

FUTURE WMO INFORMATION SYSTEM

(Submitted by WMO)

Summary and purpose of document

This working paper discusses recent development related to the Future WMO Information System

ACTION PROPOSED

CGMS members are invited to note the recent developments relating to FWIS.

- Appendices:**
- A. Questionnaire to Technical Commissions
 - B. Focal point on WMO metadata standards

DISCUSSION

1. The presidents of WMO Technical Commissions, at their recent meeting (Geneva, February 2004), expressed that they were keen to continue and bring to fruition the development and implementation of the FWIS within WMO. They felt that a strong, high-level coordination and collaboration mechanism spanning across the technical commissions would be more effective for achieving this challenging task than the current inter-programme collaboration mechanisms within a CBS expert team. They invited the Secretary-General to propose to EC-LVI the establishment of an Inter-Commission Group on FWIS. A draft resolution is being submitted to EC-LVI (June 2004) in this respect.

2. As emphasized by Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress, the comprehensive information exchange requirements of all WMO Programmes need to be taken into account to consolidate the FWIS concept and to develop design and implementation plans. In order to assess the data exchange requirements of WMO Programmes and their integration into a common system, a initial questionnaire (see Appendix A) was sent to the presidents of WMO Technical Commissions seeking information from WMO Technical Commissions about their respective WMO Programmes requirements and systems, at present and for the foreseeable future. TC presidents were invited to provide information in response to the questionnaire preferably before 1 September 2004.

3. Fourteenth Congress also requested all WMO Programmes to join their efforts in the further development of detailed WMO metadata standard, noting the crucial importance of metadata for the Future WMO Information System. The CBS Expert Team on Integrated Data Management (Geneva, December 2003) agreed that there was an urgent need to develop a mechanism to involve relevant WMO and related programmes in the further development of detailed WMO metadata standard. The meeting recommended the designation of focal points on WMO metadata standard for these programmes to promote and facilitate the coordinated development of the WMO metadata standard. The focal points are expected to:

- ?? Compile and share information on the experiences gained in the use of the draft WMO metadata standard within their programmes;
- ?? Co-ordinate proposals for the amendments to the WMO standard, i.e. amendments to the core WMO metadata standard and development/amendments to the extension of the WMO metadata standard specific to their programmes, and submit these proposals to the other focal points;
- ?? Consolidate proposals with a view to the extension of the WMO metadata standard.

4. In view of the above, TC presidents were invited to designate (a) focal point(s) on WMO metadata standard (see Appendix B) for the relevant programmes and activities of their Commission preferably before 1 June 2004.

QUESTIONNAIRE TO TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

Technical Commission:

Contact point for the questionnaire: Name:

E-mail:

Questions

1. Do you feel that your data management and exchange requirements within your programmes, or with other programmes, can be met by the FWIS? What specific issues can you identify?
2. What are the sources (providers) of data within your programmes? Who are the users of these data?
3. What are the entities (organizations) that need to be provided with your data within each WMO Member country?
4. Please map your current and future data exchange structure into the FWIS structure (see diagrams) with respect to GISCs, DCPCs and NCs, and corresponding data flows. Are there any specific issues related to this mapping?
5. Roughly how much volume in total needs to be exchanged by your programmes at present and in the foreseeable future?

What proportion of your data is required to be exchanged within the following timeframes:

- up to 15 minutes?
- 15 to 60 minutes?
- 1 to 3 hours?
- 3 hours to one day?
- longer than one day?

6. What proportion of your data is exchanged by:
 - the WWW GTS?
 - the Internet?
 - other mechanisms? Please specify.
 7. What proportion of your data is exchanged by:
 - routine dissemination (push)?
 - request-reply?
 - other mechanisms? Please specify.
 8. Please specify the general formats of your data with respect to:
 - WMO standards?
 - other international standards?
 - proprietary or other formats?
 9. Please describe the existing or planned metadata and catalogue standards within your programmes, and in particular provide information on the development of extensions of the WMO metadata standard in order to satisfy the requirements of your Programme and provide information on the experimentation of the use of the WMO metadata standard.
 10. Is there any other information about the data management and exchange requirements of your programmes you think FWIS needs to be aware of?
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FOCAL POINT ON WMO METADATA STANDARD**Focal point on WMO metadata standard:**

WMO or related programme*	
Technical Commission	
Name	
Address	
Tel.	
Fax	
E-mail	

* WMO and related Programmes concerned include:

Aeronautical Meteorology Programme
Agricultural Meteorology Programme
Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme
Global Climate Observing System
Hydrology and Water Resources Programme
Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme
Public Weather Service Programme
Space Programme
World Climate Programme
World Climate Research Programme
World Weather Watch Programme