

**World Meteorological Organization
Executive Council
Capacity Development Panel**

Report of the 11th Meeting (EC-CDP-11)

**23 to 26 September 2025
(Online meeting)**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The eleventh meeting of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-11) was held online from 23 to 26 September 2025. Ms Ko Barrett, Deputy Secretary-General of WMO, opened the meeting, which was chaired by Dr Carla Gulizia, Vice-Chair of the EC-CDP.

In her welcome remarks, Ms Barrett reaffirmed that capacity development remains central to WMO's mission and a priority for WMO leadership. She emphasized three key reflections to guide the Panel's work: (i) the importance of coherence and synergy across WMO activities; (ii) the growing role of innovation and partnerships, particularly in relation to Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Member-to-Member support; and (iii) the need to focus on results that matter to Members, ensuring that capacity development efforts translate into strengthened NMHS performance on the ground. She highlighted that initiatives such as Early Warnings for All (EW4All) and the responsible adoption of AI will not succeed without sustained investment in training and institutional strengthening.

Throughout the meeting, the Panel reaffirmed that capacity development is a cross-cutting function that requires coordination across constituent bodies. Updates from SERCOM, INFCOM and the Research Board demonstrated strengthened collaboration and reinforced the Panel's coordinating role.

The Panel discussed progress in WMO's extrabudgetary (XB) project portfolio, and the WMO Framework of Engagement for Member-to-Member (NMHS) Support. The importance of communicating project deliverables and impacts more broadly was emphasized.

Significant progress was made in refining the description of the WMO Capacity Development Programme, incorporating feedback from Members and expert teams, including clarification of the voluntary contribution's component.

A major new task was launched under the Expert Team on Guidance and Oversight (ET-GO): mapping and analyzing WMO training provision to identify gaps, synergies and efficiencies, with the aim of informing EC deliberations and the next WMO Strategic and Operating Plans.

Recognizing the rapidly evolving landscape of Artificial Intelligence in weather, climate and water services, the Panel agreed that AI will become a standing agenda item for future EC-CDP meetings.

The list of participants is available in Annex I, and the agreed conclusions and actions from EC-CDP-11 are contained in Annex II. All related documents and presentations are available in the meeting webpage at <https://etrp.wmo.int/course/section.php?id=4763>

FULL REPORT

1. Opening of EC-CDP-11 and adoption of the Agenda

The eleventh meeting of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-11) was held online from 23 to 26 September 2025, under the chairmanship of Dr Carla Gulizia, Acting-Chair of the EC-CDP.

The meeting was formally opened by Ms Ko Barrett, Deputy Secretary-General of WMO. In her opening remarks, Ms Barrett welcomed participants and underscored that capacity development is a core priority for WMO leadership. She stressed that coherence across WMO activities is essential to avoid duplication and maximize impact. She further highlighted the urgency of strengthening Member capacities to deliver Early Warnings for All and to adapt to the rapid emergence of AI technologies, noting the strong demand from developing countries for WMO guidance and support.

Dr Véronique Bouchet, Director of the Science and Innovations Department, and Dr Mingmei Li, Director of the Education and Training Office (ETR), also addressed the Panel, reaffirming Secretariat support and the importance of the Panel's guidance in advancing priorities and implementation.

The Agenda and Workplan of EC-CDP-11 were adopted, with the addition of input from Dr Lucas Chamorro, speaking in his capacity as Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) focal point. The input will be taken under Any Other Business.

2. Summary report of activities since EC-CDP-10

Dr Carla Gulizia presented an overview of the Panel's activities since EC-CDP-10, including follow-up to outcomes of EC-79 and ongoing coordination across constituent bodies.

The presentation emphasized continued engagement with technical commissions and expert teams, refinement of the Capacity Development Programme description, and alignment with broader WMO strategic priorities. Members noted the importance of maintaining momentum between sessions and ensuring visibility of progress.

3. Review of Actions

Ms Luciane Veeck (WMO Secretariat, SI/ETR) provided an update on the progress of actions and recommendations arising since the previous meeting.

The Panel reviewed the actions (Action Tracker available in the EC-CDP 2024–2027 Working Area at <https://etrp.wmo.int/mod/url/view.php?id=25568>) and noted progress made on requests related to business continuity management training materials, aviation matters, and coordination of capacity development initiatives.

