

Summary Report CONECT-MG-7

1. Opening and Adoption of the Agenda

- CONECT-MG-7 was convened to finalise the agenda for the Third CONECT Plenary Meeting (CONECT-3), to be held back-to-back with the Joint CALMet XVI – CONECT-3 Conference in Florence, Italy.
- The meeting was chaired by Winifred Jordaan, and the Agenda adopted without changes.

2. Updates on the organization of the Joint CALMet XVI – CONECT-3 Conference

- Dates and format: The joint conference runs 24–28 November 2025 in Florence, Italy; CONECT-3 will take place on the final two days, 27–28 November.
- Submissions: Abstract submissions closed with over 75 contributions from 40+ institutions across 29 countries. The organizing committee is reviewing submissions against the conference themes, with acceptance letters to follow shortly.
- Registration: Over 70 registrations recorded to date (not yet broken down by online/in-person). In-person registration closes 15 September 2025 (firm deadline, to allow time for visa applications); online registration remains open until 10 November 2025. Contributors who have not yet registered will be reminded to do so when acceptance letters are issued.
- Logistics: Venue arrangements in Florence are underway. A poster system like the one used for SYMET-14 is being arranged so posters are available online to all participants, with in-person presentation also possible.
- Next steps: A finalised CALMet-CONECT-3 programme and agenda is targeted for around 11 September 2025, after which a further announcement will be issued to encourage registrations.

3. Planning of the Third CONECT Plenary Meeting – CONECT-3

- The Management Group reviewed all agenda items proposed since the last meeting, clarified the intended outcome of each, and agreed leads/facilitators and indicative time allocations. Facilitators will complete full session descriptions in the shared planning sheet ahead of the meeting.
- Combined, the agreed items (table below) amount to approximately 8 hours of substantive sessions, in addition to opening and closing (est. 1 hour) — fitting within the two-day (27–28 November) format.

DRAFT Agenda Items (CONECT-3)	Lead / Facilitator(s)	Time
Summary report of CONECT activities since the last plenary	Winifred Jordaan (Chair)	30 min
CALMet co-chairs' highlights and insights from the conference, with regional perspectives from the three time-zone discussion groups	Yuliana Purwanti & Heleen ter Pelkwijk (CALMet co-chairs), with assistance of regional session facilitators	30–40 min
WMO Secretariat updates (education & training / capacity development programme)	WMO ETR Director	30 min
Women's inclusion in training and education (panel, aligned with the WMO Gender Action Plan)	Secretariat with contributions of Maria Mamaeva (Capacity Development Panel) - TBC	45 min
Accessible/plain language in research-to-operations communication (incl. translation and communication with the public)	Romina Mezher & Vieri Tarchiani (in person), Vagner Anabor (remote)	60 min TBC
Succession planning and institutional knowledge transfer (open-space format)	Winifred Jordaan & Bernie Connell	90 min
Role of AI in shaping WMO education and training (panel; scope, gaps, and future integration with CONECT)	WMO Education and Training Office (ETR)	~90 min (flexible)
Attracting youth to meteorology, hydrology and climatology (brainstorming session)	Vagner Anabor & Mick Pope, with Solangela Sánchez and Stephen Kerr	60 min
Growing and engaging CONECT plenary membership	Winifred Jordaan	TBC (placed near end of agenda)
Review of the five CONECT Working Groups and their plans for the coming year	To be scheduled alongside the activity report (suggestion raised by Barbara Bourdelles)	TBC

4. Updates from CONECT Working Groups

- Given time constraints, working group updates were not presented live. Instead, the Chair requested that each of the five working groups submit a written summary of activities by Friday, 5 September 2025, to be consolidated into the CONECT report to the WMO Capacity Development Panel (CDP) and shared with the wider CONECT community.

5. NEXT MEETINGS

- Dates of the Joint CALMet XVI - CONECT 3: 24 to 28 November 2025. CONECT-3 to be held on 27-28 November 2025.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- None raised.

7. Summary of Actions

Action	Owner(s)	Deadline
Coordinate the summary activities report and 30-minute presentation	Winifred Jordaan	Ahead of CONECT-3
Prepare CALMet insights session, incl. input from the three regional time-zone groups	Yuliana Purwanti & Heleen ter Pelkwijk	Ahead of CONECT-3
Coordinate WMO Secretariat updates session with the ETR Director; finalise and circulate the timed CONECT-3 agenda	Lu Veeck	From 11 September 2025
Develop the women's inclusion panel and draft recommendations for the Capacity Development Panel	WMO Education and Training Office in coordination with collaborators	Ahead of CONECT-3
Develop the accessible/plain language session	Romina Nahir Mezher, Vieri Tarchiani, Vagner Anabor	Ahead of CONECT-3
Develop the succession-planning open-space session	Winifred Jordaan & Bernie Connell	Ahead of CONECT-3
Prepare the AI in education/training session	WMO Education and Training Office	Ahead of CONECT-3

Action	Owner(s)	Deadline
Develop the youth-outreach brainstorming session	Vagner Anabor & Mick Pope, with Solangela Sánchez, Stephen Kerr	Ahead of CONECT-3
Submit written working group activity summaries	All 5 CONECT Working Group chairs/vice-chairs	By 5 September 2025
Complete session descriptions, formats and desired outcomes in the shared planning spreadsheet	All session leads/facilitators	Ahead of CONECT-3
Confirm registration (online or in-person) for the joint conference	All CONECT members	15 Sept (in-person) / 10 Nov (online)

Attendance

CONECT Management Group members and representatives attending

Winifred Jordaan (RTC South Africa); Mick Pope (BMTC); Vagner Anabor (UFMS); Barbara Bourdelles (ENM); Stephen Kerr (ECCC); Mohamed Tawfik (EMA); Solangela Sánchez/Chile (DGAC); Romina Nahir Mezher (SMN); Adityawarman (BMKG); Ratih Prasetya (BMKG – advisor); Diakaria Kone (EAMAC); Gaurishankar kallappa Sawaisarje (IMD); Michael S. Bala (PAGASA); Bernadette Connell (CIRA); Marina Baldi (RTC Italy), represented by Vieri Tarchiani; Yu Yubin (CMATC), represented by Assistant.

WMO Secretariat

Mustafa Adiguzel, Luciane Veeck, Yuliana Purwanti, Eunjin Choi.

Apologies / unable to attend

Valerii Micheev (RSHU), Arpita Mandal (University of West Indies), Steven Callaghan (UK Met Office).