

WMO:

A walk through for *Permanent Representatives*



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization

Organisation météorologique mondiale



**“WMO IS THE ORIGINAL NETWORKER
THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE ROLE OF
WMO WILL BE EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IN
FUTURE.”**

***Kofi Annan
Former Secretary-General of the United Nations***

WMO – then and now

- Intergovernmental organization established in 1950
- Coordinates the activities of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs)
- 193 Members (187 States + 6 Territories)
- Originated from the International Meteorological Organization founded in 1873
- Specialized Agency of the United Nations since 1951 for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences



WMO Mission

To provide **world leadership in expertise and international cooperation in weather, climate, hydrology and water resources, and related environmental issues***, and thereby to contribute to the safety and well being of people throughout the world and to the economic benefit of all nations.

* *Explicitly reflected in the amendment to the preamble to the WMO Convention, adopted by Cg-XV*



Top-level Objectives of WMO

- a) To **facilitate worldwide cooperation** in the establishment of networks of stations for the making of meteorological observations as well as hydrological and other geophysical observations related to meteorology, and to **promote the establishment and maintenance of centres** charged with the provision of meteorological and related services
- b) To **promote the establishment and maintenance of systems** for the rapid exchange of meteorological and related information
- c) To **promote standardization of meteorological and related observations** and to **ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics**
- d) To **further the application of meteorology** to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities
- e) To **promote activities in operational hydrology** and to **further close cooperation between meteorological and hydrological services**
- f) To **encourage research and training in meteorology** and, as appropriate, in related fields, and to **assist in coordinating international aspects such as research and training**



Scope of the Strategic Plan (2020-2023)

(Long term goals-2030 vision)

- **Better serve societal needs:** Delivery of authoritative, accessible, user oriented and fit-for-purpose information and services
- **Enhance Earth system Observations & Predictions:** Strengthening the technical foundation for the future
- **Advance Targeted Research:** Leveraging leadership in science to improve understanding of the Earth system for enhanced services
- **Close the capacity gap:** on weather, climate and hydrological and related services
- **Strategically realign the structure and programmes of the Organization:** for effective policy-making, decision making and implementation



WMO STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-23

VISION 2030

A world where **all nations**, especially the **most vulnerable**, are **more resilient** to the **socioeconomic impact of extreme weather, climate, water and other environmental events**, and **empowered** to boost their **sustainable development** through the **best possible weather, climate and water services**

OVERARCHING PRIORITIES

Preparedness for, and reducing losses from hydrometeorological extremes

Climate-smart decision-making to build resilience and adaptation to climate risk

Socioeconomic value of weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services

CORE VALUES

Accountability for Results and Transparency

Collaboration and Partnership

Inclusiveness and Diversity

LONG-TERM GOALS

1 Services



Better serve societal needs

2 Systems



Enhance Earth system observations and predictions

3 Science



Advance targeted research

4 Support to Members



Close the capacity gap

5 Smart Organization



Strategic realignment of structure and programmes

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

FOCUSED ON 2020-23

- Strengthen **national multi-hazard early warning/alert systems**
- Broaden provision of **policy- and decision-supporting climate, water and weather services**

- Optimize **observation data acquisition**
- Improve access to, exchange and management of **Earth system observation data and products**
- Enable access and use of **numerical analysis and prediction products**

- Advance **scientific knowledge of the Earth system**
- Enhance **science-for-service value chain** to improve predictive capabilities
- Advance **policy-relevant science**

- Enable developing countries to **provide and utilize essential weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services**
- Develop and sustain **core competencies and expertise**
- Scale up **partnerships**

- Optimize WMO **constituent body structure**
- Streamline WMO **programmes**
- Advance **equal, effective and inclusive participation**



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Major achievements (1)

- **Free and unrestricted exchange** of meteorological and related data and products, essential for all real-time weather, climate, water and related environmental services, as well as for assessment of the evolution of the climate system
- **International standards** for meteorological and related observations to ensure high quality and inter-comparability of data – a vital feature for detecting climate change and developing global weather and climate models and related services
- **Capacity-development** in NMHSs throughout the world
- Promoting **science and technology** to transform leading-edge research into useful products and services
- **International leadership** as the recognized leader in the United Nations System with respect to the monitoring and prediction of weather, climate, water and related environmental conditions



