



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Weather • Climate • Water
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Our ref.: WDS-DPFS/New Manual on GDPFS-2015

GENEVA, 11 May 2015

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Revision of the *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485)

Action required: At your earliest convenience, but **not later than 31 July 2015**:

- (1) To review the content of the draft version of the new Manual and submit your comments to the WMO Secretariat (by e-mail to dpfsmail@wmo.int)
- (2) To nominate a Focal Point for liaising with Officers of the WMO Secretariat on the revision of the *Manual on the GDPFS*

Dear Sir/Madam,

The *Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS)* (WMO-No. 485) is the single source of technical regulations for all operational data-processing and forecasting systems of WMO Members, including their designated meteorological centres. Following the request by the Commission for Basic Systems, at its fourteenth session (CBS-XIV, 2009), progress has been made with the revision of the *Manual on the GDPFS*, including the development of an outline for a new Manual, which was adopted by the Sixteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-XVI, May 2011) through Resolution 6 (Cg-XVI). In addition, Cg-XVI agreed that the revised *Manual on the GDPFS* would facilitate introducing updates as frequently as required (to ensure that the content is kept up-to-date), and would reflect the future evolution of the GDPFS, taking account of the developments in WIGOS and WIS, lessons learnt from the Severe Weather Forecasting Demonstration Project (SWFDP) and the transition of research projects to operations.

Noting that the new Manual introduces a number of changes to the current procedures, the Commission for Basic Systems, at its 2014 Extraordinary Session (CBS-Ext.(2014), September 2014), considered the comprehensive summary of changes of functions and procedures that would ensure a smooth transition to the new Manual. Acknowledging that the new Manual is being developed in accordance with quality management principles, which ensure its sustainability as part of the WMO Quality Management Framework (QMF), and would facilitate the

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6847)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

review of compliance of GDPFS Centres against the designation criteria, CBS-Ext.(2014) recommended a roadmap for completion of the new Manual (which will replace the current version) and a transition plan for its implementation to manage the technical changes and the initial designation of the GDPFS Centres as defined in the new Manual, including World Meteorological Centres (WMCs) and Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs), for consideration by the upcoming Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17, May-June 2015) in draft Resolution 4.1(1)/2 (Cg-17).

As part of the above-mentioned roadmap and transition plan, WMO Members are invited to review the content of the draft version of the new Manual (table of contents given in Annex I), which is available on the WMO website at:

https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/DPS/Manual/Table-of-content_Manual-gdpfs.html

and to provide comments to the WMO Secretariat (by e-mail to dpfsmail@wmo.int), using the template provided in Annex II (and also available on the above-mentioned webpage), in order to facilitate the review process of the new Manual, prior to its consideration by a WMO constituent body. In addition, I should appreciate it if you would nominate a Focal Point for liaising with Officers of the WMO Secretariat on the revision of the *Manual on the GDPFS*. Please note that editorial comments are not envisaged at this stage.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to you and your Service for your continued support in making meteorological products of the WMO's Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS), including Emergency Response Activities (ERA), increasingly more relevant in the world.

Yours faithfully,



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General

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