



World Meteorological Organization

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Seventy-Second Session

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Videoconference

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Submitted by:  
Chair, Capacity  
Development Panel

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## REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PANEL

### 1. Introduction

The membership of the Capacity Development Panel (CDP) was constituted in accordance with Resolution 7 (EC-71). After a rigorous screening of nominations taking into account *inter alia*, gender, expertise and regional distribution, on the recommendation of the Secretary-General and in consultation with the Chair of the Panel, the Third Vice-President of WMO, the membership of the Panel was approved by the President of WMO on behalf of the EC (see also INF. 2.1) as follows: RA-I: Ms Winifred JORDAAN (South Africa) and Ms Raholijao NIRIVOLOLONA (Madagascar); RA-II: Dr Somenath DUTTA (India) and Mr Zhiqiang WANG (China); RA-III: Ms Carla GULIZIA (Argentina); RA-IV: Mr David FARRELL (British Caribbean Territories) and Mr John OGREN (USA); RA-V: Dr Dwikorita KARNAWATI (Indonesia); RA-VI: Ms Karen McCOURT (UK) and Ms Anna TIMOFEEVA (Russian Federation); representative of the Presidents of RAs: Mr Evan THOMPSON (acting PRA-IV); and Representative of WMO RTCs: Prof. Peter ODJUGO (Nigeria).

### 2. Issues discussed at the first session

The first session of the Panel, held on 26 and 27 August 2020 by videoconference, was chaired by the Vice Chair, Mr John OGREN because of the unavailability of the Chair. Due to COVID-19 pandemic the Panel, the meeting was held through videoconferencing and a blended approach was taken, namely. Members of the Panel were invited to make written contributions on the agenda ahead of the session. The contributions were posted on a Moodle site, administered by the Secretariat and a synthesis document was prepared. Members of the Panel have also reviewed and made further inputs to a synthesis document. With this background work already done, the Panel was well placed to arrive at tangible outcomes from its deliberations during the meeting.

The meeting deliberated on the following: (a) Election of Vice-Chair and Rapporteur; (b) Rules of Procedure (RoP); (c) Approaches to collaboration between the Capacity Development Panel and Constituent Bodies; (d) Brainstorming on various matters relating to capacity development of WMO Members; (e) Establishment of Expert Teams; and (f) Consideration of timelines for delivery of the work programme of the Expert Teams to the Panel, and preparation for the Executive Council.

Following extensive deliberations, the Panel was able to achieve the objectives of the meeting : familiarizing itself with the Rules of Procedure (RoP); establishing four Expert Teams (ET) and one Task Team (TT) to assist in the delivery of specific tasks given to the Panel by EC, and agreeing on a framework for its work programme in the near future. The outcomes of the first meeting are further enumerated below.

### 3. Outcomes of the first session

The first meeting was very successful in the sense that it allowed members of the Panel to familiarize with one another, agree on the modality of work, set approaches and timelines for delivering its mandate. Whereas details of deliberations are contained in the full report of the meeting, it is pertinent to bring the following highlights of recommendations to the Executive Council attention:

- a) Election of Mr John Ogren as Vice-Chair and Dr Somenath Dutta as Rapporteur with an immediate effect.
- b) The Panel to be guided by the RoP developed by TCC-1.
- c) The Panel agreed to review its approaches to work from time to time, especially with respect to the operations of its Expert Teams and Task Teams. Requests for amending the RoP should be submitted to EC through the TCC.
- d) In view of the cross-cutting nature of capacity development and the consequent need for seamless and effective coordination across the organization to implement the desired earth system approach, CDP recommended to the EC the expansion of its membership by including the following: (a) one representative of the Hydrological Coordination Panel, (b) one representative of INFCOM, (c) one representative of SERCOM, (d) one representative of the Research Board, and (e) one representative of JCB.
- e) The need to ensure that up-to-date information on activities of constituent bodies are made available to the Panel on a regular basis, through formal reports of their meetings.
- f) The need to take into account decisions and actions of constituent bodies as they relate to capacity development.
- g) Expert Teams were advised to review suggested list of invited experts and make recommendations to the Chair for any possible changes.
- h) All Expert Teams and the Task Team to set timetable for their work with the target of getting outputs in good time for deliberations ahead of next meeting of the Panel.
- i) Expert Teams to interact continuously with the WMO Secretariat during their assignments.

### 4. Recommendations to EC

Most of the recommendations in the report concern the work of the Panel, hence they are being reported to EC for information. However, it is important to request the EC for an expansion of memberships of CDP as detailed in Outcome d) above (included in Doc. 5.5).

### 5. Conclusions

The Chair will be reporting on progress with work of the Panel to the EC-73.

In the meantime, the Chair takes this opportunity to acknowledge that the work has started well because of commitment of all members of the Panel. The Chair thanks the EC for the opportunity given to members of the panel to serve WMO in this capacity.