



REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

SUMMARY

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

The issues raised in the report will be discussed under the relevant agenda items.

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

No specific action is required. The draft text, given in the Appendix for inclusion in the general summary of Cg-XV, acknowledges the overview report of the President, in particular the action that he has taken in the intersessional period.

REFERENCES:

1. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 960)
2. *Sixth WMO Long-term Plan, 2004-2011* (WMO-No. 962)
3. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifty fifth Session of the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 961)
4. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifty-sixth Session of the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 977)
5. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifty-seventh Session of the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 988)
6. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifty-eighth Session of the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 1007)
7. *Annual Report 2003* (WMO-No. 965)
8. *Annual Report 2004* (WMO-No. 980)
9. *Annual Report 2005* (WMO-No. 1000)
10. Reference Guide to the Work of the Executive Council

CONTENT OF DOCUMENT:

Appendix for inclusion in the final report:

Draft text for inclusion in the general summary of Cg-XV

Appendix for information:

Cg-XV/Rep. 2.1: Progress/Activity Report

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF Cg-XV

2.1 REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION (*agenda item 2.1*)

2.1.1 Congress noted with appreciation the report by the President including the summary of the activities of the Organization, its constituent bodies and the Secretariat since the close of Fourteenth Congress. It expressed its thanks to the outgoing Executive Council for its role in coordinating the work of the Organization and in utilizing its budgetary resources over the past four years and for the actions taken to implement the decisions of Fourteenth Congress, in particular new Programmes, namely the Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Programme and the WMO Space Programme as well as the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) Programme.

2.1.2 Congress reviewed the various matters affecting the current operation and future development of the Organization as summarized in the President's report and expressed its satisfaction with the work done on those and other issues in preparation for their consideration by Fifteenth Congress. Congress further noted with satisfaction the action taken by the President on behalf of the Executive Council since its fifty-fifth session.

2.1.3 Congress noted with appreciation the actions taken in strengthening collaboration and cooperation with the United Nations system and other international organizations, including NGOs as well as national meteorological/hydrological societies. Such collaboration and cooperation has improved the recognition of the role of the Organization as well as of NMHSs.

2.1.4 Those matters in the President's report, which called for specific action by the Congress were considered under the appropriate agenda items.

(Additional text to be added in the light of discussion on this item)

World Meteorological Organization

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

GENEVA, 2007



Cg-XV/Rep. 2.1

Submitted by: President

Date: 26.II.2007

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REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

PROGRESS/ACTIVITY REPORT

SUMMARY

Reference: Cg-XV/Doc. 2.1

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REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

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INTRODUCTION

1. Regulation 9 of the General Regulations defines the duties of the President of the Organization. In particular, it requires the President:

- (a) To preside over the sessions of Congress and sessions of the Executive Council held during his term of office (Regulation 9(1));
- (b) To guide and coordinate the activities of the Organization and its various bodies as specified in Article 4(a), (1) to (4) inclusive of the Convention (Regulation 9(2));
- (c) To issue directives to the Secretary-General with respect to the fulfilment of his duties (Regulation 9(3));

2. Regulation 9 also requires the President to report to each ordinary session of the Congress and to include in his report particulars of any case which has occurred, since the previous session of the Executive Council, in which he took action or adopted a decision or directive, which he would otherwise have been required to report to the Council if it had convened before the Congress (Regulation 9(8)).

3. Regulation 137 requires that the President's Report to Congress shall include:

- (a) A résumé of the activities of the Organization, its constituent bodies (particularly the Executive Council) and the Secretariat since the last session of Congress;
- (b) Matters which are required to be reported to Congress under the provisions of Regulation 9(8);
- (c) Any other matters affecting the Organization or its constituent bodies.

4. This report is presented in line with the requirements of Regulation 137. It is based primarily on the work of the Executive Council for the coordination of the programmes of the Organization and utilization of its budgetary resources in accordance with the decisions of Fourteenth Congress and it meets the Council's Article 14(g) responsibility to report on its activities to each session of Congress. It represents the Presidents account, on behalf of the officers and members of the Executive Council, of the Council's stewardship of the Organization over the past four years. It covers the period from the close of Fourteenth Congress to 28 February 2007.

