



Executive Council  
Capacity Development Panel  
EC-CDP

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

**Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting (EC-CDP-9)**

**22 and 23 April 2024  
Geneva**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ninth Meeting of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-9) was held in a hybrid format on 22 and 23 April 2024. The meeting commenced with a joint session with the Executive Council Technical Coordination Committee (TCC) and the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), during which discussions focused on WMO's contribution to the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Initiative. The Panel's involvement in these discussions highlighted the importance of coordinated efforts in this area.

Following the joint session, the EC-CDP meeting was led by Ms. Carla Gulizia, Vice-Chair of the Panel, who presided over Day 1. Welcoming remarks were delivered by Prof. Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General, who emphasized the importance of the Panel's updated Terms of Reference (ToR) and their role in guiding future activities. She also highlighted the Panel's ongoing work in reviewing WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs) and encouraged continued coordination with other WMO bodies.

On Day 1, the Panel focused on the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Initiative, identifying key actions and emphasizing the importance of always referring to the WMO Competency Frameworks in related training activities. The importance of sustaining capacity development efforts was also highlighted, with a proposal to create a supporting document for Members. Additionally, updates on the WMO Capacity Development Framework (WCDF) were discussed, including progress on editorial work and new website content featuring case studies from various Regional Associations. The Panel agreed to continue collecting case studies and proposed actions to promote the WCDF, potentially through dedicated Task Teams.

On Day 2, chaired by Mr. Daouda Konate, the Panel focused on the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Panel, particularly the need to bridge the gap between global scientific advancements and local applications. The Panel agreed to establish a Task Team to explore contributions in this area, including identifying regional champions to facilitate knowledge transfer. The structure of the Panel for the 2024-2027 term was also reviewed, with the decision to organize its work into two Expert Teams (ETs) aligned with specific areas of the ToR, with a review scheduled for 2025. Additionally, updates on the WMO Gender Action Plan were presented, and the Panel agreed to advise SYMET-15 organizers to include gender-related topics and consider holding a dedicated side event.

The Panel concluded with agreements on the Action Plan for 2024, which will be developed through further discussions within the ETs. The dates for the next two meetings were confirmed: EC-CDP-10 will be held on 3 and 4 February 2025 via videoconference, and EC-CDP-11 will take place from 22 to 26 September 2025 at WMO Headquarters in Geneva.

The meeting was officially closed at 17:00 UTC on 23 April 2024.

The list of participants is available in Annex-I, and the list of agreed conclusions, actions, and recommendations from EC-CDP-9 in Annex-II. All related documents and presentations are available in the meeting webpage at <https://etrp.wmo.int/course/view.php?id=185>

## **FULL REPORT**

## **1. Joint Session with the TCC and PAC**

The ninth meeting of the Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP-9) was held in a hybrid format on 22 and 23 April 2024. The meeting commenced with a joint session involving the Executive Council Technical Coordination Committee (TCC) and the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC).

During this joint session, EC-CDP members engaged in discussions regarding the coordinated contribution of WMO to the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Initiative. For a detailed summary of these discussions, please refer to the [Report of Chairs of TCC and PAC](#), Part I, paragraphs 8 to 11.

## **2. Opening of EC-CDP-9 and adoption of the Agenda**

Following the Joint Session, the meeting proceeded under the leadership of Ms. Carla Gulizia, Vice-Chair of the EC-CDP, who presided over the proceedings of Day 1. Ms. Gulizia extended a warm welcome to the EC-CDP members, acknowledging both in-person participants in Geneva and those joining online. The list of participants is provided in Annex II.

Prof. Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General of the WMO, delivered the opening remarks, expressing appreciation to the Panel for its thorough revision of the Terms of Reference. She emphasized that the updated Terms would enhance the Panel's discussions and aid in identifying key priorities for future activities. Prof. Saulo also recognized the Panel's valuable work in reviewing the designation and reconfirmation of WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs), a critical step in maintaining the high standards of service required to meet the global educational and training needs of WMO Members.

Prof. Saulo expressed her expectations for the Panel's deliberations to align with the requests from Congress and the Executive Council, particularly in addressing the capacity development needs of WMO Members. She underscored the importance of coordination with other WMO bodies—such as SERCOM, INFCOM, RB, technical departments, and Regional Offices—highlighting that their capacity development initiatives could greatly benefit from the Panel's insights and contributions.

