

WMO OMM

WEATHER CLIMATE WATER
TEMPS CLIMAT EAU



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

Secrétariat

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300
CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse
Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11
Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81
wmo@wmo.int – public.wmo.int

Our ref.: CLW/HWR/CHy-15

GENEVA, 26 September 2016

Annexes: 2

- Subject: Fifteenth session of the Commission for Hydrology (CHy-15):
1. Pre-session discussion;
 2. Nomination of candidates as experts to undertake the work of CHy or as members of the Advisory Working Group (AWG);
 3. Information on accommodation.
- Action required:
1. To encourage participation in the pre-session discussion;
 2. To return to the WMO Secretariat the completed Nomination Form of the experts from your country before **30 November 2016**.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the convening of the fifteenth session of the Commission for Hydrology, scheduled to be held at the Barceló Aran Mantegna Hotel, in Rome, Italy, from 7 to 13 December 2016, and to seek your assistance in making this a productive and successful session of the Commission.

In an attempt to obtain a greater level of debate and discussion into the various topics it will consider, the Commission has once again established a pre-session discussion. Please note that this mechanism is intended to provide the basis for a better understanding of new and upcoming issues to be treated by the Commission. It thus provides an opportunity for early debate on key topics and issues and lays a foundation for more detailed discussion during the session.

The Commission is keen to involve as many experts as possible in its work and therefore encourages nominations for membership of both its Advisory Working Group (AWG) and its Open Panel of CHy Experts (OPACHE).

There is also an opportunity to access accommodation at rates well below normal Rome hotel rates, and details are provided herein.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6929)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives)
President and vice-president of CHy) (for information)
Members of CHy)
Members of OPACHE)

Pre-session discussion

In preparation to its previous sessions in 2008 and 2012, the Commission launched a forum on the Internet to promote the debate on the priority topics to be discussed during the session, gather inputs from a broader audience of experts and professionals, and give an opportunity to those countries which would have not been able to participate to voice their concerns and opinions.

In view of its positive outcome, it has been decided to repeat the experience of pre-session discussion through the web for the upcoming fifteenth session. I would like to request you to encourage members of CHy and other experts from your country to participate in this pre-session discussion at http://www.whycos.org/wordpress/?page_id=758 and provide their views on any of the several topics posted for debate. Their opinions will be presented to the session and contribute to the debate and decisions to be taken by the Commission.

Nomination of experts or possible members of AWG

In order to efficiently and effectively carry out the activities of the Commission during the intersessional period, the Commission is likely to adopt the following procedure, as proposed by the AWG:

1. The Commission will decide on the focus areas under which it will carry out its work during the next intersessional period;
2. It is also likely to decide on establishing again an Advisory Working Group to coordinate, guide and monitor the implementation of the various activities of the Commission during the next intersessional period from among the experts nominated by Members;
3. In order to streamline its structure, it will continue working with the experts designated for the Open Panels of CHy Experts (OPACHEs) established during the last session, but will merge the existing panels into a single OPACHE. Naturally, it will welcome new experts into this panel;
4. The AWG will call on experts from the above panel to undertake specific tasks in the work plan of the Commission.

While the Commission session will have the final word in deciding its programme of work, the Advisory Working Group has identified and proposed the following three focus areas to be considered for the next intersessional period:

1. Coordination and Implementation Support;
2. Measurement, Monitoring and Infosystems;
3. Hydrological Applications, Products and Services.

Attendance of representatives of Members at the session is therefore of paramount importance to ensure that the decisions taken by the Commission reflect the needs and requirements of the hydrological community.

I am pleased to hereby solicit nominations for the potential members/positions for establishing the Advisory Working Group for the next intersessional period. In considering your nominations, you may wish to recall the WMO Gender Equality Policy approved by the seventeenth World Meteorological Congress in 2015, which calls for technical commissions to make efforts "to ensure that a minimum of at least 30 per cent of the members of their working structures is female and that this percentage rises progressively within each financial period. The longer-term objective will be to reach parity between male and female members".