RESUME OF ACTIVITIES

5. The activities of the Organization, its constituent bodies and the Secretariat over the four years since the close of Fourteenth Congress (*see reference 1 to Doc. 2.1*) are reported in detail in separate documents under other agenda items. A brief résumé is presented in this report.

THE ORGANIZATION

Membership

6. On 3 June 2006, the President of the Republic of Serbia notified the Secretary-General of the United Nations that the membership of the state union Serbia and Montenegro in the United Nations including all organs and organizations of the United Nations system, is continued by the Republic of Serbia. The United Nations confirmed the membership of the Republic of Serbia on 7 June 2006. In this context, the Republic of Serbia is a Member of the Organization instead of former Serbia and Montenegro. The Republic of Montenegro became a Member of the United Nations on 28 June 2006. The Republic of Montenegro had deposited an instrument of accession to the WMO

Convention to the Government of the United States of America on 6 December 2006 in accordance with Articles 3 (b) and 33 of the Convention. Accordingly, the Republic of Montenegro became a new Member of the Organization on 5 January 2007, in accordance with Article 35 of the Convention.

7. At 31 January 2007, the Membership of the Organization was 188 comprising 182 Member States and 6 Member Territories.

CONSTITUENT BODIES

Congress

8. The decisions of Fourteenth Congress have provided the basis for the activities of the Organization during the period under review.

Executive Council

9. The present membership of the Executive Council and changes which have taken place since Fourteenth Congress, are shown in Annex I.

10. The Executive Council has held four sessions since Fourteenth Congress on the following dates:

Fifty-fifth session	-	26 to 28 May 2003
Fifty-sixth session	-	8 to 18 June 2004
Fifty-seventh session	-	21 June to 1 July 2005
Fifty-eighth session	-	20 to 30 June 2006

11. In addition to its formal sessions, the Executive Council has carried out its responsibilities, under Article 14 of the Convention, and its work on implementation of the decisions of Fourteenth Congress, through the work of the Bureau and a number of panels, working or advisory groups and other subsidiary bodies.

12. The Bureau carried out its work in line with the role assigned to it by Ninth Congress and elaborated in the Reference Guide to the Work of the Executive Council (*see reference 10 to Doc. 2.1*). It provided an essential mechanism for the President to consult with the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary-General and invitees, especially the regional presidents, on the major issues involved in the discharge of his Regulation 9 responsibility to guide and coordinate the activities of the Organization. It also played a vital role in assisting the President and Secretary-General in their detailed planning for sessions of the Congress and the Executive Council in accordance with Regulation 155. The Bureau held two sessions per year during the period, one in January-February each year and one in association with the annual sessions of the Executive Council.

13. While, in line with its role as an advisory rather than a decision-making body, the Bureau did not issue formal reports on its sessions, the President kept Executive Council members and, through the regional presidents, all Members, informed by letter on the main matters dealt with at its January-February sessions.

14. A number of subsidiary bodies of the Executive Council carried out essential preparatory and coordination work in support of the Council's action on the tasks assigned to it by Fourteenth Congress in the intersessional period and supported its work during its annual sessions. The list of sessions of subsidiary bodies is given in Annex II.

15. The Executive Council carried out work entrusted to it by the Regulations and by Fourteenth Congress in a satisfactory manner. The President is pleased to be able to inform the Congress that

he considers the actions taken by the Council on most issues should contribute helpfully to the decisions of Fifteenth Congress under the various agenda items. The Council, however, found itself under heavy pressure trying to deal with such a wide range of matters with the reduced length of its sessions and, despite a number of efficiency measures introduced into its work, it was not always able to deal with some issues in as much depth as it would have wished. Given the increasingly heavy demands on the time of most Council members by their national responsibilities, not all members were able to attend the full duration of every session of the Council or contribute fully to the work of its subsidiary bodies. While placing on record his appreciation to all members of the Council for their work, the President wishes to remind those seeking election to the new Council that the effective working of the Council will place significant demands on them and their time.