Following the opening remarks, the Vice-Chair invited the Panel to review and adopt the [Agenda of EC-CDP-9](#). The agenda was approved, with two additional items added for discussion on Day 2 under Agenda Item 11 – Any Other Business.

## **3. Early Warnings for All Implementation Plan**

The Vice-Chair, Ms. Carla Gulizia, expressed her gratitude to the Panel for their active participation in the discussions during the Joint Session with the TCC and PAC. She then invited the Panel to continue the dialogue and propose EC-CDP-specific actions regarding the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) Initiative.

The discussions began with an update from Professor Mary Scholes, the EC-CDP representative from the Research Board (RB), who informed the Group that the RB had recently established a Task Team (TT) to focus on activities related to the EW4All Initiative. Prof. Scholes noted that the RB is currently

developing the Terms of Reference for this Task Team and anticipates engaging the EC-CDP in the near future to seek its advice.

The Group briefly discussed ongoing activities at national and regional levels and was referred to a presentation by Mr. Mark Majodina (Regional Coordination Office, Member Services and Development Department), made during the concurrent TCC and PAC meeting. This presentation provided insights into the regional consultations conducted to refine the priority hazards and activities for the draft EW4All Implementation Plan. The slides from this presentation, titled "[Regional Consultations - Inputs for EW4All](#)," are available for reference.

Additionally, Ms. Maria Julia Chasco updated the Panel on the efforts to collect information regarding training activities funded by WMO Extra-Budgetary Projects. She noted that the data can be shared with the Panel upon request.

The Group also discussed the importance of staying informed about capacity development activities related to EW4All that are being organized by WMO Members and other UN Agencies, in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Ms. Karen McCourt highlighted that Part II of the EW4All Roadmap includes a section on inter-agency coordination, underlining the need for enhanced collaboration.

**Recommendation 1 (EC-CDP-9):** The Secretariat and EC-PAC should emphasize the importance of Item 6, "Pillar Coordination," under the "Coordination" section of the current EW4All roadmap. In particular, the need for a joint plan across the four pillars, with clearly defined key performance indicators, should be highlighted.

**Recommendation 2 (EC-CDP-9):** All partners delivering education and training activities related to EW4All should consult the Competency Frameworks and Standards developed by WMO.

The challenge of sustaining capacity was raised by Dr. David Farrell, who advised that increasing regional commitment is essential for long-term success.

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 1:** EC-CDP to prepare a document or article to assist Members to plan for sustaining capacity. This proposal will be discussed by the Expert Teams (ETs) for inclusion in the EC-CDP action plan as appropriate. Additionally, the topic will be included for discussion at the next Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET).

## **4. WMO Capacity Development Framework**

Ms. Luciane Veeck (Member Services/ETR) provided updates on the WMO Capacity Development Framework (WCDF). She informed the Panel that the WCDF was undergoing comprehensive editorial review and, once finalized, will be translated into the other five official languages of the WMO.

A brief demonstration of the EC-CDP website showcased the newly added information about the WCDF, including case studies developed by the EC-CDP in 2023 for Regional Associations (RAs) II, III, and VI. Each case study has its own dedicated webpage with an overview, full case study details, and presentation slides for further reference. Additionally, a template for preparing new case studies is available, and Members are encouraged to contribute to the expanding collection.

The Panel discussed various strategies to continue gathering case studies, including the possibility of producing a short video introduction of the WCDF for the website, organizing webinars to present the case studies, and promoting the WCDF within INFCOM, potentially through pre-session videos. The importance of making case studies available in languages other than English was also emphasized.

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 2:** The EC-CDP will continue its efforts to collect case studies from all Regional Associations. The following volunteers have been designated to coordinate the identification of new case studies:

- Prof Odjugo – coordinate efforts in RA-I
- Prof Karnawati – coordinate efforts in RA-V
- Prof Cudennec – coordinate efforts for case studies hydrology
- Dr Mamaeva – coordinate efforts for cases in Russian language

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 3:** A group of volunteers will further discuss the establishment of Task Teams (TTs) to focus on specific activities related to promoting the WCDF. Volunteers include Dr. Carla Gulizia, Dr. Daouda, Dr. Winifred Jordaan, Ms. Karen McCourt, and Dr. Albert Martis. The proposed tasks for these TTs could involve organizing webinars, providing website recommendations, and conducting peer reviews of case studies applying the WCDF.

