



Our ref.: 22395/2022/MS/ROE/RA VI RECO

30 September 2022

Annex.: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Regional Conference of the Regional Association VI on the Future role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services: Leadership and Management, 2–4 November 2022, WMO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

Action required: To register not later than **10 October 2022**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that a three-day Regional Conference (RECO) of the Regional Association (RA) VI will be held from 2 to 4 November 2022 at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Headquarters. The main theme is "Future role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs): Leadership and Management".

All Permanent Representatives and Hydrological Advisers of the RA VI, the RA VI partner institutions, as well as representatives of public, academic and private sectors are kindly invited to attend the Conference in person. The Conference will also be held in hybrid format for those who are unable to travel or would prefer to join the meeting remotely.

A concept note is available [here](#) for your information. The agenda and other details will be shared in due time.

In view of the limited funds allocated for the organization of this Conference, it is hoped that your Service will meet the expenses related to the participation of the nominee(s). However, if this is not possible, WMO would be prepared to consider, on a case by case basis, within the limited funds available, the possibility of meeting the cost of travel and/or daily subsistence allowance for the Conference for one participant from your Service.

Regarding WMO insurance coverage for non-staff members, I would 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.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of RA VI with WMO, partner organizations

cc: Hydrological Advisers of RA VI

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 would be grateful if you could notify the WMO Secretariat (roe@wmo.int) of the participant(s) from your Service and whether financial support for their participation is required, as soon as possible, **preferably by 10 October 2022**. Please register on the [WMO Event Registration website](#).

I look forward to the participation of your Service in this important Conference.

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

2022 Regional Conference

“Future role of NMHSs: Leadership and management”

DATE and VENUE : 2-4 November 2022, Geneva, WMO HQs

CONCEPT NOTE

Rationale

While a part of regional activities proposed for 2022-2025 focuses on previously launched activities, which need to be brought to a successful end, with the approval of the Unified data policy a new set of actions is needed to support its implementation. However, there is no set time period for the implementation of the policy. It will take time to adapt legislation and infrastructure.

Members are currently exchanging a broad variety of data among themselves, but the difficulty of maintaining and updating them have led to gradual erosion of the exchange and is increasing the risk of fragmentation in some areas. The current interpretation and implementation of WMO’s data policy is highly inconsistent between Members.

The three RA VI Working Groups, in particular the WG on Infrastructure, Observations and Information Systems have agreed on activities to support the preparation for the implementation of the Unified data policy. Thus, the concept for the RA VI Infrastructure, including Research and Services related infrastructure, is planned to be developed. It will include further development of technical systems, such as WIS 2.0 and S-GDPFS, aimed at facilitating the exchange of data, especially taking into account the needs and technical capabilities of developing Members.

Unification of data implies new partnerships on the national level that would need to be supported by partnerships and engagement of private and academic sectors on regional level.

The specific obligations to exchange certain datasets – labeled “core data” in the data policy text – are captured in WMO technical regulations, not in the data policy itself. These obligations may change over time as WMO technical regulations are updated, under the authority of Congress. The future role of NMHSs is to be discussed. Legislation and infrastructure need to be adapted. Top managers need a broad variety of skills in leadership and management to successfully implement the change management processes that includes preparing the organization for change, planning, and implementation.

To support it, WMO Regional Office for Europe, in collaboration with the WMO Technical Departments (Infrastructure, Services and Science), PPE Office and ETR Office, plans an RA VI Conference on the Future role of NMHSs with Leadership and management component, covering aspects of legislation and strategy, infrastructure as well as Public-Private engagement.

Objectives, Target audience and Expected results

The Conference will support the implementation of a range of WMO strategic objectives and resolutions, including the one on Unified data policy, improving its uptake. The next major event which will follow up on the Unified data policy is INFCOM-2 (24-28 October 2022).

The Conference is addressed to the top managers of the NMHSs, Directors of National Meteorological and/or Hydrological Services and Hydrological Advisers of the RA VI Member States,

as well as staff dealing with infrastructure, strategy, legislation, and public-private engagement. Representatives of the private and academic sectors are also invited.

The event is planned in a hybrid format to allow broader participation.

The Conference will provide a consensus-based Recommendation Paper to feed into the High-level Ministerial Event, to be conducted in 2023, before or after the forthcoming session of the World Meteorological Congress.

For greater benefit and efficiency, the 2021 Statement of climate state in Europe report will be released on 2nd November 2022, immediately after the Opening of the Conference.

This collaborative publication highlights the partnership to foster climate action. This science-based policy-report provides an annual monitoring of the climate indicators, with messages on impact, risks and actions, based on authoritative data of RCC, NMHSs and UN Agencies, which may drive further discussions on Future role of NMHSs at the RECO.

Tentative Programme

Day 1

- ✓ Morning session 09:00 - 12:00 – Launch of the 2021 Climate state in Europe report
- ✓ Afternoon session 14:00 - 17:00 - Infrastructure, Services and Research

Day 2

- ✓ Morning session 09:00-12:00 - Public, academic and private engagement
- ✓ Afternoon session 14:00-17:00 - Strategy and legislation

Day 3

- ✓ Morning session 09:00-12:00 - Leadership and management
- ✓ Afternoon session 14:00-17:00 - Strategy and legislation