



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Weather • Climate • Water
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Our ref.: DRA-ROE/RA VI/RECO

GENEVA, 8 July 2013

Annex: 1

Subject: Regional Conference on Challenges and Opportunities for European NMHSs, Helsinki, Finland, 10 and 11 September 2013

Action required: To inform the WMO Secretariat of participation in the Conference preferably by **2 August 2013**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that in accordance with the WMO Operating Plan (2012-2015) a Regional Conference in Regional Association VI (Europe) will be held in Helsinki, Finland on 10 and 11 September 2013, prior to the sixteenth session of RA VI.

The theme of the Conference is “Challenges and Opportunities for the European National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (NMHS)”. The main objective is to discuss current issues that affect the operations of the NMHSs in the Region and share views and experience in meeting major challenges related to the growing demand for high quality products and services to support decision-making in vital socio-economic sectors. The impact of the difficult economic situation in most of the Region on the NMHS’s management and operation raises the need for increasing efficiency and competitiveness. The Conference will outline good practices and promote opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation, technology advancement and change management.

The Regional Conference will be handled as a mixture of presentations by invited speakers, discussions in breakout groups and brainstorming session with the aim to formulate through consensus a list of top challenges and priorities for the RA VI that would guide the planning of the regional activities for the next intersession period 2016–2019. The following sessions are envisaged:

- Session 1: RA VI Panorama (summary of RA VI Survey 2013)
- Session 2: Meeting institutional challenges
- Session 3: RA VI response to WMO priorities
- Session 4: Sub-regional challenges and priorities (breaking into sub-regional groups)
- Session 5: Opportunities and risks
- Session 6: Brainstorming: RA VI priorities for the next intersessional period

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of Regional Association VI (EUR-729)

cc: President of Regional Association VI)
Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives) (for information)
Directors of ECMWF, EUMETSAT, EUMETNET)

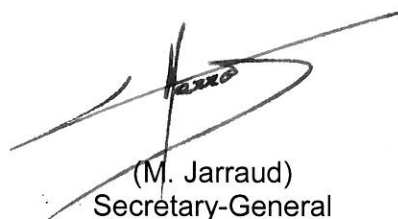
The outcome of the Conference will be provided as input to the sixteenth session of RA VI to support the decisions related to the priorities and key outcomes of the RA VI Operational Plan.

The Conference is intended primarily for Directors and Senior Officials of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services. You are kindly requested to nominate participants from your Service by completing the Participation Nomination Form given in the Annex and returning it to the WMO Secretariat as soon as possible, but preferably by **2 August 2013**.

Further details about the Conference programme will be made available in due course on the special website for the sixteenth session of RA VI: <http://ravi-16.wmo.int>. Information about the venue and other logistic arrangements is provided in RA VI-16/INF. 1. Please note that any questions related to the Conference should be addressed to the WMO Secretariat focal point, Mr Dimitar Ivanov, Chief WMO Regional Office for Europe (DIvanov@wmo.int).

Considering the limited funds available for this purpose, it is hoped that your Government will meet the expenses of its nominee(s) to attend the Conference. However, if this were not possible, WMO would be prepared to consider, within the limits of funds available, the possibility of meeting the cost of travel and/or living expenses for one participant from less developed countries in the Region.

Yours faithfully,



(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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DRA-ROE/RA VI/RECO

**REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EUROPEAN NMHSs**

Helsinki, Finland, 10-11 September 2013

PARTICIPANT NOMINATION FORM

The Government of nominates the following candidate* as a participant to the above-conference:

- 1. Family Name: _____ Male Female
- 2. First name: _____
- 3. Date of birth: _____
- 4. Title of present official position: _____
- 5. Mailing address (office) _____
- 6. Telephone and Fax No. (Office) _____
- 7. E-mail: _____
- 8. Financial assistance is required:
 - For travel
 - For per diem
 - Not requested

Date: (Signature of Permanent Representative)

To be completed and returned as soon as possible (by fax or e-mail) and in any case to reach WMO no later than **2 August 2013** by fax at +41 730 80 47 or by e-mail at MHerinkova@wmo.int

* Please fill separate Nomination Form for each participant