The Panel emphasized the importance of continued monitoring of actions to ensure timely implementation and alignment with EC and Congress decisions.

4. Updates from SERCOM capacity development activities

Mr Ian Lisk, President of SERCOM and alternate to Dr Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan in EC-CDP-11, briefed the Panel on the wide range of capacity development activities being undertaken across SERCOM's Standing Committees (SCs). He highlighted that these initiatives support Members in strengthening technical skills and operational services through training, updated guidance, and e-learning resources.

Key updates included work by SC-AGR, which is advancing online training on agrometeorological information, rainfall-based crop calendars, drought management and gender integration, with upcoming courses on crop calendars for climate adaptation, drought risk and impact assessments, and pest and disease modelling. SC-AVI is preparing proposed updates to WMO competency frameworks, including guidance for personnel assessed as "not yet competent" and a new VAAC forecaster competency framework, and is finalizing amendments to BIP-M/MT compliance tools to meet the 1 January 2026 regulatory changes.

SC-CLI reported extensive training and workshops to strengthen climate services, including seasonal forecasting, national climate forums, and data stewardship, with particular emphasis on supporting access to climate finance and tailoring services for sectoral benefits. SC-DRR is developing practical training materials on Business Continuity Management, with a preliminary version expected by December 2025 for EC-CDP review. SC-HYD is revising the WMO Basic Instruction Package for Hydrologists and Hydrological Technicians (BIP-H/HT) to align with new definitions of operational hydrology and scientific advances, with EC-CDP input sought in early 2026.

Further, SC-MMO is advancing marine service competencies through distance and face-to-face ice forecasting courses and a Marine Services Competency Assessment Toolkit, while SG-RENE has launched a five-module e-learning course on climate-energy interactions with strong early uptake.

The Panel welcomed the comprehensive update and noted the breadth of activities supporting Members' technical and operational capacities. Members emphasized the importance of maintaining close coordination between SERCOM and EC-CDP, particularly in the context of evolving resource constraints and ongoing organizational reform, to ensure coherence, avoid duplication and support effective dissemination of guidance and training materials. During the agenda-setting discussion, it was also noted that a brief report from the Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) would be presented under Any Other Business.

5. Updates from INFCOM capacity development activities

Ms Jennifer Milton, Capacity Development Coordinator and INFCOM representative to EC-CDP, presented an overview of INFCOM-related capacity development activities.

Ms Milton outlined INFCOM's approach to regional and national development projects, including work by a task team reviewing challenges in hydrometeorological development projects and identifying potential improvements to INFCOM mechanisms. Case studies from beneficiary countries and peer advisors highlighted practical implementation gaps, with the observation that certain Member needs—particularly those related to project implementation—are not yet fully addressed.

Recommendations are being prepared for consideration by the INFCOM Management Group and subsequent sharing with the Panel.

Updates were also provided on training and workshop activities across Standing Committees, including initiatives related to observing systems, instrumentation and traceability, data-processing and prediction systems, and WIS2 implementation. Progress was reported on the development of competency frameworks covering meteorological observations, instrumentation installation and maintenance, instrument calibration, and management of observational programmes, as well as emerging work on hydrometric competencies and operational forecasting skills.

The INFCOM Capacity Development Materials Dashboard, endorsed under INFCOM-3 Decision 10, was reviewed as a tool to improve access to existing training resources. Considerations for its further development include open accessibility, alignment with the new WMO website architecture, user-oriented design, and clear processes for updating and outreach. Survey results from members of the Coordination Mechanism identified recurring challenges, including staff turnover, shortages of trainers and specialized expertise, language constraints, budget limitations for in-person training, and the need for improved needs assessments and post-training evaluation.

In the discussion, Panel members welcomed the update and acknowledged the progress made in strengthening coordination, advancing competency frameworks and improving visibility of training resources. The importance of close collaboration with the Capacity Development Panel and other WMO bodies was emphasized, particularly in light of limited resources and the need to avoid duplication and misalignment.