Regional associations

16. The regional associations continued to conduct their work in an efficient manner, with most sessions conducted in a shorter time than before. They gave considerable attention to the further development of National Meteorological (or Hydrometeorological) Services and Hydrological Services with a view to ensuring their fuller participation in, and deriving optimum benefits from, the Programmes and activities of the Organization. The main concern was to support, in a cost-effective manner, their countries' national socio-economic development in the context of implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As each president of the six regional associations will submit his report to Fifteenth Congress under agenda item 3.8.1, no details concerning the activities of the individual regional associations are included here. For record purposes, the list of sessions of the regional associations held since Fourteenth Congress is shown in Annex III.

17. The President wishes to draw the attention of the Congress to the extraordinarily heavy load of responsibilities carried by the regional presidents and their vice-presidents under Regulation 166, especially on such important matters as strategy and priorities for the WMO Long-term Plan. While the work of the regional associations has been well supported by the Regional and Sub-regional Offices and in other ways, the pressures on the officers have continued to increase as the range of issues they have been required to deal with has continued to expand.

Technical commissions

18. The technical commissions conducted their work in their customary efficient manner, with most of the sessions being shorter than previously. Most of the technical commissions changed their working structures towards open programme areas, giving greater flexibility in task oriented work and inter-disciplinary interactions. The work of the Commissions ensured the provision of appropriate studies and reviews of advances in science and technology to Members and constituent bodies. Efforts were pursued to ensure the widest participation in the sessions and work of the Commissions. As each president will report to Fifteenth Congress, under the agenda item relevant to the scientific and technical programme, no details concerning the activities of the individual technical commissions are given here. For record purposes, the list of sessions of technical commissions held since Fourteenth Congress is shown in Annex IV.

19. In addition to their leadership of the work of their individual Commissions, the presidents of the technical commissions continued to contribute strongly to the overall work of WMO through their participation in the annual sessions of the Executive Council and in a number of important subsidiary bodies of the Council. The annual Meetings of the Presidents of Technical Commissions, chaired in rotation by the Vice-Presidents of WMO, and the coordination meetings of presidents of technical commissions and regional associations continued to play a vital role in ensuring effective cooperation and coordination among WMO Programmes and in developing important initiatives in areas of shared responsibility.

SECRETARIAT

20. The role and functions of the Secretariat are given in Articles 20-22 of the Convention and Regulation 201 of the General Regulations. The activities of the Secretariat are wide-ranging and affect virtually every undertaking in which the Organization is engaged. The Secretary-General is responsible to the President for the technical and administrative work of the Secretariat. The Secretary-General's managerial and administrative functions are supported through the Executive Management Committee, the Comité de Direction and special internal thematic steering committees, etc.

21. The Secretariat continued to carry out its functions with great dedication and professionalism, albeit with increasingly heavy workloads and declining budget resources in some areas, making it difficult to meet the expectations of Members and constituent bodies on many important issues.

22. During the period covered by the report, the major activities of the Secretariat consisted of the initiation of the implementation of the decisions of Fourteenth Congress. In order to respond to these, a number of structural and organizational changes have been introduced in the Secretariat since the beginning of 2004. The objectives of the changes in the Secretariat are to enhance support to Members, increase the role, contribution and visibility of WMO including National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and to ensure improved mutually beneficial interaction with relevant operational, scientific, academic, capacity building and policy making institutions and bodies at national, regional and international levels.

23. A major change in the Secretariat relates to the establishment of a Regional Affairs and Technical Cooperation for Development Department (RCD), which was renamed as the Development Cooperation and Regional Activities Department (DCR) in 2006 that will bring increased harmony and greater synergy between the Technical Cooperation and Regional Programmes.

24. In order to implement crosscutting and evolving issues and enhance WMO's overall capacity to support the activities of NMHSs, Steering Committees on Climate, Integrated Observing System and Disaster Reduction have become operational. In addition, a Fellowships Committee was established in the Secretariat in order to reach the highest possible level of effectiveness, fairness and transparency in the granting and the implementation of fellowships.

