

Decision 11 (EC-72)

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Executive Council

Abridged Final Report of the Seventy-second Session

Videoconference

28 September–2 October 2020



Decision 11 (EC-72)

SCALING UP EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND SCOPE, SCALE AND PROGRESS OF WMO DEVELOPMENT

The Executive Council decides:

- (1) (a) To accelerate implementation of Resolution 74 (Cg-18) - Closing the capacity gap: Scaling up effective partnerships for investments in sustainable and cost-efficient infrastructure and service delivery, related to the Alliance for Hydromet Development and the creation of the WMO Country Support initiative that is expected to provide WMO advisory services to developing and least developed [*Dwikorita Karnawati*] countries and development partners in a structured and

efficient manner, harnessing the extensive knowledge and expertise from WMO Members;

- (b) To pursue development of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility to provide financial and technical assistance to countries that otherwise could not comply in a sustainable manner with the Global Basic Observing Network concept approved by Cg-18; with the aspiration to announce the creation of the Facility at UNFCCC COP26; [*Diane Campbell*]
 - (c) To advance efforts to promote a systematic approach at the regional level through the development of appropriate guidelines for the regional and representative offices engagement on WMO initiatives to strengthen developing country Members' capacity;
 - (d) To advance development and implementation of the new WMO community platform by improving its user-friendliness to allow the provision of high quality and timely data in support of the Country Hydromet Diagnostics, the WMO Country Support Initiative, and the Alliance for Hydromet Development to enable its use as an effective tool for assessing Members capacities, and assisting planning, monitoring, advocacy, project development and informing investments by WMO Members and partners;
 - (e) To advance development and implementation of the Country Hydromet Diagnostics in collaboration with the members of the Alliance for Hydromet Development as a tool and approach to provide NMHS peer-reviewed assessments of capacity and performance of each member and highlighting critical deficiencies to inform and guide investments related to development projects.
 - (f) To base the decision on scope and scale of future development projects implemented by the WMO Secretariat on a strategy that needs to be informed by an independent evaluation of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and fiduciary risks of the current approach.
- (2) To request Members:
- (a) To support the successful implementation of the WMO community platform by providing on a timely basis relevant data to strengthen information gathering and sharing, as a viable tool for collecting data needed for assessing Member capabilities, planning, informing investments and guiding WMO policy and strategy development;
 - (b) To identify and engage national level partners and stakeholders who can contribute relevant data and information to the WMO community platform;
 - (c) To support the further development of the Country Hydromet Diagnostics tool and provide peer-to-peer support through the Country Support Initiative;
 - (d) To provide regular feedback to the WMO Secretary-General to continually improve the WMO community platform as a viable tool for information gathering and sharing;
- (3) To request presidents of regional associations as part of the comprehensive review of the activities and working mechanisms of the regional associations:
- (a) To actively contribute to further developing and implementing WMO initiatives to strengthen the capacity of developing Members, including the Alliance for Hydromet

Development, WMO Country Support Initiative, Country Hydromet Diagnostics, Systematic Observations Financing Facility, CREWS initiative, the Global Framework for Climate Services, Voluntary Cooperation Programme, and WMO Secretariat implemented projects;

- (b) To contribute to the development of the Country Hydromet Diagnostics in collaboration with the other relevant bodies and the Secretariat in a manner that the Country Hydromet Diagnostics through its peer-review process provides an objective assessment of attained capacity and performance of each Member and also highlights critical deficiencies to be addressed, as requested in Resolution 6 (Cg-18) - WMO Regional associations;
 - (c) To promote and support coordination and synergies among all relevant initiatives to maximize the benefits for Members;
 - (d) To pursue innovative ways of engagement and partnerships with relevant regional structures to promote visibility and support to the work of NMHSs through projects and programmes addressing Member gaps;
- (4) To request the Capacity Development Panel:
- (a) To identify opportunities and complementarity between all WMO initiatives to strengthen capacity of developing Members when reviewing the WMO Capacity Development Strategy;
 - (b) To develop appropriate guidelines supporting the implementation of the WMO initiatives to strengthen the capacity of developing country Members;
 - (c) To support the independent evaluation of the WMO Secretariat implemented projects;
- (5) To request the Secretary-General:
- (a) To provide training to Members on the use of the "Climate Rationale Methodology" developed by WMO to provide the scientific underpinning for robust climate analysis and theory of change enabling the development of feasible projects to be funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or any other funding mechanism;
 - (b) To continue providing support for the full implementation of the WMO community platform; taking into consideration proposals of Members to improve the Platform so that it is more useful and easier to use; *[Miguel Gonzalez]*
 - (c) To establish the Country Support Initiative with the actions and governance structure as outlined in Resolution 74 (Cg-18) - Closing the capacity gap: scaling up effective partnerships for investments in sustainable and cost-efficient infrastructure and service delivery, and to complete development and implement the Country Hydromet Diagnostics; as a matter of urgency; *[PRA V]*
 - (d) To lead the development of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) in collaboration with the Alliance for Hydromet Development and other development partners and to report to the extraordinary Congress 2021 on the status of its development;
 - (e) To guide the engagement of regional and representative offices in the WMO initiatives to strengthen developing country Members capacity;