6. Discussions on the vacant member seat

Dr Carla Gulizia introduced the agenda item by recalling the relevant provisions governing the membership of bodies reporting to the Executive Council, including the process for appointment of members to the EC Capacity Development Panel. She recalled that, in accordance with the Panel's working procedures, the Executive Council has authorized the Panel to appoint replacements for positions that fall vacant during the intersessional period.

To support the selection process, Dr Gulizia presented a proposal to map the skills and experience of current Panel members through a brief self-assessment. The objective is to obtain a clearer picture of the Panel's collective strengths and areas where additional expertise may be beneficial, ensuring that the overall composition reflects the range of competencies required to fulfil its terms of reference. It was emphasized that the exercise is not intended to assess individual performance, but rather to inform a balanced and complementary composition of the Panel.

During the discussion, members acknowledged the importance of maintaining an appropriate mix of expertise and regional representation within the Panel, in line with its mandate and evolving priorities. There was general support for the proposed self-assessment as a practical and transparent tool to guide the identification of a candidate whose skills would complement those already present. Members agreed to submit the requested information to facilitate the next steps in the selection process.

Action 1 (EC-CDP-11): All Panel members to submit the self-assessment of skills and experience.

Actionee(s): All EC-CDP members

Deadline: 26 September 2025

7. Updates from Research Board

The Vice-Chair of the Research Board provided an update on capacity development activities of the Research Board and its affiliated bodies, including the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) programme, World Weather Research Programme (WWRP) and the WMO co-sponsored World Climate Research Programme (WCRP).

GAW highlights included the development of the GAW Compendium on Capacity Development Activities and updates on past and upcoming capacity-building, training and education program activities, such as the Hands-on training on Brewer and Dobson ozone monitoring instruments for Region I (June 2025, Spain) and the upcoming Training Workshop on Air Quality Time Series Analysis and Modelling (April 2026, Chile). GAW capacity development activities and on-line education materials are accessible to all users through the WMO Education and Training Programme Moodle platform.

WWRP highlights included recent events, such as the 9th International Verification Methods Workshop (May 2024, South Africa), the Winter School on Nowcasting Techniques (July 2025, Argentina), and the 8th WMO International Workshop on Monsoons (March 2025, India) as well as the upcoming Weather and Society Conference 2026 (23 - 28 February 2026, Online). Additionally, the WWRP-endorsed Weather and Climate Information Services Early Warnings for Southern Africa Project concluded in June 2025 which enhanced nowcasting capacity in southern Africa.

WCRP highlights included efforts to increase early and mid-career researcher engagement through regular activities, summer schools, workshops, and training courses and updates from the WCRP Academy, which promotes lifelong learning opportunities and global equity in science training. Additionally, the WCRP Global South Inclusion Task Team, which is addressing barriers to global south participation in the WCRP, recently released its first report that includes ways forward in the development of recommendations to address these barriers.

The Panel welcomed continued information sharing and underlined the importance of strengthening research-to-operations linkages, including through identification of Regional Champions. It requested RB to 1) Continue regular information sharing with the Panel on RB activities and documentation related to AI and associated capacity development efforts, and 2) Support identification of key research contributors who could serve as Regional Champions to strengthen science-operations connections.

8. WMO Portfolio of XB Project

Ms Julia Chasco, Programme Officer, presented an overview of the WMO portfolio of projects funded through extrabudgetary (XB) resources, highlighting their contribution to capacity development and long-term goal 4 on closing the capacity gap. As of September 2025, the portfolio comprised 56 active projects and technical advisory services with a total value of approximately CHF 116 million, addressing major weather- and climate-related hazards, including storms, heavy rains, floods and droughts. Support to Members is delivered through direct implementation of projects, provision of technical advisory services, and collaboration with development partners.

The presentation emphasized that institutional strengthening of NMHSs is a central feature of the portfolio, including support for legislative and policy frameworks, national strategic plans, and alignment with broader instruments such as national adaptation plans and early warning roadmaps. More than 30% of project deliverables relate directly to training and competency development across the value chain, often in collaboration with Regional Training Centres. An illustrative example was provided from the Andean region, where successive projects contributed to the evolution and strengthening of the WMO Regional Training Centre in Peru and its collaboration with regional climate centres.