Major achievements (2)

- WMO/UNEP convened First meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for UNFCCC
- Improvement in the range and accuracy of weather forecasts: **today a five day weather forecast is as reliable as a two-day forecast 20 years ago**
- Weather forecasts **delivered around the world in a matter of hours**
- El Niño can often be skilfully forecasted **months in advance**
- Global **awareness about climate change** and the dangers posed by natural hazards
- Improved **assessment and management of water resources**
- Awarding more than **3000 fellowships** in the last decade for the training of scientists, thereby raising the level of scientific knowledge in over **150 countries**
- **IPCC awarded Nobel Peace prize in 2007**
- **2009 Launch of UN system-wide Global Framework on Climate Services (GFCS) for accurate and timely information on climate**
- **IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) relied heavily on WCRP products**



Challenges for WMO Members

- **Supporting sustainable development**
- **Conventions and conclusions of world conferences**
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations**
- **<https://public.wmo.int/en/our-mandate/what-we-do/wmo-contributing-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs>**

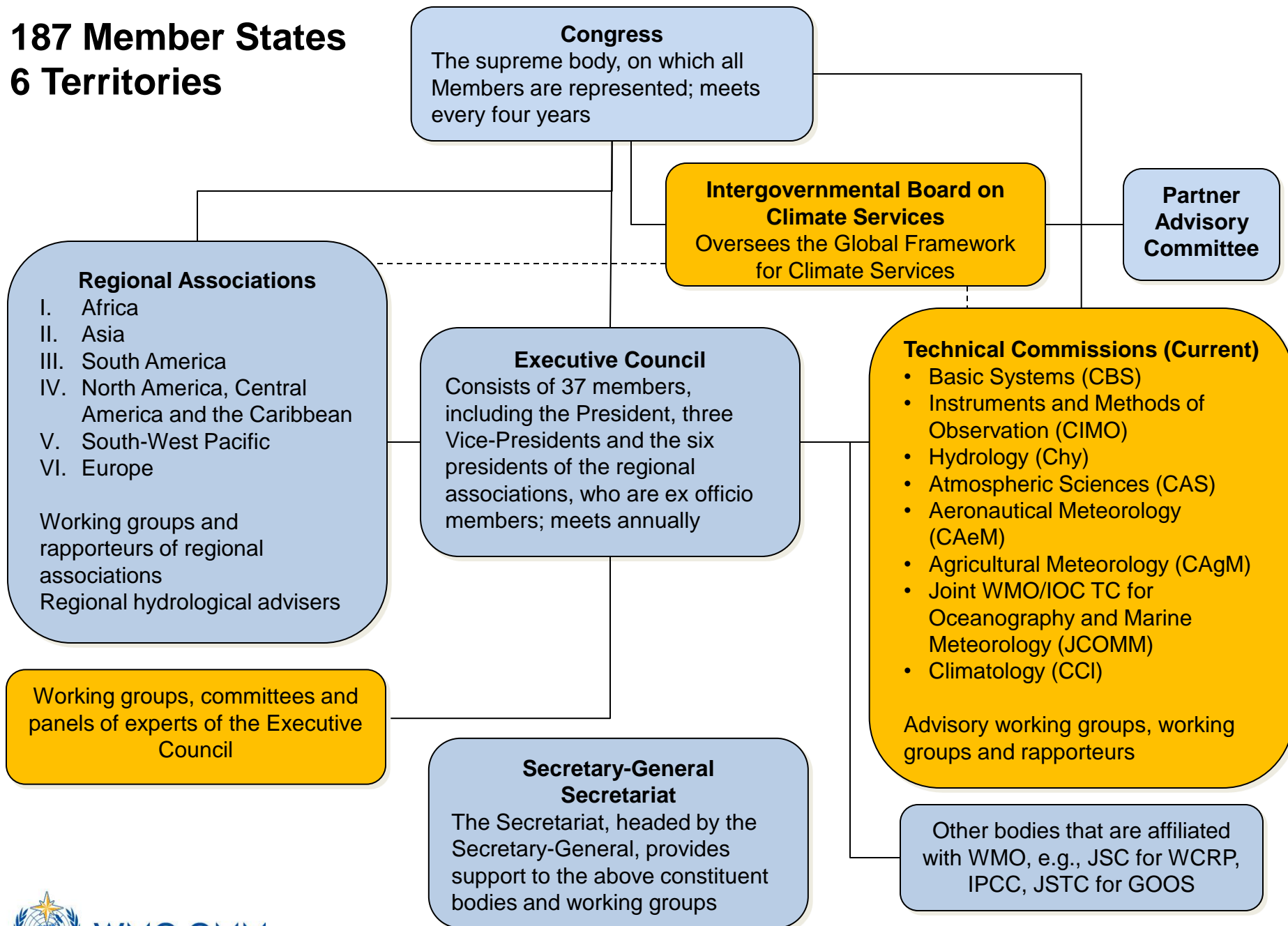


Challenges in Meteorology

- **Sustainability of the meteorological infrastructure**
- **Access to new technologies**
- **Capacity development**
- **Technical co-operation**
- **Partnership**
- **New products**



187 Member States 6 Territories



World Meteorological Congress,

the supreme body of the Organization, assembles delegates of Members **once every four years to:**

- **Determine general policies** for the fulfilment of the purposes of the Organization
- **Consider membership** of the Organization
- **Determine the General, Technical, Financial and Staff Regulations**
- **Establish and coordinate the activities of constituent bodies** of the Organization and the **Intergovernmental Board on Climate Services**
- **Approve strategic plans and budget** for the following financial period;
- **Elect the President and Vice-Presidents** of the Organization and **members of the Executive Council**
- **Appoint the Secretary-General**

