

**CGMS WORKING GROUP III (WGIII) TERMS OF REFERENCE  
OPERATIONAL CONTINUITY AND CONTINGENCY PLANNING**

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Endorsed by CGMS-50 plenary 2022

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The Working Group on Contingency Planning (WGIII) was established in 1992 in order to deal with the risk of discontinuity in the key data services provided to WMO and coordinate contingency action planning to mitigate such risks.

The working group was initially focused on key missions for weather monitoring and forecasting and has since agreed to extend the scope to include All observations supporting weather, climate and space weather monitoring.

Working Group III creates and reviews the CGMS Baseline that shows CGMS members' sustained contributions to the observing of the Earth system, space environment and the Sun. The CGMS Baseline is the space contribution to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS).

Working Group III focuses on the monitoring of the implementation of the CGMS Baseline, via risk assessments and coordinating any contingency actions if necessary.

Working Group III has also developed a Contingency Plan to help guide a response if CGMS is unable to meet its commitments outlined in the CGMS Baseline document. The Contingency Plan does not prescribe responses, but outlines an approach to resolve gaps. These actions may be conducted by an individual member, bilaterally through back-up arrangements, or globally through a response coordinated in CGMS.

Further, Working Group III addresses socio-economic impacts of satellite missions.

## 2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

### SCOPE OF WGIII

WG III drafts and monitors the implementation of the CGMS Baseline, as agreed by CGMS Members, in response to requirements expressed by WMO, IOC-UNESCO, and other relevant user communities. WGIII also conducts an annual risk assessment against the CGMS Baseline to determine the need to take any action in order to secure continuity of services.

### OBJECTIVES

Working Group III has the following objectives:

1. Review and propose the CGMS Baseline, with reference to the Vision for WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) 2040 and taking into account the strategic plans of the CGMS members.;
2. Monitor the implementation of the CGMS Baseline;

3. Conduct an annual risk assessment of CGMS member contributions against the CGMS Baseline;
4. Identify service continuity issues and initiate risk analysis as appropriate;
5. Propose contingency planning addressing specific observational gaps or disruption to services to CGMS Plenary;
6. Propose optimisation measures for the observing systems as appropriate;
7. Map relevant R&D missions into the baseline and risk assessment; and
8. Ensure the OSCAR/Space information is up to date and utilise the database for CGMS risk assessment activities.
9. Develop capacity to assess socio-economic benefits of CGMS satellite missions.

## WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

### Members/Participation:

WGIII is a permanent working group and is co-chaired by two chairpersons supported by a rapporteur appointed by the CGMS Plenary. All CGMS members participate in WGIII.

Nomination of participants is under the responsibility of each agency but shall promote continuity and foster active contribution. WGIII co-chairs, rapporteur, and the CGMS Secretariat shall be informed by agencies of names of representatives and changes before the CGMS Plenary. The CGMS Secretariat will maintain the list of participants, as well as the WGIII information on the CGMS web site ([www.cgms-info.org](http://www.cgms-info.org)).

### Meetings:

WGIII will meet during the annual CGMS plenary session with an agenda covering the objectives of WGIII and shall also assess the status of implementation of the CGMS High Level Priority Plan and propose updates to it as necessary. The WGIII rapporteur compiles a report on the outcome of the meeting of the group, including consensus proposals for relevant CGMS actions and recommendations. This will be reported to the CGMS Plenary and will highlight aspects of relevance and/or identify topics needing high-level approval or guidance at the plenary.

The group convenes one workshop to address CGMS Baseline revisions and risk assessment, and additional inter-sessional meetings for addressing topics of interest or to complete actions and tasks identified at the annual WGIII meeting and plenary session.

### CGMS Member Coordination with WGIII:

Working Group III needs participation from all CGMS members and CGMS Working Groups in order to ensure that the CGMS Baseline and Contingency Plan are effectively monitored and implemented. Working Group III will request each CGMS member and CGMS Working Group to identify a point of contact who would attend each CGMS WGIII meeting.