Nearly three-quarters of project deliverables contribute to strengthening forecasting capacity and service delivery in support of Early Warnings for All (EW4All), including improvements in observation systems, data exchange and operational forecasting workflows. The Malawi pilot project on Artificial Intelligence for EW4All was presented as an example of leveraging innovation to build forecasting capacity in countries with limited infrastructure, combining technology transfer with targeted training and operational integration. Updates were also provided on ongoing project management improvement processes and the development of a forward-looking project pipeline.

In the discussion, members welcomed the comprehensive overview and noted in particular the strengthening of Regional Training Centres and the practical examples of project-based capacity development. A question was raised regarding the regional distribution of funding, particularly the significant share allocated to Africa. The Secretariat clarified that this reflects donor priorities, including a focus on least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as eligibility criteria of major funding partners; it was further noted that the current pipeline may contribute to a more balanced regional distribution in the future.

9. WMO Framework of Engagement for Member-to-Member (NMHS) Support

Mr Moyenda Chaponda, Head of Resource Mobilization and Development Partnerships, and Ms Ana Laura Zuanazzi, Associate Partner Coordination Officer, presented the proposed WMO Framework of Engagement for Member-to-Member (NMHSs) Support. The Framework responds to the need for a more systematic and transparent approach to engaging NMHSs as partners in WMO projects funded through voluntary contributions. While member-to-member support has proven effective, it has been applied inconsistently across regions, with limited diversity of participating NMHSs and no standardized process for engagement. The proposed Framework aims to systematize and strengthen

such collaboration, promote peer-to-peer cooperation, and institutionalize contributions in a sustainable manner.

The Framework outlines a structured process, including the establishment of a repository of nominated focal points, issuance of calls for interest, submission of expressions of interest (EOIs), beneficiary Member decision-making, and transparent recordkeeping. It seeks to ensure fairness, broaden participation opportunities and enhance regional inclusivity. Consultations were undertaken in developing the draft, and a pilot phase is envisaged prior to full implementation. The presenters also highlighted two key concerns raised during consultations: that many NMHSs may not be fully aware of their capacity to engage as support providers, and that some may require guidance to position themselves effectively as partners.

In the discussion, Panel members welcomed the initiative to formalize and institutionalize member-to-member engagement and emphasized the importance of addressing regional imbalances and fostering greater South–South and triangular cooperation. The need to support less-experienced NMHSs in building confidence and capacity to participate as partners was underscored, alongside the importance of maintaining transparency and ensuring that the process remains inclusive and responsive to Member needs.

10. Updates from ETR Office and Publications

Dr Mingmei Li provided a Secretariat update on the implementation of the Education and Training Programme (ETRP), highlighting coordination mechanisms across technical departments, initiatives and projects, Regional Training Centres (RTCs), specialized centres and external education partners. She outlined ongoing efforts to strengthen coordination on competency-based training, resource sharing across regular and trust funds, and collaboration with initiatives such as CREWS, SOFF and GCF. Updates were also provided on the development of online learning resources, including the [RTC Course Offerings Dashboard](#) (publicly available) and a Secretariat-wide training event planning and reporting tool, to be piloted in 2025 and to become mandatory in 2026.

Progress was reported on the fellowship programme and the external review of RTCs, with EC-79 having reconfirmed existing RTCs in Argentina, Brazil, Iran and Nigeria, and proposals under review for new RTCs in Ethiopia and Fiji, as well as a new component in Egypt. Looking ahead to 2026, priorities include preparation for SYMET-15, potentially organized back-to-back with a CDP session; the WMO Quadrennial Survey on human resources in NMHSs; strengthened prioritization of training needs through a systematic approach; and improvements to the cost-efficiency, criteria and database management of the fellowship programme.

Dr Li also briefed the Panel on mandatory and programme-related publications to be updated by 2027, including key guidance on education and training in meteorology and hydrology, competency frameworks and fellowship management. Clarifications were provided on the categories of WMO publications and the evolution of the distinction between mandatory and programme-supporting publications, as well as the role of the WMO e-library in ensuring accessibility.

In the discussion, members acknowledged the breadth of activities under ETRP and the importance of improved coordination, data collection and needs assessment to inform future planning. The proposed survey, updates to competency-related publications and the strengthening of RTCs and the fellowship programme were noted as important elements for ensuring that training provision remains aligned with Member needs and evolving strategic priorities.

