

Executive Council

Abridged Final Report of the Seventy-first Session

Geneva

17–19 June 2019

Resolution 7 (EC-71)

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PANEL

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Noting:

- (1) Resolution 71 (Cg-18) – The Education and Training Programme and delivery mechanism,
- (2) Resolution 72 (Cg-18) – The WMO Global Campus Initiative,
- (3) Resolution 74 (Cg-18) – Closing the capacity gap: scaling up effective partnerships for investments in sustainable and cost-efficient infrastructure and service delivery,
- (4) Resolution 80 (Cg-18) - Geneva Declaration – 2019: Building Community for Weather, Climate and Water Actions,
- (5) Resolution 50 (Cg-17) - Capacity Development Programme,
- (6) Resolution 51 (Cg-17) - WMO Education and Training Programme,
- (7) Resolution 18 (EC-64) and Resolution 16 (EC-65) – WMO Strategy for Capacity Development and Capacity Development Implementation Plan,
- (8) Resolution 9 (EC-68) – Update to the Terms of Reference of the Executive Council Panel of Experts on Education and Training,
- (9) Resolution 4 (EC-67) – Terms of Reference of the Executive Council Panel on Capacity Development,

Considering that closing the gap in National Meteorological and Hydrological Services' capacity is one of the Long-term Goals of the 2020-2023 Strategic and Operating Plan, capacity development is therefore a major cross-cutting activity of WMO, including the work of all constituent bodies, enhancing the knowledge and expertise of NMHSs and improving the quality of products and services delivered to users,

"Goal 4 of the WMO Strategic Plan, Close the capacity gap on weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services: Enhancing service delivery capacity of developing countries to ensure availability of essential information and services needed by governments, economic sectors and citizens"

Taking into account the need to maximize collective efforts across the WMO and development partners,

Decides,

- (1) To establish a Capacity Development Panel;

- (2) To agree on the Terms of Reference for the Panel (as contained in the annex to this resolution);

Invites Members to continue to support all capacity development initiatives of WMO;

Urges Members to enable their relevant experts to contribute to WMO activities on capacity development;

Also urges Members to avail of resources, financial and in-kind, in support of capacity development activities;

Requests the Secretary-General to provide Members with timely and comprehensive reference material of the Country Support Initiative to further clarify the practical implementation, including further refinement of the respective roles and responsibilities of stakeholders as referenced in [Cg-18/INF. 8.3](#), and provide examples of its application for Members' familiarization with the Initiative.

Note: This resolution replaces:

- (1) Resolution 9 (EC-68) – Update of the Terms of Reference of the Executive Council Panel of Experts on Education and Training,
- (2) Resolution 4 (EC-67) – Terms of Reference of the Executive Council Panel on Capacity Development.
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Annex to Resolution 7 (EC-71)

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PANEL

1. Terms of Reference

The Panel will be responsible to the Executive Council through the Technical Coordination Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee. It will monitor the priorities of, and activities under, the WMO Strategic Plan, the WMO Capacity Development Strategy and WMO Gender Equality Policy, including institutional, infrastructural, procedural and human resources capacity development specifically:

- (i) Identify policy-related gaps in the capacity of NMHSs to exchange data, to deliver adequate services, to comply with WMO Standards and recommended practices, bearing in mind the Geneva Declaration 2019,
- (ii) Provide guidance and oversight regarding WMO efforts to strengthen assistance to the NMHSs of developing countries. Guidance could be along the lines enumerated in the annex to these Terms of Reference,
- (iii) Review education and training policies, qualification and competency standards, Regional Training Centre assessments, and WMO Global Campus activities,
- (iv) Identify training needs and give guidance on how to strengthen the capacity of training institutions, as well as recommend training activities to address gaps in formal and continuing education,
- (v) Oversee and guide the implementation of the tasks of the Executive Council according to Resolution 74 (Cg-18). In particular, ensure that WMO activities that support capacity development, including the Country Support Initiative and VCP, as well as WMO-related CREWS activities, are complementary and take into consideration the

unique national context of Members.