**Recommendation 3 (EC-CDP-9):** The WMO Secretariat to update the Capacity Development Programme webpage to serve as a one-stop resource for all capacity development information. This should include information on the Capacity Development Framework (WCDF) and provide links to all related areas, such as education and training, resource mobilization, and other capacity development efforts within WMO.

## **5. Scientific Advisory Panel Recommendations with Research Board Appraisal**

Recalling the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) outlined in Resolution 35 of Cg-19, Ms. Luciane Veeck introduced this agenda item, incorporating input from Dr. Gilbert Brunet, Chair of the SAP. Dr. Brunet emphasized that Recommendation #2 seeks to bridge the gap between advancements in global science and their practical application at the local level. For additional background, the Panel was referred to the Science and Technology Vision Paper, prepared by the SAP, which is available on the meeting's webpage.

After a thorough review of the EC-CDP's role and its potential to support the connection between scientific advancements and local services, Ms. Karen McCourt suggested the idea of identifying "Regional Champions" to facilitate this process. The Panel recalled Ms. Carla Gulizia's experience in RA-III during the previous EC-CDP term as a valuable example of bridging the gap between science and local applications.

The suggestion was well-received by the Panel, leading to the agreement on the first action of the meeting:

**Action 1 (EC-CDP-9):** Establish a Task Team (TT) to further discuss how the EC-CDP can contribute to Recommendation #2, specifically in closing the gap between global scientific capabilities and local impact. The Task Team will explore the possibility of identifying Regional Champions to support this effort.

**Actionee(s):** Dr Carla Gulizia with assistance from Secretariat

**Deadline:** TBD

## **6. Review of Expert Teams and Task Teams of EC-CDP for the period of 2024-2027**

The Panel was reminded that discussions regarding the structure of the EC-CDP for the 2024-2027 term began during the previous meeting (EC-CDP-8). At that time, the decision was made to complete the revision of the Terms of Reference (ToR) before determining the Expert Teams (ETs) and Task Teams (TTs) for the current term.

In this session, the Panel continued its discussions on the structure to be adopted for the 2024-2027 term, which culminated in the decision to establish two ETs and additional TTs as outlined below.

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 4:** The work of the Panel will be primarily divided into two ETs, each coordinated by two co-chairs. The EC-CDP will operate under this structure for approximately one year, after which the structure will be reviewed (in September 2025, during EC-CDP-11) to assess its feasibility and determine if any adjustments are necessary. Details of the two ETs are as follows:

ET 1 - Focused on matters of coordination.

- Covers the following items in the EC-CDP ToR: (iii), (iv), (vii), (ix), and (x).
- Co-chairs: Ms Karen McCourt and Dr. Albert Martis.
- Members: Ms Jennifer Milton, Dr. YU Yubin, Prof. Peter Odjugo, and Prof. Christophe Cudennec.

ET 2 – Focused on matters of education, policy, and competency frameworks.

- Covers the following items in the EC-CDP ToR: (v), (vi), and (viii).
- Co-Chairs: Dr. Maria Mamaeva and Dr. Somenath Dutta.
- Members: Dr. Winifred Jordaan, Dr. Toky Nandrasana Ramanakoto , Prof. Peter Odjugo, and Prof. Christophe Cudennec.

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 5:** All members of the Panel will work collectively on matters related to EC-CDP ToR items (i) and (ii).

## **7. WMO Gender action plan for the nineteenth financial period**

Ms. Roseline Devillier, the Gender Focal Point for the WMO Secretariat (New York Office) and the United Nations, provided an update on the WMO Gender Action Plan for 2024-2027, which was approved by Congress in 2023. Her presentation, available on the EC-CDP-9 meeting webpage, included an overview of ongoing activities, with contributions from Prof. Celeste Saulo and Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati, as well as WMO's engagement with the UN on gender-related documents and initiatives.



The presentation also highlighted gender-related activities coordinated by INFCOM and SERCOM. Ms. Jennifer Milton (representing INFCOM) and Dr. Raymond Tanabe (representing SERCOM) provided additional information on these efforts.

The presentation was well received by the Panel, which emphasized the importance of integrating gender discussions into future events, particularly the next Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET-15).

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 6:** The EC-CDP will advise the SYMET organizing committee to include gender discussions in the Agenda of SYMET-15, and will consider organizing a side event dedicated to this important topic.

## **8. Action Plan for 2024**

The Chair invited the Panel to propose and discuss actions for inclusion in the EC-CDP Action Plan for 2024. As a starting point, the Panel was directed to review the suggestions that had been added to the collective document during the meeting (link available on the EC-CDP webpage).

