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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV (NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN)**  **Nineteenth Session (Phase I)** 27 to 29 March 2025, San Salvador, El Salvador | **RA IV-19(I)/Doc. 3.1** |
| Submitted by: Chair  28.III.2025  **APPROVED** |

**AGENDA ITEM 3: OPERATIONAL MATTERS**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.1: Infrastructure matters**

# Infrastructure matters

# DRAFT DECISIONS

## Draft Decision 3.1/1 (RA IV-19(I))

### Regional design of the upper-air component of the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON)

**Regional Association IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean):**

**Recalling** [Resolution 2 (Cg-Ext(2021))](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57850?medianame=1281_en_#page=29) – Amendments to the Technical Regulations related to establishment of the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON),

**Noting:**

(1) Provision [3.2.2.12](https://library.wmo.int/idviewer/55063/76) of the [*Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System*](https://library.wmo.int/records/item/55063-manual-on-the-wmo-integrated-global-observing-system?offset=2) (WMO-No. 1160) which sets the minimum horizontal resolution of upper-air stations/platforms over land at 500 km or higher,

(2) Provision [3.2.2.15](https://library.wmo.int/idviewer/55063/76) of the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160) which sets the minimum horizontal resolution of upper-air stations/platforms over marine areas of Members’ jurisdiction at 1000 km or higher,

(3) Chapter 4 of the [*Guide to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System*](https://library.wmo.int/records/item/55696-guide-to-the-wmo-integrated-global-observing-system?offset=5) (WMO‑No. 1165) which defines Member-level compliance with GBON provisions, with a minimum number of upper-air stations defined at the Member level and rounded up to one,

(4) The density of Members in the Caribbean subregion of RA IV, requiring regional cooperation in the design of the GBON upper-air stations/platforms component,

**Noting with appreciation** the existence of different programmes to support measurements made from regional upper-air stations in the Caribbean, [*USA, Bahamas, Dominican Republic*]

**Decides** that the subregional design of the upper-air stations/platforms for the Caribbean:

(1) Covering the following Members of Regional Association IV: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, British Caribbean Territories (Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands), Colombia (San Andres Islands) [*Colombia*], Cuba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, France (Saint-Barthélémy, Guadeloupe, and Martinique only), Guyana (Regional Association III), Grenada[[1]](#footnote-2)\*, Haiti, Jamaica, Netherlands (Saba, Bonaire and Aruba only), Saint Kitts and Nevis\*, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines\*, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States of America (Puerto Rico and US Virgin Islands only);

(2) Shall consist of the following stations:

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Station | Member | Latitude | Longitude | | NASSAU AIRPORT, NEW PROVIDENCE | Bahamas | 25.05 | -77.4667 | | GRANTLEY ADAMS | Barbados | 13.0716 | -59.4922 | | OWEN ROBERTS AIRPORT, GRAND CAYMAN | Cayman Islands | 19.29435 | -81.3632 | | MARIEL | Cuba | 22.9891 | -82.7544 | | CAMAGUEY | Cuba | 21.37918 | -77.9184 | | HATO AIRPORT, CURAÇAO (78988–1) | Curaçao and Saint Maarten | 12.2 | -68.9667 | | SANTO DOMINGO (78486–0) | Dominican Republic | 18.4734 | -69.8705 | | LE RAIZET AERO\* | France (Guadeloupe) | 16.26389 | -61.5164 | | KINGSTON/NORMAN MANLEY | Jamaica | 17.93333 | -76.7833 | | SAN JUAN/INT., PUERTO RICO | United States | 18.43167 | -65.9919 | | JULIANA AIRPORT, ST. MAARTEN | Curaçao and Saint Maarten | 18.03852 | -63.1192 | | PIARCO INT. AIRPORT, TRINIDAD | Trinidad and Tobago | 10.59168 | -61.3432 | | TIMEHRI AIRPORT | Guyana | 6.49835 | -58.2542 | | PORT-AU-PRINCE [Haiti] | Haiti | 18.5666 | -72.3000 | | SAN ANDRES [*Colombia*] | Colombia | 12.5883 | -81.7010 | |

\* Taking into account relevant exemption from meeting GBON requirements as per Article 9 of WMO convention [*France*]

**Further decides** that this regional design will be regularly reviewed every four years [*Antigua and Barbuda*] or earlier [*BCT*] as required, at subsequent sessions of Regional Association IV;

**Requests** the RA IV Infrastructure Committee to consider additional GBON subregional designs as appropriate;

**Recommends** that the Executive Council:

(1) Request the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure, and Information Systems (INFCOM) to reflect this decision in its GBON compliance monitoring;

(2) Requests the Secretary-General, who also serves as Co-Chair of the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) Steering Committee, to communicate this decision to the SOFF Steering Committee and encourage its rapid implementation through investments in eligible RA IV members.

