

World Meteorological Organization Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Weather • Climate • Water Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: WDS/PWS/WWIS/IT GENEVA, 26 March 2015

Subject: Increasing traffic to the WMO World Weather Information Service (WWIS)

Action required: National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) are invited to link

their websites back to the WWIS website, as soon as possible, but

preferably not later than 21 April 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, the fifty-fourth session of WMO Executive Council (EC-LIV, Geneva, June 2002), approved the establishment of the WMO World Weather Information Service (WWIS) website, "to provide the media and the public with authoritative, official global city weather forecasts". WWIS therefore presents "Official" weather observations, weather forecasts and climatological information for selected cities supplied by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). It has ten (10) language versions and is hosted and coordinated by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO).

In 2014, the WWIS project entered a new phase by launching a newly revamped website after its operation for more than a decade. In addition to a brand new user interface, the new website integrated latest web technologies to provide a number of user-friendly features like user-customized homepage and cities, sharing forecasts with friends, WMO news, etc. Furthermore, a mobile layout is presented automatically if the website is accessed through mobile devices. Mobile iPhone and Android app versions have also been developed and are fully operational.

WWIS registered 125 million visitor statistics in 2014, which was a slight drop in traffic compared to recent years. In order to reverse this trend, and to maintain and even enhance the number of users of the website, it is necessary for NMHSs to take appropriate action.

In this regard, I have the honour to request that your Service provides a link to WWIS from a prominent location of your national Service website. This action would provide an easy option for users to access WWIS, and hence increase traffic. In addition, the action will also add traffic to your National Service website, which will increase its visibility. In order to enable your Service to link to the preferred language(s) version(s), please find below the URLs for the different language versions of WWIS:

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6838)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

Language Version:	URL Link:
Arabic	http://worldweather.met.gov.om:8080/ar/home.html
Chinese	http://www.worldweather.cn/zh/home.html
Chinese (traditional)	http://worldweather.wmo.int/tc/home.html
English (standard by default)	http://worldweather.wmo.int/
French	http://worldweather.wmo.int/fr/home.html
Italian	http://wwis.meteoam.it/it/home.html
Polish	http://wwis.imgw.pl/pl/home.html
Portuguese	http://wwis.ipma.pt/pt/home.html
Russian	http://worldweather.wmo.int/ru/home.html
Spanish	http://wwis.aemet.es/es/home.html

I would be very pleased if you could add the link to WWIS, as soon as possible, but preferably before 21 April 2015. Should you need further clarification or assistance in this regard, you are kindly requested to contact Mr Samuel Wandimi Muchemi, Scientific Officer, Public Weather Services (PWS) Division, by e-mail to: SMuchemi@wmo.int.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued participation in the Programmes and activities of WMO.

Yours faithfully,

(M. Jarraud) Secretary-General