25. One of the top priorities has been to further enhance internal controls and oversight and to restore integrity, enhance transparency and improve efficiency. In this respect, an Internal Oversight Office (IOO) was established with internal audit functions and evaluation and monitoring in order to strengthen internal oversight activities. In addition, steps have been taken to strengthen the procurement process. Significant progress has also been made on the development of a WMO Code of Ethics for staff. In addition, a mandatory disclosure of interests has been implemented for senior staff and staff in critical positions to proactively deal with potential conflict of interest. Moreover, further fraud prevention training is being provided to WMO staff and much stricter control and equity have been implemented for the award and monitoring of fellowships.

26. Other Secretariat policies and procedures adopted in this respect correspond to administrative process simplification, reduction of response time, significant reduction in recruitment time and mobility of staff, a new contractual policy for short-term staff to prohibit precarious contracts, implementation of the ORACLE automation project, increased outsourcing of support activities, introduction of new result-based budget format, delegation of authority and accountability. Additional internal management issues have been pursued throughout 2006 and are increasingly characterized by a forward-looking approach. During the period, two regular presentations each year were made to the Permanent Missions in Geneva, in order to update them on the development related to Programmes, the main environmental issues, the critical role of their NMHSs and reform within the Organization.

27. Administrative and financial issues and reforms in the Secretariat over the past four years will be considered under agenda item 10.

PROGRAMMES

28. The activities of the Organization over the past four years have been planned, budgeted, managed and evaluated on a programme basis within the overall framework of the Sixth Long-term Plan (2004-2011). These have been summarized in the WMO Annual Reports for 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 respectively, with further information provided in the quarterly issues of the WMO Bulletin as well as in *MeteoWorld*, online WMO News, and numerous documents and other programmes publications. Reports on the implementation of the individual programmes including two new Programmes approved by Fourteenth Congress, namely the Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Programme and WMO Space Programme, are submitted under item 3 of the Congress Agenda and the Executive Council's report to Congress on its monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan is presented under item 6.1 of the Congress Agenda.

RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

29. In order to enhance and strengthen cooperation with the UN system and other international organizations, several measures have been taken including the involvement of the Organization in major UN events such as the 2005 World Summit, the International Meeting on SIDS (January 2005, Mauritius), the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (January 2005, Japan), the second phase of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) (November 2005, Tunis) as well as follow-up actions related to the Indian Ocean Tsunami. WMO actively participated in the meetings of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and sessions of the Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB) as well as COPs of UNFCCC, UNCCD and other environmental conventions. The Secretary-General maintains high-level contacts within the UN system through, in particular, the UN CEB, with the Permanent Missions at the level of Permanent Representatives and Ambassadors, Executive Heads of IGOs, NGOs development partners, as well as the highest policy and decision-making levels at national levels.

30. WMO actively participated in UN inter-agency groups, such as UN-Water, UN-Oceans, Environmental Management Group (EMG), UN Communication Group, UN Development Group, etc. WMO followed closely the process of UN system reform and participated in relevant consultations along with other specialized agencies. WMO followed UN resolutions and regularly kept Members informed on the issues related to WMO.

31. WMO actively continued to strengthen cooperation with international funding agencies including the World Bank in capacity building of NMHSs. Starting from 2005, based on the President's initiative, the World Bank undertook actions to study the state and development of Hydrometeorological Services in 19 countries of Europe and Central Asia. The purpose of the study is to enhance capacity building of NMHSs in the fields of weather and climate forecasting, while using the most effective ways of their development, so as to meet the needs of sustainable development at national, regional as well as global levels. At present, studies have been successfully completed for Albania, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Serbia, indicating potential benefits they could achieve due to investments in the programmes/projects of modernization of their NMHS. The Governments approved the feasibility of such activities. Others will be finished at the second half of 2007. The Governments of Belarus and Kazakhstan are looking to co-financing state programmes/projects for modernization of their NMHS with the World Bank.

32. WMO continued to broaden cooperation with other international organizations in support of WMO Programmes and of NMHSs. Several Memoranda of Understanding were signed such as with the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC), the United Nations Institute for Training and

Research Operational Programme on Satellite Application (UNOSAT) and the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP). Cooperation was strengthened with national and regional meteorological and hydrological Societies. WMO also co-sponsored a number of annual meetings of meteorological societies.

