

Resolution 7 (EC-77)

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Executive Council

Abridged Final Report of the Seventy-seventh Session

Geneva

5-6 June 2023



Resolution 7 (EC-77)

Subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Having regard to [Regulations 27–35](#) of the General Regulations of *Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15) and [Rule 11.4](#) of the *Rules of Procedure for the Executive Council* (WMO-1256) concerning the establishment and review of subsidiary bodies of the Council,

Recalling

- (1) [Decision 10 \(EC-76\)](#) – Actions emanating from the External Evaluation of the WMO Governance Reform, for what concerns the existing subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council,
- (2) Resolution 4 (Cg-19) - United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative,
- (3) Resolution 42 (Cg-19) – WMO technical commissions and additional bodies for the nineteenth financial period,
- (4) Resolution 18 (Cg-19) – WMO Flood Forecasting and Management activities,

Considering the usefulness of adopting a clear and consistent terminology in relation of its subsidiary bodies,

Recognizing:

- (1) The need to adhere to the functions assigned to it by Article 14 of the Convention, and

- (2) That the number of subsidiary bodies should be kept to the minimum required to assist it in efficiently and effectively discharging its responsibilities,
- (3) That the Executive Council is responsible for overseeing progress on WMO's contribution to the EW4All initiative as a matter of highest priority and to provide advice and direction to ensure there is coordination and consolidation of all relevant WMO activities under the EW4All umbrella,

Adopts the definitions of subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council as provided in Annex 1,

Decides:

- (1) To retain the following subsidiary bodies:

Committees

- (a) Policy Advisory Committee, with the terms of reference as provided in Annex 2 (amendments to Annex (A) to [Resolution 35 \(EC-70\)](#));
- (b) Technical Coordination Committee, with the provisional terms of reference, with a focus on coordination of WMO's contributions to EW4All, as provided Annex 3 (amendments to Annex (B) to [Resolution 35 \(EC-70\)](#));
- (c) Audit and Oversight Committee, with the terms of reference as provided in [Resolution 17 \(EC-72\)](#) and amended by Resolution 3 (EC-77);
- (d) Staff Pension Committee, with the terms of reference as provided in [Resolution 21 \(EC-XXXV\)](#);

Panels

- (e) **Capacity Development Panel**, with the terms of reference as provided in [Resolution 7 \(EC-71\)](#);
- (f) Hydrological Coordination Panel, with the terms of reference as provided in Annex 4 (amendments to the Annex to [Resolution 5 \(EC-71\)](#));
- (g) Panel on Polar and High Mountain Observations, Research and Services, with the terms of reference as provided in Annex 5 (amendments to [Resolution 30 \(EC-73\)](#));

Task forces

- (h) Task Force on the Comprehensive Review of the WMO Regional Concept and Approaches, until the seventy-eighth session (EC-78) and with the tasks assigned to it by [Resolution 40 \(EC-76\)](#);
- (2) To establish the following bodies:
 - (a) Disciplinary Committee as per [Decision 11 \(EC-76\)](#) and Resolution 3 (4(2)/1) (EC-77);
 - (b) Task Force on the review of the election rules and process for the Secretary-General, WMO President and Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Council as well as the terms of appointment of the Deputy Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General to assist the Council with the following tasks requested in Resolution 61 (7/2) (Cg-19):

- Undertake a comprehensive review of the rules and procedures for selecting the Secretary-General, President and Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Council;
 - Propose amendments to Article 4 of the Staff Regulations to include specific terms of appointment for the Assistant Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General;
- (3) To transfer oversight on the Flood Forecasting Initiative Advisory Group, chaired by the president of the Services Commission, to the Services Commission, inviting it to establish it, at its third session, as one of its subsidiary bodies;
 - (4) Not to retain the Climate Coordination Panel while maintaining the Climate Policy Advisers group as a body reporting to the Policy Advisory Committee;
 - (5) To consider at the seventy-eighth session of the Executive Council in 2024:
 - (a) Proposals for amendments to the terms of reference of the Technical Coordination Committee and Capacity Development Panel submitted by their respective chairs as requested by [Decision 10 \(EC-76\)](#); and
 - (b) Relevant recommendations of the Technical Coordination Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee on the structure and operation of the Organization with regard to existing processes and mechanisms related to the technical and scientific programme as requested by Resolution 42 (Cg-19);

Further decides:

- (1) To encourage subsidiary bodies to use in their work, as much as possible, electronic means of communication and teleconferences, as per the principles established in [Decision 15 \(EC-76\)](#), to optimize outputs of sessions;
- (2) That in view of budgetary constraints: (a) the Organization should provide financial support limited to experts from developing countries for participation in meetings of subsidiary bodies, with priority on Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States; and (b) as a general rule, alternates of Council members, elected in their personal capacity, would not be funded;
- (3) To invite Members to attend at their own cost, without the right to speak, in accordance with [Rule 3.5](#) of the *Rules of Procedure for the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 1256), sessions of the Policy Advisory Committee and the Capacity Development Panel;

Requests:

- (1) The Chairs of the Technical Coordination Committee and Capacity Development Panel to consult their respective members as to the necessity to amend the terms of references of these bodies and submit recommendations, as needed, to the next session of the Council;
- (2) The Technical Coordination Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee to submit recommendations on the structure and operation of the Organization with regard to existing processes and mechanisms related to the technical and scientific programme on the basis of a study prepared by the Secretary-General;
- (3) The Secretary-General to:
 - (a) Incorporate and publish the terms of reference of the committees and panels of the

Executive Council in a new edition of the *Rules of Procedure for the Executive Council* (WMO-1256);

- (b) Review, and amend as needed, the rules of procedure for the Research Board, adopted in [Resolution 12 \(EC-72\)](#), in light of the amended terms of reference adopted by Congress in Resolution 34 (Cg-19);
- (c) Prepare an analysis on the authorities and relations among all relevant bodies of the Organization, including the Secretariat, with regard to existing processes and mechanisms related to the technical and scientific programme. This analysis will comprise the processes of design, adoption, coordination, implementation and review of technical and scientific strategies, plans, programmes and budget, as well as the identification and programmatic inclusion of Members' needs and requirements.

Note: This resolution replaces [Resolution 35 \(EC-70\)](#), [Resolution 5 \(EC-71\)](#) and [Resolution 3 \(EC-72\)](#), the latter as from the third session of the Services Commission, which are no longer in force.

¹ See also [Article 21 \(b\)](#) (on staff matters) and [Article 23](#) (on financial matters).