



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Weather • Climate • Water
Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: OBS/GCOS/GCOS-SRR

GENEVA, 18 August 2015

Subject: Review of the GCOS Status Report 2015

Action required: Review the draft GCOS Status Report and send comments to the GCOS Secretariat at your earliest convenience but not later than **14 September 2015**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has considered the timing of future contributions of GCOS to SBSTA that will assess the adequacy of climate observing systems, evaluate progress, and update implementation planning.

At the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17), the GCOS programme informed you that at the 37th session of SBSTA in November 2012, GCOS was invited to submit a report on the assessment of the adequacy of the global observing systems for climate. The GCOS Secretariat and leading key experts have prepared a draft Status Report of the Global Observing System for Climate for submission to GCOS' sponsoring organizations and Parties to the UNFCCC. It reviews the overall status of each Essential Climate Variable, assesses progress against the GCOS Implementation Plan and identifies gaps. This report will be submitted to the 43rd session of the SBSTA, at UNFCCC's Conference of the Parties, COP 21, to be held from 30 November to 11 December 2015, in Paris.

The World Meteorological Congress recommended that the Status Report should be submitted for review to relevant WMO Technical Commissions and the appropriate Expert Teams, before formal submission to the UNFCCC. The GCOS Secretariat has taken appropriate actions to follow this recommendation.

In light of the importance of this report for climate observations and the evolving activities of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), and having in mind the key contribution of the GCOS programme to the GFCS and the importance of the upcoming COP, I would like to invite all Members to review the draft and provide their comments back to the GCOS Secretariat at their earliest convenience but not later than **14 September 2015**.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6864)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

Instructions and the draft are available online on the GCOS website at the following link: <http://gcos.wmo.int>. Please, enter your comments into the spread sheet also provided there.

I should be grateful if you would send your contribution to the GCOS Secretariat at gcosreview@wmo.int. Should you require further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us using the same e-mail address.

Yours faithfully,



(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General