33. A major activity involving international cooperation in the field of hydrology and water resources was the Fourth World Water Forum, held in March 2006 in Mexico, where WMO played a key role, not only through its active participation as a convener of several technical sessions and exhibitor in the Water Fair, but in its capacity of technical adviser of the local organizers in the Framework Theme on Risk Management. Also work has initiated in the development of the programme of work of the "International Flood Initiative (IFI)", following the guidance of the fifty-seventh session of the Council.

34. In order to strengthen cooperation with the United Nations and North America, as well as the European Commission, the WMO Liaison Office in New York and the Joint Office of the World Meteorological Organization and the European Meteorological Services Network (EUMETNET) at the European Commission (EC) in Brussels were re-established and established in 2005, 2006 respectively.

MATTERS WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED TO CONGRESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF REGULATION 9(8) OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS

35. Decisions taken by the President on behalf of the Executive Council before the fifty-eighth session of the Executive Council were reported and approved by its fifty-sixth, fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions respectively. Since fifty-eighth session of the Executive Council, Mr F.P. Mote (Ghana) and Mr M. Shawky Saadallah (Egypt) from Region I (Africa) ceased to be elected members of the Executive Council. Their seats of the Council have therefore become vacant by virtue of the provisions of Article 6(a) of the Convention. In this context the President decided to elect two acting members by correspondence due to the vacancy occurring at least 225 days before the next session of the Council. Dr M.D. Everell (Canada) and Mr J.K. Rabadi (Jordan) also ceased to hold their position as Permanent Representative of Canada and Jordan with WMO respectively in November and December 2006. The President decided no action to be taken due to the two vacancies occurring less than 225 days before next session of the Council.

OTHER MATTERS AFFECTING THE ORGANIZATION

NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND MAJOR ISSUES

World Summits

36. WMO actively involved and participated in the World Summit (14-16 September 2005, New York). The Summit reaffirmed that sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental aspects constituted a key element of the overarching framework of the United Nations activities. In the section on sustainable development, the wide range of climate change issues have been highlighted. It was recognized that climate change is a serious and long-term challenge that has the potential to affect every part of the globe. It was acknowledged that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation and participation in an effective and appropriate international response. One of the major issues to which the participants of the World Summit have paid special attention was the issue of natural disasters. The Summit urged all nations to work expeditiously towards the establishment of a worldwide early warning system for all natural hazards. It noted the necessity to fully implement the Hyogo Declaration and the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (January 2005, Kobe, Japan). The Summit expressed the commitment of all nations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular SIDS, LDCs and African countries, including those that are particularly vulnerable to climate change, in addressing their adaptation needs.

37. The Outcome Document of the Summit had placed emphasis on three policy-related requirements: strengthening linkage between the normative and operational work of the system; better coordination of the representation of Member States on the system's governing bodies; and ensuring that the main horizontal policy themes – sustainable development, human rights and gender – are taken into due account in decision-making. The UN system had been challenged to be more effective, more efficient across the breadth of its agenda and to demonstrate greater coherence.

38. In 2001, The UN General Assembly decided to organize a World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) to promote and foster the potential of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for development. WMO participated in the two WSIS phases held in Geneva in December 2003 and in Tunis in November 2005. The WSIS Tunis Agenda recognizes the intrinsic relationship between disaster reduction, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty, while stressing the enabling role of ICTs for disaster early warning, management and emergency communications. WMO is contributing to the multi-stakeholder implementation and follow-up of the E-environment Action Line of the WSIS Plan of Action.

Support of Multilateral Environmental Agreements

39. The Organization continued to take an active part in many of the major activities of the United Nations. Since COP-11 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, it has actively participated in the work of the Convention and particularly enhanced the role of WMO and NMHSs in the implementation of the UNFCCC Programme of Work on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change. This has led to a better understanding of the Parties to the Convention on the role of WMO and NMHSs in the adaptation process and its important role in the management and operation of the global observation network. Since Fourteenth Congress the number of delegates from the WMO community to the UNFCCC COP sessions has significantly increased.

40. The Organization has consulted with at least 14 UN Agencies and international bodies, including FAO, IPCC, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFCCC, WHO and ICSU on a potential partnership in a possible World Climate Conference-3. In this context, WMO along with UN Agencies continued the work on defining the science agenda, issues for the high-level segment, plans for resource mobilization, and coordination at the national and international levels, until a final decision on a possible WCC-3 is reached during Fifteenth Congress.