For easy reference a summary of the proposed structure of the Commission is included in Annex 1 to facilitate the nominations. A more detailed description of the proposed future programme of work and structure of CHy is available in the report of the third session of the AWG, available at the following link:

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrrp/chy/chy14/chy14-awg3.php>

Experts appointed to the OPACHEs at previous CHy sessions would continue to serve on the new unique OPACHE, unless we are advised otherwise. You can review who those experts are for your country by consulting the Country Profile Database (<https://www.wmo.int/cpdb/>). Members are also requested to nominate new candidates for the OPACHE. It would be appreciated if, in consultation with your Hydrological Adviser and/or your National Hydrological Service, you could submit nominations of experts using the attached Nomination Form given in Annex 2. It is also recognized that the experts nominated may come from any Service or Institute from your country. To ensure that information on the background of the experts is available in a uniform manner, it would be appreciated if, in addition to sending the Nomination Form, you could request each of the experts you wish to nominate to fill in electronically the Professional Information Form (available in English only) which can be downloaded at the following website:

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrrp/chy/OPACHEapplication.php>

In considering the nomination of experts I would also like to remind you that the Nomination Form and the Professional Information Forms should be submitted preferably by **30 November 2016** in order to ensure that this information will be available for consideration during CHy-15.

In the event that you do not envisage at this time that your country will be represented at CHy-15, it is particularly important that you consider favourably this invitation to nominate experts to the OPACHE and candidates for position as AWG members. Such a nomination will ensure that experts from your country are considered when selections are made at the session. I hope you appreciate that the ultimate decision regarding the establishment and composition of the Advisory Working Group rests with the Commission.

Information on accommodation

With respect to accommodation, it is advisable to make an early booking. As usual, participants are responsible for making their own arrangements. The local organizers have negotiated an advantageous agreement with the Barceló Aran Mantegna Hotel. You can access the booking form at the following address: <http://meetings.wmo.int/CHy-15>. Please note that availability of rooms in this hotel, the venue of the session, is only guaranteed for bookings made before **5 November 2016**.

Yours faithfully,



(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General

**PROPOSED CHy STRUCTURE
FOR THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD 2017-2020**

Composition of the Advisory Working Group (AWG)

The proposed composition of the AWG is:

1. President of CHy;
2. Vice-president of CHy;
3. Members of the Advisory Working Group (tentatively seven);

Supported by one OPACHE.

Organization of activities

Activities will be organized under three generic themes:

1. "Coordination and Implementation Support", addressed by the president of CHy, the vice-president of CHy, and an AWG Member covering the role of "Project Facilitator";
2. "Measurement, Monitoring and Infosystems" addressed by three AWG members;
3. "Hydrological Applications, Products and Services" addressed by three AWG members.

It is strongly recommended that CHy-15 limit the workload assigned to each of the three groups mentioned above to not more than six activity areas, to ensure that the identified priorities are accomplished.

Furthermore, two additional sets of desired outputs would be achieved by:

1. A set of activities to be supported by the Secretariat, with support of experts from the OPACHE, without direct involvement of AWG members;
 2. A set of activities that in light of limited resources could be implemented only if one or more Members will volunteer to lead their implementation.
-



**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION
COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY**

NOMINATION FORM

**A. EXPERTS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION AS MEMBERS OF
THE ADVISORY WORKING GROUP**

Country: _____

Surname	First name	Tel.	E-mail	Proposed AWG topic (see Annex 1)

Please ensure that for each nominee, a full Professional Information Form in electronic form available at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrp/chy/OPACHEapplication.php> is submitted by **30 November 2016**. Nominations without Professional Information Forms may not be considered. (See Annex 1.)

**B. EXPERTS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION TO UNDERTAKE
THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS MEMBERS OF THE OPACHE**

Surname	First name	Gender	Tel.	E-mail

Please ensure that for each nominee, a full Professional Information Form in electronic form available at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/hwrp/chy/OPACHEapplication.php> is submitted by **30 November 2016**. Nominations without Professional Information Forms may not be considered. (Additional sheets could be used, if required.)

I understand that the above nomination(s) implies a commitment that the nominee(s) will be fully supported by their employing agency(ies) in carrying out his/her duties. I also understand that it is estimated that an expert needs to be able to spend at least one month of work per year during the four-year period. Therefore, when making the above nomination(s), the following essential factors have been taken into consideration:

- (a) The candidate is an expert in the field to which he/she is nominated, and has recent international experience;
- (b) The candidate has a good knowledge of a WMO working language;
- (c) The candidate is ready, willing and able to carry out the duties of the position; and
- (d) The employer of the candidate has ensured his/her availability for the time needed to accomplish the work assigned.

I also understand that, by this advance nomination, the requirement for my prior concurrence (as prescribed under WMO General Regulation 36(a)), to his/her participation in the work of the Commission is met, and this with a view to enhance the possibility for an early activation of the work programme proposed during CHy-15.

Date: _____

Signature of the Permanent Representative: _____

This form is to be completed and sent to:

The Secretary-General
World Meteorological Organization
7 bis, avenue de la Paix
Case postale No. 2300
CH-1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland
Fax: (41 22) 730 80 43

Deadline for submission: **30 November 2016.**
