



Our ref.: SG/CER/BUR-67

GENEVA, 16 April 2012

Subject: Outcomes of the sixty-seventh session of the WMO Bureau, 2 to 3 February 2012

Dear Sir/Madam,

Pursuant to the decisions of the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress, the Bureau focused on preparing for the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Council, (EC-64) (25 June to 3 July 2012) and the extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-Ext.(2012)) (29 to 31 October 2012). As requested by the Fifteenth World Meteorological Congress, I am pleased to bring the recommendations of the Bureau to the attention of Members and the presidents of technical commissions.

Concerning the organization of the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Council, the Bureau recommended that EC-64 will:

1. Commence at 9:30 on the first day to allow for invitations to be extended to Ministers or Executive Heads of partner UN agencies to address the Executive Council;
2. Introduce a revised documentation in response to our mandate on continuous improvement of WMO processes and practices;
3. Hold an information session for EC members and chairs of sessions on new EC procedures to improve efficiencies while finding a balance between expediting approval and allowing debate;
4. Be briefed on the overall approach (short and long term) on continuous improvement of WMO procedures and practices to elicit their views;
5. Be conducted in one Plenary, “chaired” by the President, who will delegate “chairing” responsibility on specific issues to the Vice-Presidents;
6. Determine session Sub-Committees immediately after the in-camera session normally required to elect EC acting members and determine the composition of EC bodies later in-session to allow for preliminary consultations;

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services of Members of WMO (PR-6633)
Presidents of technical commissions (P.TC-1724)

cc: Permanent Missions in Geneva

7. Highlight in the reports of the President and the Secretary-General relevant information that does not require decisions from EC;
8. Organize brief reports (5–7 minutes) in the following manner:
 - Report on the February meeting of the Presidents of Technical Commissions (PTCs) and the joint meeting of the PTC and the Presidents of Regional Associations (PRAs) by the President of WMO;
 - Report of the February PRA meeting by the 2nd Vice-President;
 - Report by each president of Regional Associations I through VI, highlighting main operational priorities and risks in the implementation of the WMO Strategic Plan in the Regions;
 - Report by the JCOMM co-president highlighting the outcomes of the JCOMM-4 session;
 - Other presidents of technical commissions will present their views and recommendations during relevant agenda items.

Furthermore, the Bureau recommended that ample time is allotted to discuss WMO priorities as follows:

1. Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to discuss:
 - Preparations for Cg-Ext.(2012) and the proposals prepared by the EC Task Team on GFCS on the draft Implementation Plan and governance;
 - The WMO contribution to the GFCS.
2. WMO Information System (WIS) and the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) to discuss:
 - The WIGOS Implementation Plan and take decision on next steps including on the Space Programme;
 - Designate Global Information System Centres (GISCs) and Data Collection or Production Centres (DCPCs) and to decide on a minimum number of GISCs.
3. Aviation Meteorological services: to highlight issues on Quality Management Systems (QMS) emphasizing the need to meet ICAO deadlines and the associated risks.
4. Capacity Development: to focus on the main concepts of the strategy and how the strategy will be implemented across programmes.
5. Disaster Risk Reduction: take decisions on improved coordination and to clarify responsibilities related to this cross cutting file and develop a roadmap toward a revised strategy at EC-65 (2013).
6. Continuous Improvement of WMO Processes and Practices: review the recommendations of the Task Team and reach consensus on short and long term actions that will improve the effectiveness of the Organization.
7. Cooperation with GEO: advise on a WMO position concerning the 2013 GEO summit and determine the level of WMO engagement in GEO's post-2015 objectives.

Concerning the organization of the extraordinary Congress, it will address the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) with two key topics:

- Implementation Plan for the GFCS;
- Establishment of the Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services.

The Bureau recommended that:

- The Technical Conference on GFCS which will precede the extraordinary session of Congress (26-27 October 2012) will be designed to facilitate a constructive and sound dialogue between delegations during the Congress;
- Cg-Ext.(2012) will commence at 9:30 to accommodate opening addresses by high-level dignitaries;
- The establishment of open working or sub-committees for in-depth consideration of draft decisions.

We will, of course, have in depth discussions on the preparations for Cg-Ext.(2012) during the sixty-fourth session of the Executive Council.

In closing, I invite you to familiarize yourself with the EC documents as they become available and, if possible, offer comments to the Secretariat prior to the session. This will help EC to take into account broader views on the necessary decisions required.

I trust you find this summary useful and will take these recommendations into account for your preparations leading into EC-64 and Cg-Ext.(2012). If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'D. Grimes', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

(David Grimes)
President of WMO