Discussions primarily focused on the allocation of responsibilities for items listed under the "Specific Terms of Reference" of the EC-CDP to the respective Expert Teams (ETs). This allocation was agreed upon as outlined in Section 6 of this report. Additionally, the Panel agreed that the ETs would hold separate online meetings to develop proposals for specific actions and deliverables.

**Action 2 (EC-CDP-9):** ETs will convene online separately to formulate proposals for concrete actions and deliverables to advance the Panel's work.

**Actionee(s):** ET Chairs with assistance from Secretariat

**Deadline:** Meeting dates TBD

## **9. Next CDP Meetings (EC-CDP-10 and EC-CDP-11)**

In accordance with the revised Terms of Reference, the Panel is expected to meet twice per year: once via videoconference and a second time either in person or by videoconference. Based on this requirement, the dates for the EC-CDP meetings in 2025 were agreed as follows:

### **EC-CDP-10**

DATE: 3 and 4 February 2025 (by videoconference)

### **EC-CDP-11**

DATE: 22-26 September 2025 (WMO, Geneva)

## **10. Any other Business**

Two additional items were added to the meeting agenda and discussed as follows:

10.1. Input by the Chair of the Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP)

Dr. Jan Danhelka, Chair of the HCP, addressed the Panel, providing a brief overview of the HCP's work. He emphasized the importance of enhanced coordination between the HCP and the Capacity Development Panel (CDP), noting that greater collaboration could lead to valuable synergies between the two bodies.

#### 10.2. Updates on preparations for EC-78

Mr. Mustafa Adiguzel (Member Services/ETR) updated the Panel on the preparations for the 78th session of the Executive Council (EC-78). He informed the Panel that the documentation plan for EC-78 includes four contributions from the Capacity Development Panel, which were prepared by the Secretariat in close collaboration with the Panel.

Mr. Adiguzel also expressed his gratitude to the Panel for their contributions in reviewing the reports for the reconfirmation of WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs) and provided an update on the plans for future external reviews of the RTCs.

### **11. Closure of EC-CDP-9**

The Chair expressed gratitude to the members of the Panel for their active participation and the extensive discussions held over the two-day meeting. He emphasized the vital role of continued online collaboration in advancing the Panel's work between sessions.

Reflecting on the outcomes of the meeting, the Chair underscored the high expectations for the valuable advice and guidance this Panel is poised to offer, and voiced confidence in the members' expertise and dedication to meeting these goals.

The Chair also extended appreciation to the Secretariat for their efficient support in organizing the meeting and preparing for the next one.

With these remarks, the Chair officially declared the meeting closed at 17:00 UTC on 23 April 2024.

## **ANNEXES**

## **Annex-I List of Participants EC-CDP-9**

### **EC-CDP Members in Geneva:**

Mr Daouda Konate  
Dr Carla Gulizia  
Dr Winifred Jordaan  
Ms Karen McCourt  
Ms Jennifer Milton  
Dr Somenath Dutta  
Prof. Odjugo Peter  
Dr Albert Martis  
Dr Maria Mamaeva  
Mr Evan Thompson (attending Joint TCC and PAC)  
Dr Toky Nandrasana Ramanakoto  
Dr Raymond Tanabe  
Dr David Farrell  
Dr Volkan Coşkun

### **EC-CDP Members online:**

Prof Dwikorita Karnawati  
Prof. Christophe Cudennec  
Prof. Mary Scholes  
Dr YU Yubin

**NOTE:** Excuse notes were received from Mr John Ogren, who could not attend the meeting.

### **Advisors:**

Dr Nelly Florida Riama (Advisor to Prof. Karnawati)  
Dr Murat Altinyollar (Advisor to Dr Volkan Coşkun)  
Mr Ferdinand Eklou (Assistant to Mr Daouda Konate)  
Mr Bernard Dje (Assistant to Mr Daouda Konate)

### **WMO Secretariat:**

Prof Celeste Saulo  
Mr Filipe Lúcio  
Dr Paul Bugeac  
Mr Mustafa Adiguzel  
Ms Luciane Veeck  
Ms Yuliana Purwanti  
Ms Eunjin Choi  
Mr Mark Majodina  
Mr Kyungjeen Park  
Ms Hong Fan  
Ms Silvana Alcoz  
Mr Nirina Ravalitera  
Ms. Natalia Berghi  
Ms Maria Julia Chasco  
Ms Roseline Devillier

### **Invited guest:**

Dr. Jan Danhelka, Chair of EC-HCP

## **Annex-II Agreed conclusions, actions, and recommendations from EC-CDP-9**

### **The EC-CDP-9 agreed on the following conclusions:**

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 1:** EC-CDP to prepare a document or article to assist Members to plan for sustaining capacity. This proposal will be discussed by the Expert Teams (ETs) for inclusion in the EC-CDP action plan as appropriate. Additionally, the topic will be included for discussion at the next Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET).