41. WCRP continues to address the question of enhancing the delivery of its capability to the UNFCCC. WMO organized a side event during the SBSTA-24 meeting in May 2006, entitled 'Climate change research achievements and challenges: priority goals for WCRP'. The side event emphasized the importance of research for projecting human-induced climate change, for detecting and attributing climate change, for assessing the impact of mitigation measures and also focussed on research gaps for managing climate change impacts and facilitating adaptation to future climate change. WCRP produced a document in response to the call for input on the 'research needs' for the UN FCCC/SBSTA Synthesis Report. Crafted into it was a series of key messages – expressed as research priority gaps.

42. GCOS reported, as requested, to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its twenty-fifth session (SBSTA-25) in Nairobi in November 2006 on progress related to the Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC. This report included the development of revised guidelines for Parties to report to the Conference of the Parties (COP) on their activities in systematic observation of the climate system, development of more detail on requirements for satellite observations, and progress in follow-on activities to the Regional Workshop Programme. GAW leads the implementation of three Actions in the Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC

(GCOS-92) related to global networks for greenhouse gases, ozone and aerosols. From 2005, GAW started issuing annual Bulletins on Greenhouse Gases.

43. Through the WCRP and GAW programmes, WMO continued its strong support for the Vienna Convention on Protection of the Ozone Layer, the Montreal Protocol and its amendments. In 2005, WMO, in partnership with UNEP and the host country Austria, organized special meetings in Vienna to celebrate the 20th anniversary of this highly successful convention. In 2006, the Executive Summary of the quadrennial “UNEP/WMO Scientific Assessment of Ozone Depletion” was released concluding that the ozone layer over the mid-latitudes (30°-60° North and South) should recover by 2049, five years later than anticipated by the 2002 assessment. GAW has been regularly issuing weekly Antarctic Ozone Bulletins. The first WMO Arctic Ozone Bulletin describing the 2005-2006 winter was issued in September 2006. GAW also supports the UN-ECE Convention on Long Range Trans-boundary Transport of Air Pollution co-chairing its Task Force and Measurements and Modelling.

Climate Variability and Change

44. WMO has been regularly issuing an Annual Statement on Global Climate every year, based on contributions worldwide. In collaboration with CLIVAR-WCRP, workshops on climate change indices have been organized in several parts of the world, contributing to a standardized approach to define and quantify them. The WMO WCP continues with the publication of global consensus-driven El Nino and La Nino Updates. It has also been working on the Guidelines on Heat-Health Warning Systems (HHWS).

45. Since the Fourteenth Congress a significant milestone has been the publication of the WCRP’s 10-year Strategic Framework (2005-2015) in September 2005. The central focus of this Framework is to catalyze research to improve the understanding of climate processes and to facilitate the incorporation of this understanding into a range of products, predictions, and projections for a broad range of users. In this new Framework, WCRP engages in a number of cross-cutting initiatives through the implementation of task forces and working groups in areas such as seasonal prediction, anthropogenic climate change, monsoons, chemistry and climate, extremes and risks, and sea-level rise. Cross-cutting activities bring together scientists with other key stakeholders such as policy makers, development agencies, and private industry specialists in order to address specific problems or research questions. In June 2006, the WCRP brought together 163 scientists from 29 countries to identify uncertainties associated with sea-level rise and the research and observational activities needed for narrowing these uncertainties. The WCRP Task Force on Seasonal Prediction, has developed plans for an experiment to utilize advances, understanding and assessment skills across all WCRP projects.

46. Since the Fourteenth Congress, significant advances in the Earth System Science Partnership have also been made. A major milestone was the Second ESSP Open Science Conference on “ Global Environmental Change: Regional Challenges” held in Beijing, 9-12 November 2006. The conference attracted more than 800 scientists, policy-makers, practitioners, scholars, members of the private sector and journalists. A joint project on Global Change and Human Health and the International Science Plan of the first ESSP regional effort, the Monsoon Asia Integrated Regional study (MAIRS), were launched during the conference.