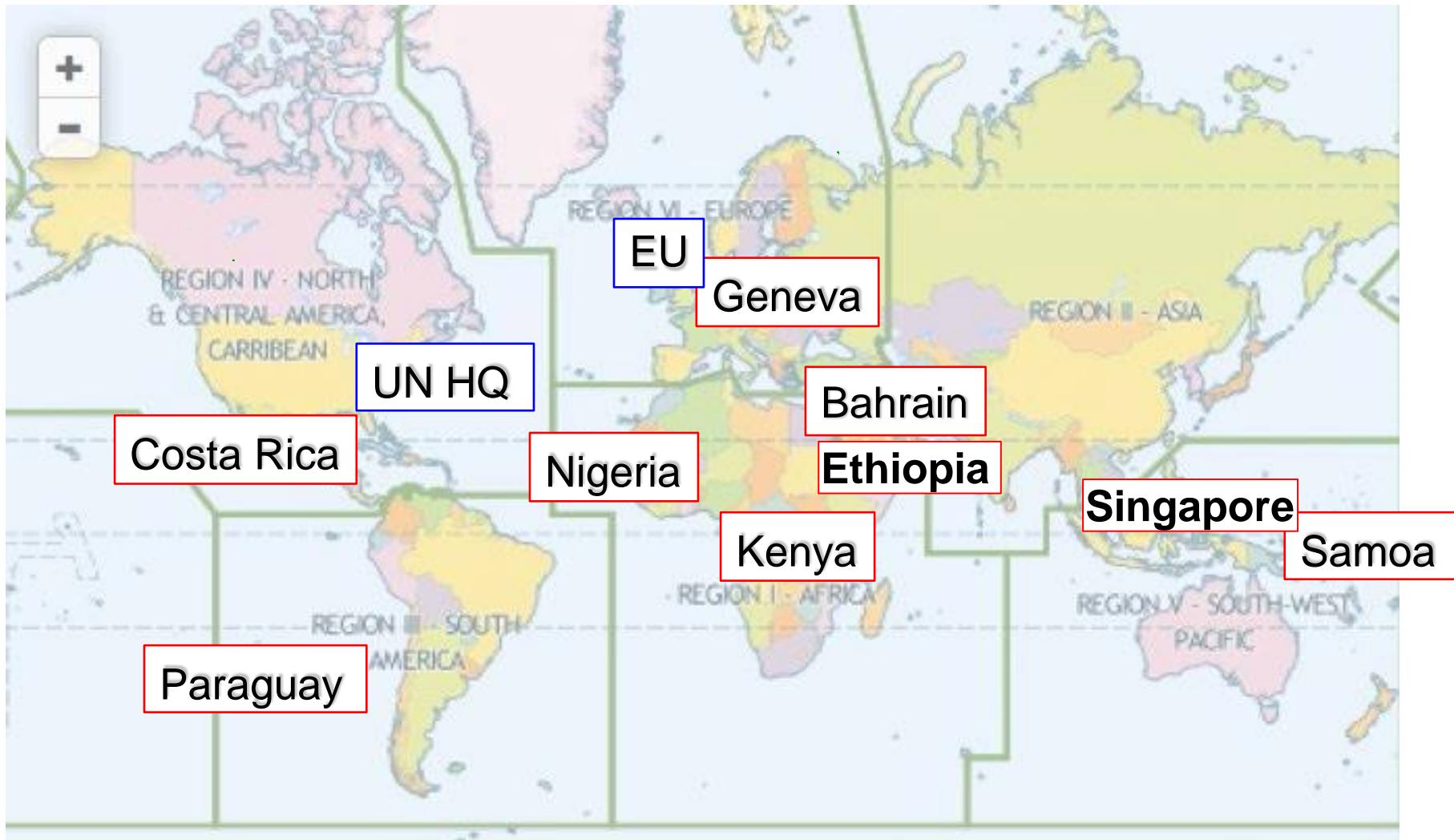
The Executive Council

The **executive body of the Organization**, which **meets annually**, in order to:

- Implement **decisions of Congress**
- Coordinate the **programmes**
- Examine the utilization of **budgetary resources**, consider and take action on **recommendations of regional associations and technical commissions** and guide their work programme
- Provide **technical information, counsel and assistance** in the fields of activity of the Organization, and studies and take **action on matters affecting international meteorology** and related activities
- The Council is **composed of 37 directors** of National Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services, serving in an individual capacity



REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND REGIONAL OFFICES



REFORM MAPPING

BEFORE

Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology

Commission for Agricultural Meteorology

Commission for Climatology

Commission for Hydrology (in discussion)

Commission for Basic Systems

Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation

Global Climate Observing System

Commission for Atmospheric Sciences

World Climate Research Programme

Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for
Oceanography and Marine Meteorology

AFTER



**Commission for Weather,
Climate, Water and Related
Environmental Services
and Applications
(Services Commission)**



**Commission for Observation,
Infrastructure and
Information Systems
(Infrastructure Commission)**



Research Board

**Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for
Oceanography and Marine Meteorology**



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General Regulations

Permanent Representatives of Members (Reg. 6)

- a) Each Member shall designate, by written notification to the Secretary-General, a Permanent Representative who should be the Director of the Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Service, to act on technical matters for the Member between sessions of Congress. Subject to the approval of their respective governments, Permanent Representatives should be the normal channel of communications between the Organization and their respective countries and shall maintain contact with the competent authorities, governmental or non-governmental, of their own countries on matters concerning the work of the Organization.
- b) Each Member shall appoint, in consultation with the Permanent Representative, a Hydrological Adviser who preferably should be the Director of the respective National Hydrological Service or other national hydrological agency. The Member shall notify the Secretary-General of such appointment. The Hydrological Adviser should be consulted by and advise the Permanent Representative with respect to operational hydrology and its application to water management.