Action 2 (EC-CDP-11): Secretariat to explore the feasibility of holding the EC-CDP-13 session back-to-back with SYMET-15 in the second half of 2026.

Actionee(s): Secretariat

Deadline: EC-CDP-12

Action 3 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP to contribute to the planning and organization of SYMET-15.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP Chairs and members, and Secretariat

Deadline: SYMET-15 (2026)

Action 4 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP to contribute to the planning of the WMO Survey on the Status of Human Resources in NMHSs.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP Chairs and members, and Secretariat

Deadline: December (2026)

11. Refined description of the Capacity Development Programme

Dr Mingmei Li presented an update on the refinement of the description of the WMO Capacity Development Programme, noting that the action to refine the programme description had been completed in line with the agreed timeline. The refinement process aimed to clarify the scope, structure and components of the Programme, ensuring greater coherence and alignment with WMO strategic priorities and the evolving needs of Members.

The updated description reflects feedback received from Panel members, expert teams and relevant Secretariat units, and seeks to provide a clearer articulation of how capacity development activities—whether funded through regular resources, trust funds or voluntary contributions—contribute collectively to strengthening Member capacities. Particular attention was given to improving the transparency and communication of the Programme’s components and their interlinkages, thereby facilitating more consistent understanding across constituent bodies.

In the discussion, members acknowledged the completion of the refinement process and welcomed the clearer framing of the Programme. The importance of maintaining coherence across technical commissions, initiatives and extrabudgetary activities was reiterated, as well as ensuring that the refined description supports effective coordination and reporting within the broader WMO governance structure.

Action 5 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP Members to provide any final comments on the refined description of the Capacity Development Programme.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP members

Deadline: 17 October 2025

12. Progress report on activities of the Expert Team on Education, Policy, and Competency Frameworks (ET-EPC)

Dr Maria Mamaeva and Dr Somenath Dutta, Co-Chairs of the Expert Team on Education, Policy, and Competency Frameworks (ET-EPC), presented a progress report on the Team's activities.

An update was provided on the ongoing RTC external review process for the 2024–2027 financial period, covering existing RTCs as well as new RTCs and components recommended by Regional Associations. The Team also outlined its engagement in advancing gender equality actions, including collaboration with the EC Gender Focal Point and the Education and Training Office. Planned initiatives include contributing to the enhancement of the WMO gender website, particularly the "Spotlight" section highlighting women in hydrometeorology; collaborating on the development of a common gender terminology adaptable across countries; and contributing to the new Community of Practice (CoP) which is planned to be established as a new initiative by the EC Gender Focal Point.

In the discussion, members welcomed the integration of gender equality and youth engagement considerations into education and competency-related work and noted the importance of ensuring coherence with broader capacity development initiatives. The role of EC-CDP as a knowledge connector within the proposed Community of Practice and in supporting engagement with the EC Gender Focal Point was acknowledged as an important element in strengthening coordination across WMO bodies.

Action 6 (EC-CDP-11): Secretariat to organize a meeting with ET-EPC to coordinate support for their activities.

Actionee(s): Secretariat

Deadline: January 2026

13. Progress report on activities of the Expert Team on Guidance and Oversight of Capacity Development Matters (ET-GO)

Ms Karen McCourt, Co-Chair of the Expert Team on Guidance and Oversight of Capacity Development Matters (ET-GO), presented a progress report on the Team's activities since its establishment. ET-GO has met several times since October 2024 to define its workplan and follow up on requests from the Executive Council and Congress. Actions addressed include peer review support for business continuity training materials and follow-up on aviation-related recommendations, as well as consideration of how the Panel may contribute to strengthening the transfer of research to operations, in line with the Scientific Advisory Panel recommendations.

major proposed task for the current intersessional period is the mapping and analysis of training provision across WMO-related bodies, including the Secretariat, technical departments, Regional Training Centres, Regional Associations, INFCOM, SERCOM and the Research Board. The objective is to identify potential duplications, synergies, gaps and opportunities, and to formulate concrete, actionable recommendations that could inform future activities, including the development of the next WMO Strategic and Operating Plans. The approach will build on existing data sources such as

the WMO Toolbox, RTC reports and forthcoming training needs analyses, while seeking to avoid duplication of ongoing efforts.

