If you are unable to cover such costs WMO may consider funding the corresponding travel and/or per diem expenses.

In order to clarify WMO's insurance coverage for non-staff members, I should like to draw your attention to the following:

Non-staff members of WMO who are authorized to travel at the Organization's expense and/or who are receiving a DSA from WMO must ensure they are fully responsible for expenses incurred in the event of death, illness or injury during official travel and attendance at meetings on behalf of the Organization. They are, therefore, fully responsible for arranging life, health, accident, as well as any other forms of insurance with an adequate level of coverage for the duration of such meetings and events.

WMO liability is limited to the performance of services or attendance at a meeting on behalf of the Organization, is covered by an injury and illness benefit insurance which provides a limited coverage for medical, emergency and supplementary official travel expenses.

For administrative purposes, I should be grateful if you could kindly notify Mr Daniel Vila, Technical Coordinator on Infrastructure for the Americas at [dvila@wmo.int](mailto:dvila@wmo.int) as soon as possible, but **no later than 15 June**, whether the above-mentioned experts will be able to attend the workshop and to indicate whether financial assistance would be required.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to the WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Petteri Taalas  
Secretary-General