- (vi) Review and analyse gaps in the WMO Gender Equality Action Plan and provide guidance regarding WMO efforts in gender equality.
- (vii) Provide reports and recommendations on WMO capacity development to the Policy Advisory and Technical Coordination Committees for consideration by the EC.
- (viii) Take into account the work of the technical commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council as it pertains to capacity development.

2. Composition

- (i) The Panel will be chaired either by a Vice-President of the Organization or a designated member of the Executive Council. If the Chair cannot attend a session of the Panel, she/he will appoint a Panel member to chair the session in her/his absence,
- (ii) In addition to the Chair, the Panel will consist of a maximum of twelve core members, each of whom will sit in a personal capacity,
- (iii) A representative of presidents of regional associations and a representative of WMO Regional Training Centres will be in the composition and appointed by the Executive Council,
- (iv) The remaining ten core members will be appointed by the Executive Council, based on the nominations of Permanent Representatives, on the basis of their professional expertise in institutional infrastructural, procedural and human resources capacity development in the fields of meteorology, climatology, hydrology, institutional, legal and education and training matters, taking into account the need for the Panel to be balanced across the different components of capacity development to have an appropriate technical, geographical and gender balance in considering the most highly qualified candidates, using the process described in section 3,
- (v) The Chair of the Panel will invite representatives of funding and development agencies including official development agencies, regional and subregional economic commissions, the World Bank, regional development banks and experts and representatives of stakeholder communities in capacity development to participate in the work of the Panel, as appropriate,
- (vi) In addition to acting in a personal capacity, Panel members will be expected to maintain regular contact with technical commissions to promote cross-cutting coordination and information exchange,
- (vii) Members will normally serve for a period of four years.

3. Process for appointment of members

In addition to the Panel members appointed by the Executive Council as described in 2. above, ten Panel members will be appointed by the Executive Council through a transparent process as follows:

- (i) The Secretary-General will write to Members, with copy to Hydrological Advisers and the presidents of regional associations and technical commissions, advising them of the opportunity to nominate one person with appropriate skills for consideration by the Executive Council for the EC Capacity Development Panel,
- (ii) The Secretary-General will review the qualifications and submit a prioritized list of candidates to the Executive Council (or to the President of WMO in the inter-sessional period),
- (iii) The Council (or the President on behalf of the Council in accordance with General Regulation 9) will appoint members of the Panel from the list of candidates compiled

by the Secretary-General. The Council will authorize the President to fill any positions that fall vacant during the intersessional period using the list approved by EC.

Working procedures

The Panel will:

- (a) Normally meet every year;
- (b) Make effective use of electronic forms for coordination and collaboration.

Annex to the Terms of Reference of the Executive Council Panel on Capacity Development

The Panel could, *inter alia*, provide guidance to WMO along the following lines:

- (i) Mechanisms to enhance the collection and sharing of up-to-date information relating to the development of NMHSs (e.g. CPDB/Extranet, surveys, national assessments, ...);
 - (ii) Actions taken to build on existing capacities of NMHSs in developing countries, such as:
 - a. The facilitation of twinning arrangements and other innovative bilateral cooperation,
 - b. Strategies to leverage UN system and other development partner initiatives,
 - c. Advocacy efforts to governments, end-users, decision-makers on the socioeconomic benefits of investments in NMHSs,
 - d. Assistance to NMHSs to incorporate WMO and national requirements into national policy, legislative frameworks and national development plans,
 - e. Efforts to increase training and long-term education for developing countries,
 - f. Efforts to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate projects,
 - g. Promotion of principles for global meteorology, hydrology and climatology including authoritative voice, common standards, data and product sharing,
 - h. Review the activities of the technical commissions and regional associations aimed at developing, communicating and assisting NMHSs in developing countries to comply with WMO standards and recommended practices.
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