See [RA IV-19(I)/INF. 3.1](https://meetings.wmo.int/ra-4-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx) for more information.

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Decision justification: [Decision 8 (RA IV-18)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57465/?offset=1#page=42) – Regional Basic Observing Network design, related to

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## Draft Decision 3.1/2 (RA IV-19(I))

### General regional infrastructure requirements for 2024–2027

**Regional Association IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean):**

**Recalling** [Decision](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57465/?offset=1#page=47)  – Regional priorities

**Decides** to keep up to date, modifying as required, the RA IV regional work programme 2024–2027 provided in [draft Resolution 4.3/1 (RA IV-19(I))](https://meetings.wmo.int/ra-4-19/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=%7b22FC319F-AA69-4EAA-8D71-C0D1756955EF%7d&file=RA-IV-19(I)-d04-3-REGIONAL-WORK-PROGRAMME-FOR-2024-2027-draft1_en.docx&action=default), so that the following general regional infrastructure requirements can be met:

(1) Expansion and strengthening of the pilot phase operations of the RA IV Regional WIGOS Centres (RWCs) through 2025 and advance the operational phase in 2026, while urging Members to actively engage with RWCs, via their National Focal Points on WDQMS;

(2) Expansion in the implementation of WIS 2.0, with special focus in RA IV Spanish-speaking members;

(3) Designation of a new WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) initially focused, but not limited to, on the strengthening of Limited Area Deterministic Numerical Weather Prediction capabilities, building on the experience of the Severe Weather Forecasting Programme cascade process in the eastern Caribbean and Central America;

(4) Undertaking the necessary activities towards the RBON implementation road map according to the Action plan in [Resolution 2 (EC-78)](https://library.wmo.int/idviewer/69109/24) - Priority Activities contributing to the Early Warnings for All initiative, in collaboration with the INFCOM/SC-ON Expert Team on Earth Observing System Design and Evolution (ET-EOSDE);

(5) Development and strengthening of Members’ hydrological monitoring capacities, focusing on improving the availability of hydrological data, through the implementation of World Hydrological Cycle Observing System (WHYCOS), HydroHub, WMO Hydrological Observing System (WHOS) and HydroSOS (infrastructure component);

(6) Registration of hydrological stations in the Observing Systems Capability Analysis and Review/Surface (OSCAR/Surface) and the implementation of WHOS for hydrological data exchange and interoperability in collaboration with regional and basin organizations;

(7) Preparation of a proposal for the configuration of a regional ocean observing system for the Caribbean based on current efforts and focusing primarily on improving operational forecasts and early warnings, in consultation with the Infrastructure Commission (INFCOM) Standing Committee on Earth Observing Systems and Monitoring Networks (SC-ON), the Services Commission (SERCOM) Standing Committee on Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Services (SC‑MMO), the UNESCO-IOC Subcommission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (IOCARIBE), and other relevant regional and international entities;

(8) Coordination of efforts with Mexico and Central American members to replicate the successful radar integration process followed in the Caribbean, in collaboration with the INFCOM/SC-MINT/Expert Team on Operational Weather Radar (ET-OWR);

(9) Preparation of a position paper on radio frequency interference for vital operations to advocate for its regulation at the highest level, in collaboration with the INFCOM/SC-ON Expert Team on Radio Frequency Coordination (ET-RFC).

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Decision justification:

(1) [Decision](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57465/?offset=1#page=42)  – Regional Basic Observing Network design,

(2) [Decision](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57465/?offset=1#page=47)  – Regional priorities

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1. \* It is not a WMO Member but has been included in regional operational coordination at the request of the British Caribbean Territories. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)