Coordination and Integration of Observations

47. The new WMO Space Programme established by the Fourteenth Congress as a major cross-cutting programme has dedicated its efforts towards improving the space-based component of the Global Observing System, increasing access to satellite data and products through new technologies that are cost efficient for WMO Members and enhancing the utilization of satellite data and products through focused education and training.

48. Since the last Congress, new space agencies operating satellite missions that produce valuable data and products have joined the GOS including the Republic of Korea with its COMS mission, and the China National Space Administration (CNSA) with its HY and HJ series of satellites. WMO Members' space agencies contributing to the space-based GOS have maintained vibrant space programmes including the United States of America, the Russian Federation, India, China, Japan, the European Organization for the Exploitation on Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT), and the European Space Agency (ESA). These space agencies have also agreed to implement a new WMO Global Space-based Inter-calibration System (GSICS) that will be a major contribution towards meeting the GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles. Data access has been vastly increased through the capabilities provided by the Integrated Global Data Dissemination Service (IGDDS) that is an integral part of the WMO Information System (WIS). Finally, WMO Members are now able to better exploit satellite data and products through knowledge gained through the Virtual Laboratory for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology. In October 2006, the Virtual Laboratory made possible a High Profile Training Event in which more than 120 of WMO's Members participated in a concentrated two-week period.

49. Another initiative in which WMO has been extremely active is the new Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) that is being developed by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO). GEO started after the Fourteenth Congress, and WMO has been a strong contributor towards GEO's efforts to establish a global, coordinated and sustained observing system of systems to meet the needs of nine societal benefit areas that include weather, water, climate and disasters. WMO is a Participating Organization in GEO and has served in all GEO Committees. While GEO's mandate goes beyond those of WMO, WMO's considerable experience and expertise have greatly assisted in the establishment of GEOSS. As part of a close cooperation and to enable synergies, the GEO Secretariat is located in the WMO building.

50. Large strides forward were achieved in the production of an Integrated Global Atmospheric Chemistry Observations (IGACO) strategy that when implemented through the GAW Strategic Plan: 2008-2015 will be a major component of the future WMO integrated observing system. GAW networks and the GAW Urban Research and Meteorology Experiment (GURME) have been maintained and developed strengthening linkages to the World Weather Research Programme. GAW support for quality assurance, calibration and applications of ground-based (in situ, balloon and remote sensing) and aircraft observations measurements are a unique contribution to GEOSS.

51. GCOS also cooperated closely with the Committee on Earth Observations (CEOS) in developing their report to SBSTA-25 on the response by Parties with Earth observation space agencies to the needs expressed in the IP, as had been requested by COP-10. SBSTA-25, GCOS Regional Workshop Programme and ClimDev Africa, an integrated, multi-partner programme called Climate for Development in Africa, or ClimDev Africa, has been initiated as a follow-on from a workshop organized by GCOS and the UN Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa in 2006. The ClimDev programme involves partnership with the African Union, the ECA, WMO and several donors (including the UK's Department for International Development). The new programme is intended to help African countries attain the Millennium Development Goals through improvements in climate observations, climate services, climate risk management, and climate policy needs in Africa. GCOS Network Implementation of GCOS networks continues, with additional networks being formally added as appropriate.

WMO Information System (WIS)

52. The WIS is developing as a major component of all WMO Programmes, building upon and expanding the GTS functions and services. Considerable efforts have been made in the development of WIS pilot projects and prototypes and in demonstrating the technological solutions for WIS, but much work remains to be done to implement an operational WIS. The Technical Conference on the WMO Information System (TECO-WIS), immediately preceding CBS-Ext.(06), was much appreciated. CBS and the ICG-WIS, with the support of adequate financial and human

resources, have to develop appropriate regulatory WIS documentation, including a precise definition of the WIS position and functions in the general WMO infrastructure, as well as an implementation plan and guidance material for implementation. Capacity building and outreach activities for developing countries are critical for enabling full benefits from WIS. All regional associations, technical commissions and WMO Programmes should actively participate in the WIS development and implementation.