In the discussion, members welcomed the proposed focus on coordination and emphasized the importance of clearly defining scope and maintaining a manageable approach. Exchanges highlighted the need for close collaboration with SERCOM, particularly in relation to forthcoming guidance under Early Warnings for All, and with the Education and Training Office in connection with the planned human resources and training survey. The discussion also addressed the broader objective of bridging research and operations, with members underscoring the importance of improving communication and linkages between scientific and operational communities, including through regional engagement and structured coordination mechanisms.

14. Report of activities of CONECT

A report on the activities of the Consortium of WMO Education and Training Collaborating Partners (CONECT) was presented by Dr Winifred Jordaan.

Since its establishment at CONECT-1 (April 2023) and subsequent plenary meeting (CONECT-2, October 2024), the Management Group and five specialized Working Groups have advanced activities including promotion of Basic Instruction Packages (BIPs) and competency frameworks through webinars, development of communication and outreach tools (including a new logo and draft leaflet), and initiatives related to workforce planning and leadership training. Preparations are underway for CONECT-3, to be held in Florence in November 2025 back-to-back with CALMet Conference.

In the discussion, members acknowledged CONECT's role in promoting collaboration among education and training partners and in reducing duplication through information sharing and use of Global Campus tools. The importance of strengthening engagement beyond the Management Group and enhancing communication across regions was noted, as well as the value of continued alignment between CONECT activities and the broader objectives of the Capacity Development Panel.

15. EW4All - Discussions on Capacity Development activities

Mr Cyrille Honoré presented an update on the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative and its implications for capacity development. He recalled that EW4All, announced by the UN Secretary-General in 2022, aims to ensure universal coverage of life-saving early warning systems by 2027 and is aligned with the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. EW4All is not a standalone programme but builds on existing initiatives and partnerships, structured around four pillars, with WMO leading Pillar 2 on detection, observation, monitoring, analysis and forecasting. Progress was reported in areas such as data exchange through WIS 2.0, modernization of observing networks, and expansion of multi-hazard early warning systems, while noting persistent gaps, particularly in impact-based forecasting, GBON compliance and comprehensive capabilities in least developed countries and small island developing States.

The presentation highlighted the growing role of national roadmaps, regional coordination and the WMO Partner Coordination Mechanism (PCM) in aligning projects and reducing duplication, particularly in Africa and the Pacific, with further regional consultations planned. The [EW4All Dashboard and Monitoring and Evaluation](#) framework were identified as tools to track progress across pillars and enhance coordination. While financial commitments are increasing, it was emphasized that funding must be sustained, well-targeted and aligned with national priorities. Capacity development challenges were described as spanning all of its components, with early warning capabilities serving as an aggregate indicator of country maturity.

In the discussion, members acknowledged EW4All as a unifying framework for multi-hazard early warning systems and emphasized the central role of capacity development in achieving the 2027 target. The importance of strengthened coordination across WMO bodies, effective regional engagement and sustained investment in competencies and institutional capacities was underlined, particularly to ensure that progress under Pillar 2 translates into durable national capabilities and improved service delivery.

16. Update on WMO AI for Weather Activities and Capacity Development Issues

Dr Véronique Bouchet, Director of the Science and Innovation Department, provided an update on WMO activities related to Artificial Intelligence for weather and associated capacity development considerations. She highlighted the rapid transformation of the prediction landscape through the emergence of competitive AI-based weather prediction (AI-WP) models, noting both the opportunities and challenges this poses for Members, particularly low- and middle-income countries. The pace of development is unprecedented and has significant implications for infrastructure, workflows and human capacities within NMHSs.

A central theme of the presentation was workforce transformation as a key pillar of change. Dr Bouchet noted that many research and operational institutions are facing skills gaps in relation to AI technologies and underlying knowledge. Recommendations from the Task Team on AI for Weather (TT-AI4WX), as well as outcomes from the WMO AI Conference, were referenced in support of structured approaches to AI capacity-building. Discussions at the Conference included a dedicated breakout session on democratizing AI benefits for low- and middle-income countries, where multiple expressions of interest were received from regional and national centres in Africa to actively contribute to capacity development efforts.