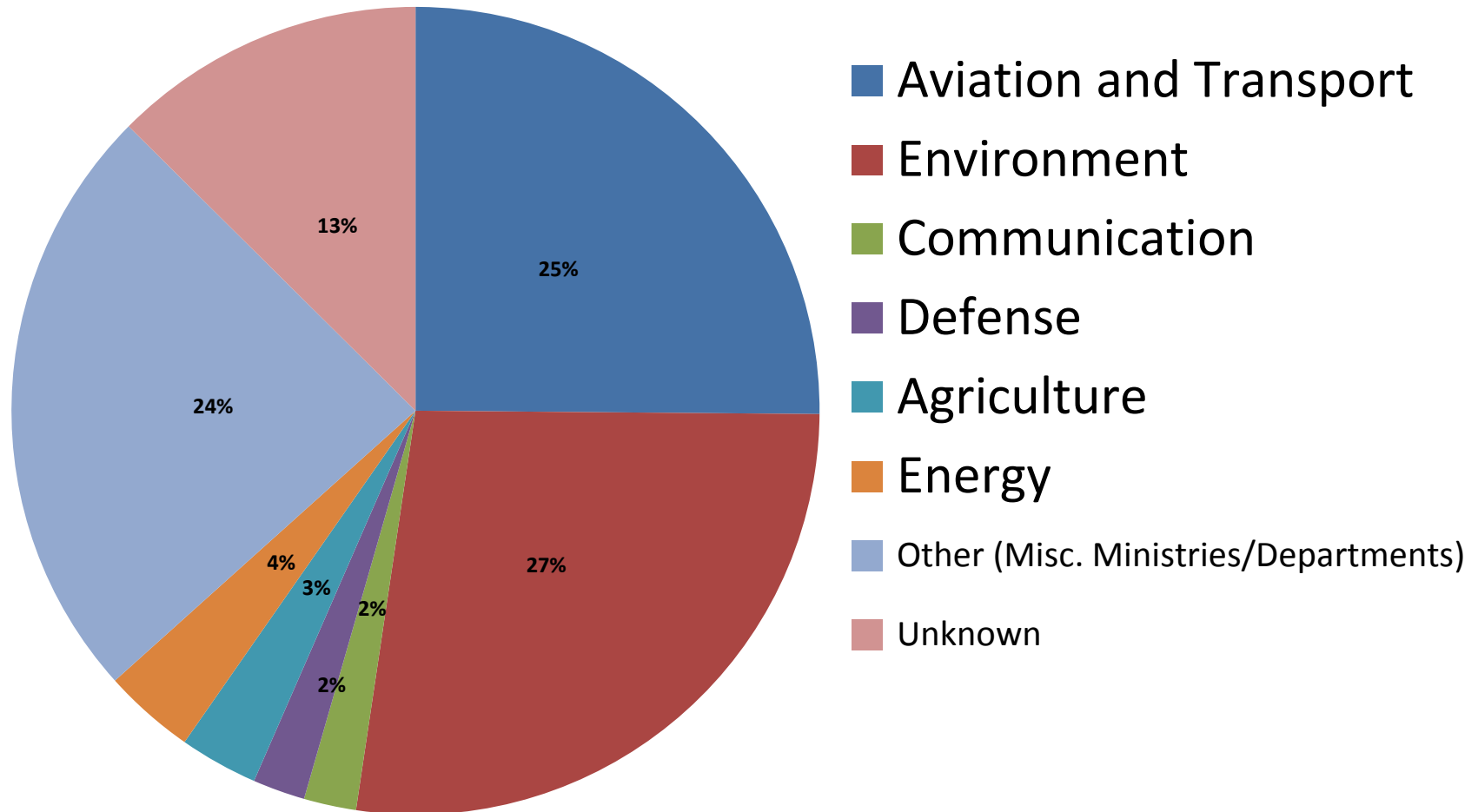


Online communication mechanisms

- **WMO Community platform:**
 - includes Composition of WMO (Pub 5) and Partner database
 - interactive database for real time updates and management of contacts, including by Members
- **E-voting for elections by correspondence** (only PRs as NORMAL channels of communication)



Location of Meteorological Service Providers within the Government (2018)



Policy Matters addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1)