- (f) To support the Capacity Development Panel in its work by commissioning an independent external evaluation to assess the current approach to the projects implemented by the WMO Secretariat, and based on this evaluation prepare a strategy for approval by the Extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress in 2021 on future scope and scale of WMO projects.
- (g) To bring this draft decision to the attention of all concerned

Decision justification:

- (1) Resolution 1 (Cg-18) – WMO Strategic Plan,
- (2) Resolution 6 (Cg-18) – WMO regional associations,
- (3) Resolution 7 (EC-71) – Capacity Development Panel
- (4) Resolution 11 (Cg-18) – WMO reform - next phase,
- (5) Resolution 34 (Cg-18) – Global Basic Observing Network
- (6) Resolution 69 (Cg-18) – Guidelines on the Role and Operations of WMO Regional and Representative Offices,
- (7) Resolution 70 (Cg-18) – Country Profile Database,
- (8) Resolution 74 (Cg-18) – Closing the Capacity Gap: Scaling up effective partnerships for investments in sustainable and cost-efficient infrastructure and service delivery,
- (9) Resolution 79 (Cg-18) – Open consultative platform “Partnership and Innovation for the Next Generation of Weather and Climate Intelligence”,
- (10) Resolution 80 (Cg-18) – Geneva Declaration – 2019: Building Community for Weather, Climate and Water Actions,
- (11) Resolution 7 (EC-71) – Capacity Development Panel,
- (12) Resolution 11 (EC-71) – Rules of Procedure for the Constituent Bodies ,
- (13) Draft Decision 4.4(2)/1 (EC-72) – Recommendations for revision of the WMO Capacity Development Strategy
- (14) Climate issues are prominent on the global agenda catalysed by the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise and enhance adaptive capacity and resilience; the Sendai Framework, aimed at substantially reducing disaster risk and loss; and the sustainable development goals, which include taking urgent action to combat climate change and enhance many climate-sensitive development outcomes related to weather-, water-, and climate-sensitive sectors resulting in the increase in the investments and portfolio addressing climate adaptation, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction and in particular related to Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems,
- (15) The current portfolio of WMO extra-budgetary funded projects in support of Members amounting to nearly US\$ 100 million. Coordination is required to maximize the effectiveness and benefits of the WMO extra-budgetary project portfolio to leverage investments and intervention by various actors. Addressing the capacity gap in a

sustainable manner requires cooperation, partnerships and engagement of all stakeholders from the public, private, academic sectors and civil society,

- (16) The resolve and efforts of the WMO for addressing the capacity gap on weather-, water, climate and related environmental services through partnerships such as the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), Climate Risk Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, the Alliance for Hydromet Development, the Country Support Initiative (CSI), the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), the Open Consultative Forum, among others. The role and involvement of Members in providing technical assistance and capacity development as part of the implementation of the WMO extra-budgetary project portfolio is important,
 - (17) The spirit of the WMO Reform – Next phase, calling for a comprehensive review of the WMO regional concept and approaches in order to strengthen the role and enhance the effectiveness of the regional associations,
 - (18) WMO regional and representative offices can play active role [*Dwikorita Karnawati*] in promoting partnerships by actively engaging with the UN Development System at the regional level, the UN resident coordinators, and working closely with development partners and relevant regional structures to raise the visibility of the work and priorities of the WMO and Members in the regions, and promote development and implementation of programmes and projects supported by regional funding,
 - (19) To ensure effective support from the WMO subsidiary bodies, the WMO Secretariat, partner agencies and Members need to be able to generate timely and high quality data and statistics to be used as the basis for regular assessments of national progress towards the agreed strategic priorities and the identification of gaps and requirements for capacity development and investments for sustainable weather-, water-, climate and related environmental services,
 - (20) WMO Regional and Representative Offices play critical role in facilitating updating of member country profiles and monitoring of Members capabilities,
 - (21) The country profile database is developed as a repository of information to be accessible by all Members, partners and the broader WMO community and its transition to the WMO community platform providing enhanced functionalities for data collection, visualization, dissemination, storage, which will facilitate assessment of Members capacities, strategic planning, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation, and assist with resources mobilization.
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