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 2:** The EC-CDP will continue its efforts to collect case studies from all Regional Associations. The following volunteers have been designated to coordinate the identification of new case studies:

- Prof Odjugo – coordinate efforts in RA-I
- Prof Karnawati – coordinate efforts in RA-V
- Prof Cudennec – coordinate efforts for case studies hydrology
- Dr Mamaeva – coordinate efforts for cases in Russian language

**EC-CDP-9 agreed conclusion 3:** A group of volunteers will further discuss the establishment of Task Teams (TTs) to focus on specific activities related to promoting the WCDF. Volunteers include Dr. Carla Gulizia, Dr. Daouda, Dr. Winifred Jordaan, Ms. Karen McCourt, and Dr. Albert Martis. The proposed tasks for these TTs could involve organizing webinars, providing website recommendations, and conducting peer reviews of case studies applying the WCDF.

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 4:** The work of the Panel will be primarily divided into two ETs, each coordinated by two co-chairs. The EC-CDP will operate under this structure for approximately one year, after which the structure will be reviewed (in September 2025, during EC-CDP-11) to assess its feasibility and determine if any adjustments are necessary. Details of the two ETs are as follows:

ET 1 - Focused on matters of coordination.

- Covers the following items in the EC-CDP ToR: (iii), (iv), (vii), (ix), and (x).
- Co-chairs: Ms Karen McCourt and Dr. Albert Martis.
- Members: Ms Jennifer Milton, Dr. YU Yubin, Prof. Peter Odjugo, and Prof. Christophe Cudennec.

ET 2 – Focused on matters of education, policy, and competency frameworks.

- Covers the following items in the EC-CDP ToR: (v), (vi), and (viii).
- Co-Chairs: Dr. Maria Mamaeva and Dr. Somenath Dutta.
- Members: Dr. Winifred Jordaan, Dr. Toky Nandrasana Ramanakoto , Prof. Peter Odjugo, and Prof. Christophe Cudennec.

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 5:** All members of the Panel will work collectively on matters related to EC-CDP ToR items (i) and (ii).

**EC-CDP-9 Agreed conclusion 6:** The EC-CDP will advise the SYMET organizing committee to include gender discussions in the Agenda of SYMET-15, and will consider organizing a side event dedicated to this important topic.

### **The EC-CDP-9 agreed on the following actions that emerged from the meeting:**

**Action 1 (EC-CDP-9):** Establish a Task Team (TT) to further discuss how the EC-CDP can contribute to Recommendation #2, specifically in closing the gap between global scientific capabilities and local impact. The Task Team will explore the possibility of identifying Regional Champions to support this effort.

**Actionee(s):** Dr Carla Gulizia with assistance from Secretariat

**Deadline:** TBD

**Action 2 (EC-CDP-9):** ETs will convene online separately to formulate proposals for concrete actions and deliverables to advance the Panel's work.

**Actionee(s):** ET Chairs with assistance from Secretariat

**Deadline:** Meeting dates TBD

**The EC-CDP-9 agreed on the following recommendations:**

**Recommendation 1 (EC-CDP-9):** The Secretariat and EC-PAC should emphasize the importance of Item 6, "Pillar Coordination," under the "Coordination" section of the current EW4All roadmap. In particular, the need for a joint plan across the four pillars, with clearly defined key performance indicators, should be highlighted.

**Recommendation 2 (EC-CDP-9):** All partners delivering education and training activities related to EW4All should consult the Competency Frameworks and Standards developed by WMO.

**Recommendation 3 (EC-CDP-9):** The WMO Secretariat to update the Capacity Development Programme webpage to serve as a one-stop resource for all capacity development information. This should include information on the Capacity Development Framework (WCDF) and provide links to all related areas, such as education and training, resource mobilization, and other capacity development efforts within WMO.