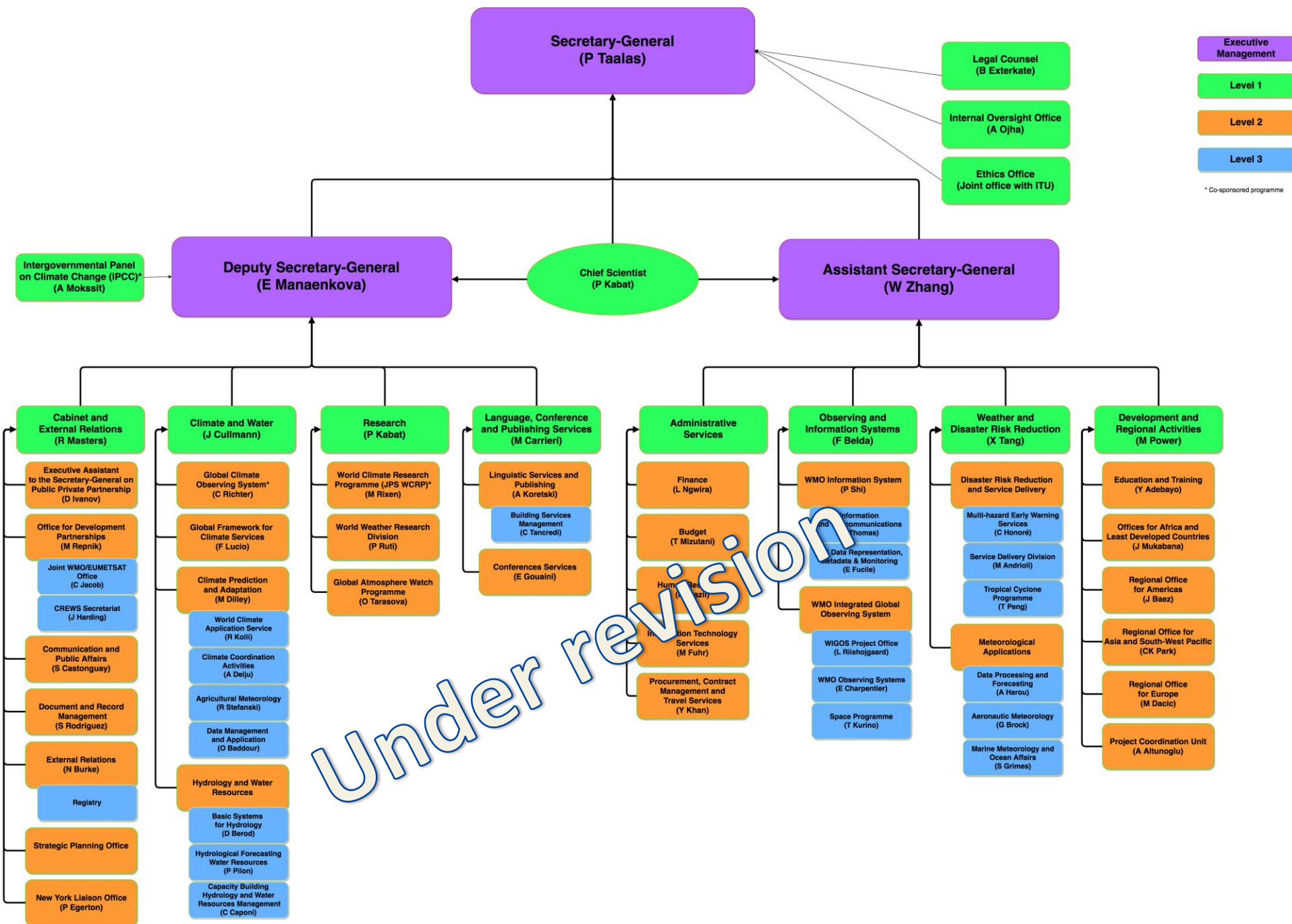
- All matters related to **assessed contributions**
- Submission of the **Programme and Budget** of the Organization as well as the documents to be considered by Congress at its quadrennial session
- Invitations to **sessions of constituent bodies**, namely Congress, regional associations and technical commissions (except for the Executive Council)
- Invitation to indicate **membership in Technical Commissions**
- Request to **assist members of the Executive Council** to participate in the annual sessions of the Council
- Request for the **issuance of credentials** for attendance of national delegates to constituent body sessions – Congress, regional associations and technical commissions (except for the Executive Council)