The presentation outlined possible elements of a framework to guide Members through different phases of AI readiness, from pilot experimentation to operational implementation, with coordination between regional and national structures. Proposed actions included establishing AI as a standing agenda item of the Capacity Development Panel; assessing and monitoring Members' evolving needs; developing a WMO-wide strategy for AI-related education and training; updating competency frameworks to reflect AI maturity levels; and curating high-quality training resources through a centralized repository.

In the discussion, members recognized both the transformative potential of AI and the risks of widening capacity gaps if workforce development does not keep pace. There was broad agreement on the importance of sustained oversight by the Panel, strengthened coordination with relevant WMO bodies, and systematic support to ensure that AI-related advances translate into equitable and effective operational capabilities across the Membership.

EC-CDP-11 Agreed conclusion 1: Starting in 2026, every EC-CDP meeting will include an agenda item dedicated to reviewing WMO AI-related activities.

EC-CDP-11 Agreed conclusion 2: The Panel should be regularly consulted on AI-related capacity development and provide advice to EC or JAG-AI, as appropriate.

17. Briefing on the UN Common Country Analysis (CCA) and the Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF)

Ms Laura Paterson, Head of the WMO New York Office, briefed the Panel on the repositioning of the United Nations Development System and its implications for WMO and NMHS engagement at country level. She outlined key elements of the reform process, including the strengthened Resident Coordinator (RC) system, the Development Coordination Office (DCO), and the central role of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF) as the primary instrument for planning and implementing UN development activities in support of the 2030 Agenda. As WMO is largely an agency without a permanent country presence, proactive engagement by NMHSs with Resident Coordinators and participation in the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and Cooperation Framework processes were highlighted as important entry points.

The presentation identified several WMO entry points into the UN Development System, including relationships between Permanent Representatives and Resident Coordinators, engagement with government officials responsible for CCA and CF processes, Secretariat coordination with DCO, and regional engagement mechanisms. Reference was also made to EC-78 Decision 4, which encourages Members to highlight NMHS contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals, engage with Resident Coordinators, and participate in CCA and CF consultations, while requesting the Secretariat to develop training materials and strengthen coordination with the UN system.

In the discussion, members acknowledged the strategic importance of positioning NMHS contributions more effectively within national development planning processes and UN frameworks. The need for practical guidance and capacity-building support to assist NMHSs in navigating national government structures and engaging with Resident Coordinators was emphasized, particularly for least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries.

18. Next Meetings

Ms Luciane Veeck (WMO Secretariat) provided the Panel with an overview of the planning timeline for upcoming meetings of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP). The Panel noted the tentative schedule for the next EC-CDP session and interim virtual exchanges. The Panel was also reminded of the dates agreed for the annual meetings to be held in 2026:

- Twelfth Meeting of the EC Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-12) – online: 16–17 February 2026.
- Thirteenth Meeting of the EC Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-13) – hybrid: 21–25 September 2026.

19. Any other Business

Under Any Other Business, Dr Lucas Chamorro, speaking in his capacity as Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) focal point, provided a brief update on HCP training-related activities. He informed the Panel that training is supported through both Regular Budget and extrabudgetary project activities. At present, five online trainer-led courses and one face-to-face training are being conducted for WMO Members, and training materials continue to be developed in collaboration with the Education and Training Office (ETR) and infrastructure colleagues.

In the discussion, members took note of the ongoing efforts and the integration of hydrological training within broader capacity development activities. The importance of continued coordination with the Capacity Development Panel and relevant Secretariat units was acknowledged to ensure coherence, visibility and alignment with wider WMO training and competency development initiatives.

20. Closure of EC-CDP-11

In her closing remarks, Dr Carla Gulizia, Acting-Chair of the EC Capacity Development Panel, noted that the discussions over the three days had reaffirmed the central importance of capacity development to WMO's mission and thanked members for their active engagement and constructive contributions throughout the meeting. She expressed appreciation for the collaborative spirit of the Panel and for the substantive exchanges held across all agenda items.