Policy Matters addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2)

- Invitation to **ministerial meetings** organized by WMO
- Request for the **nominations of candidates** for the International Meteorological Prize of WMO
- Election by correspondence of **WMO officers** (Vice-President of WMO) as provided for in the General Regulations
- Invitation to consider proposing **candidates** for the position of the Secretary-General in preparation of the quadrennial Congress
- **Matters of a political nature** that may be national, regional or international
- **Others matters**, decided by the constituents bodies (Congress, Executive Council, regional associations or technical commissions) of the Organization or as necessary





WMO External Relations

Liaison with PRs of Members

- Keep PRs informed of the **outcomes of UN General Assembly and EC session** in timely manner
- Keep PRs informed of **WMO participation in UN significant events** (SIDS, Sendai, SDGs etc.)
- **Maintain contact and liaise** with external relations offices of NMHS
- **Encourage new membership** of Organization

Liaison with Permanent Missions in Geneva

- **Keep Missions informed** of WMO activities and event participation



The United Nations System

UN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

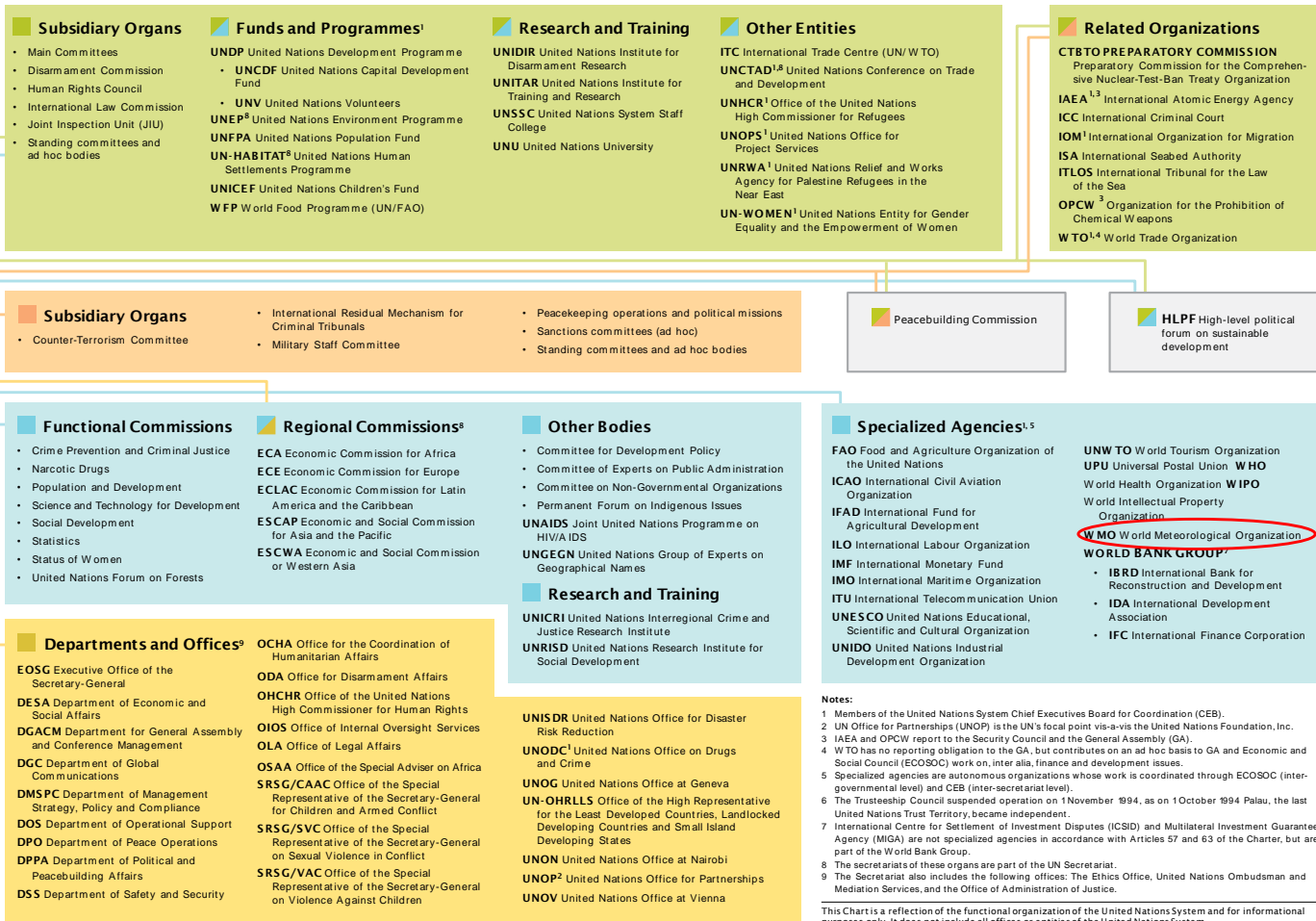
SECURITY COUNCIL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

SECRETARIAT

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL⁶



Notes:

- 1 Members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).
- 2 UN Office for Partnerships (UNOP) is the UN's focal point vis-a-vis the United Nations Foundation, Inc.
- 3 IAEA and OPCW report to the Security Council and the General Assembly (GA).
- 4 WTO has no reporting obligation to the GA, but contributes on an ad hoc basis to GA and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) work on, inter alia, finance and development issues.
- 5 Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations whose work is coordinated through ECOSOC (inter-governmental level) and CEB (inter-secretariat level).
- 6 The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994, as on 1 October 1994 Palau, the last United Nations Trust Territory, became independent.
- 7 International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) are not specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter, but are part of the World Bank Group.
- 8 The secretariats of these organs are part of the UN Secretariat.
- 9 The Secretariat also includes the following offices: The Ethics Office, United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and the Office of Administration of Justice.

This Chart is a reflection of the functional organization of the United Nations System and for informational purposes only. It does not include all offices or entities of the United Nations System.

WMO in UN Inter-agency Coordination

- **Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)**
 - *High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP)*
 - *High-level Committee on Management (HLCM)*
 - *UN Development Group (UNDG)*
- **Mechanisms and networks of HLCP**
 - *UN Water*
 - *UN Oceans*
 - *UN Energy*
 - *CEB-climate change*
- **Environment Management Group (EMG)**
- **UN Communications Group (UNCG)**
- **ISDR**
- **Other inter-agency mechanisms and networks**

UN Coordination on Climate Change: Areas (conveners)

5 Focus Areas

- Adaptation (HLCP WGCC – All Agencies, Funds and Programmes)
- Technology transfer (UNIDO, UNDESA)
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (FAO, UNDP, UNEP)
- Capacity Building (UNDP, UNEP)
- Financing (WB, UNDP)

4 Cross Cutting Areas

- **Science, Assessment, Monitoring and Early Warning Climate Knowledge (WMO, UNESCO)**
- Supporting Global, Regional and National Action (UNDP, UNDESA, UN Regional Commissions)
- Public awareness (UN Communication Group, UNEP)
- Climate-neutral UN (UNDP, UNEP)

UN Coordination on Climate Change: Sectors (conveners)

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| • Energy | UN-Energy |
| • Agriculture | FAO, IFAD, WFP |
| • Water | UN-Water |
| • Oceans | UN-Oceans |
| • Forestry& Fishery | FAO |
| • Transport | IMO, ICAO, UPU |
| • Health | WHO |
| • Disaster Risk Reduction | ISDR, WMO |
| • Human Settlements | UN-Habitat |
| • Education | UNESCO |
| • Industry | UNIDO, WIPO |

Abbreviations and Acronyms used

GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GOOS	Global Ocean Observation System
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
JSTC	Joint Scientific and Technical Committee
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank
WCC	World Climate Conference

Thank you



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