Dr Gulizia also conveyed her sincere thanks to the WMO Secretariat for its dedicated support in preparing and facilitating the session, acknowledging in particular the efforts of colleagues who contributed to the organization of the meeting. Members joined in expressing appreciation for the Chair's leadership and the Secretariat's assistance.

With those remarks, the Acting-Chair formally closed the Eleventh Meeting of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel and looked forward to reconvening at EC-CDP-12 in February 2026.

ANNEXES

Annex-I List of Participants EC-CDP-11

CDP Members:

Mr John Ogren
Dr Somenath Dutta
Dr Carla Gulizia
Dr Winifred Jordaan
Ms Karen McCourt
Ms Jennifer Milton
Prof. Peter Odjugo
Prof. Mary Scholes
Dr Albert Martis
Dr Maria Mamaeva
Mr Volkan Coşkun
Prof Dwikorita Karnawati
Mr Evan Thompson
Dr Lucas Chamorro
Mr Daouda Konate – Excused. Nominated alternate
Dr YU Yubin- Excused. Nominated alternate
Dr Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan - Excused. Nominated alternate
Dr Toky Nandrasana Ramanakoto - Excused

NOTE: Excuse notes were received from Mr Daouda Konate, Dr YU Yubin, Dr Toky Nandrasana Ramanakoto, and Dr Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan, who could not attend the meeting. Alternates were nominated by Mr Daouda Konate, Dr YU Yubin and Dr Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan to represent them in the meeting.

Alternates and Advisors:

Mr Ferdinand Eklou - Alternate to Mr Daouda Konate
Ms CHEN - Alternate to Dr YU Yubin
Mr Ian Lisk – Alternate to Dr Ardhasena Sopaheluwakan
Mr Murat Altinyollar, and Ms Merve Senol - Advisors to Mr Volkan Coşkun
Dr Nelly Florida Riama, Mr Adityawarman, Mr Bagus Rachmat Rievan, Ms Anni Arumsari, and Mr Iqmal Ahmad - Advisors to Prof. Karnawati
Ms WANG - Advisor to Dr YU Yubin

Joint Inspection Unit (JIU):

Sharon Messerschmidt
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WMO Secretariat:

Ko Barrett
Véronique Bouchet
Mingmei Li
Paul Bugeac
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Luciane Veeck
Yuliana Purwanti
Eunjin Choi
Cyrille Honoré
Laura Paterson
Giacomo Teruggi

Daniel Kull
Ana LauraZuanazzi
Maria JuliaChasco
Moyenda Chaponda
LinaSjaavik
Fan Hong
Lauren Stuart
Dominique Berod
Emma Liu
Rokhaya Ba
Silvana Alcoz

Annex-II Agreed conclusions and actions from EC-CDP-11

The EC-CDP-11 agreed on the following conclusions:

EC-CDP-11 Agreed conclusion 1: Starting in 2026, every EC-CDP meeting will include an agenda item dedicated to reviewing WMO AI-related activities.

EC-CDP-11 Agreed conclusion 2: The Panel should be regularly consulted on AI-related capacity development and provide advice to EC or JAG-AI, as appropriate.

The EC-CDP-11 agreed on the following actions:

Action 1 (EC-CDP-11): All Panel members to submit the self-assessment of skills and experience.

Actionee(s): All EC-CDP members

Deadline: 26 September 2025

Action 2 (EC-CDP-11): Secretariat to explore the feasibility of holding the EC-CDP-13 session back-to-back with SYMET-15 in the second half of 2026.

Actionee(s): Secretariat

Deadline: EC-CDP-12

Action 3 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP to contribute to the planning and organization of SYMET-15.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP Chairs and members, and Secretariat

Deadline: SYMET-15 (2026)

Action 4 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP to contribute to the planning of the WMO Survey on the Status of Human Resources in NMHSs.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP Chairs and members, and Secretariat

Deadline: December (2026)

Action 5 (EC-CDP-11): EC-CDP Members to provide any final comments on the refined description of the Capacity Development Programme.

Actionee(s): EC-CDP members

Deadline: 17 October 2025

Action 6 (EC-CDP-11): Secretariat to organize a meeting with ET-EPC to coordinate support for their activities.

Actionee(s): Secretariat

Deadline: January 2026