Quality Management Framework (QMF)

53. Quality management is of increasing importance for NMHSs. Many benefits can be expected from the proper implementation of a quality management system (QMS). A number of NMHSs have already implemented QMSs for all or part of their activities and are mainly following the quality management standards proposed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Regional and national legislations appear to drive some of these implementations and usually require the QMS to follow a precise standard as well as certification by an independent body. In the development of its own quality management framework (QMF), WMO should ensure that its recommendations are, as far as possible, compatible with widespread regional regulations and so avoid an unnecessary additional burden to NMHSs.

Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation

54. Fourteenth Congress has established a new cross-cutting Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DPM) Programme with the vision to strengthen further contributions of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), in a more cost-effective, systematic and sustainable manner, towards improving the safety and well being of communities through mainstreaming of their products and services in the disaster risk management decision processes. This Programme addresses capacity development of NMHSs in supporting disaster risk management (DRM) decisions at the national level in the complete cycle of disaster risk management including prevention and mitigation as well as emergency preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction.

55. The Executive Council in 2006 approved a cross-cutting coordination framework, for identifying DPM Programme's strategic priorities and concrete projects that would be measurable with respect to their benefits and outcomes. Such cross-cutting projects would be prioritized and built upon activities of WMO Programmes, technical commissions, regional associations, and strategic partners, with clear definition of roles, responsibilities and deliverables.

56. The DPM Programme operating plan is being prepared, outlining the overall WMO strategy in DRM, and within the WMO result-based framework, providing key areas of focus and related prioritized projects, to address Members' needs and gaps more systematically. Based on the outcomes of surveys and further consultations with Members, the DPM Programme has identified seven priority areas, through which it aims to provide systematic support to strengthen Members' NMHSs capacities for strengthened disaster risk management at national, regional and international levels. Recommendations on a mechanism for strengthening collaboration for DPM related projects along with a WMO DPM Operation Plan are presented under the relevant agenda item.

Water issues

57. Since Cg-XIV, WMO has addressed some water issues with a special emphasis. Outstanding among these is the Flood Forecasting Initiative, which had as its main objective to improve the capacity of Meteorological and Hydrological Services to jointly deliver timely and more accurate products and services required in flood forecasting and warning. Seven regional workshops were held and a Synthesis Conference was organized in late 2006 to prepare an action plan that Congress will discuss under agenda item 3.5. Also in the field of floods, WMO has

continued to promote through the “Associated Programme on Flood Management” the concept of Integrated Flood Management, which is flood management in the framework of Integrated Water Resources Management. After a first implementation phase of five years, the second implementation phase started in August 2006 with a foreseen duration of another five years. The programme has been supported by Japan and The Netherlands. Pilot projects in various regions have been developed and several advocacy publications have been prepared promoting the concept.

58. The other issue of main concern for WMO is that of capacity building in the field of hydrology and water resources. This issue is addressed through a multi-faceted approach: on one side the World Hydrological Cycle Observing System has continued developing regional components, those currently under implementation being: VOLTA-HYCOS, NIGER-HYCOS, SADC-HYCOS Phase II and PACIFIC-HYCOS. Through these projects, NMHSs become familiar with new technologies in a regional cooperation framework. Another issue to which the Commission for Hydrology is dedicating special attention is the WMO Quality Framework. Within this framework it is important to note the publication of the 2006 Edition of *Volume III: Hydrology* of the Technical Regulations, the progress made in the preparation of the Sixth Edition of the *Guide to Hydrological Practices*, and the advance made in the preparation of several manuals. Finally, the implementation of the WMO Strategy on Education and Training in Hydrology and Water Resources, approved by CHy, is beginning to bear its first fruits, with a series of successful regional training workshops on subjects of importance to the NHSs of the different regions.

Role and Operation of NMHSs

59. As a means of further reiterating to policy makers the vital role of NMHSs as indispensable players in socio-economic activities, a policy statement entitled the Executive Council Statement on the Role and Operation of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services for Decision-Makers was circulated to Members and other interested partners. A more detailed statement for use by Directors of Meteorological and/or Hydrological Services is being finalized by the Secretariat. Efforts were also made to continue with the enhancement of the various contributions of WMO and the broader meteorological and hydrological communities, especially the NMHSs, to sustainable development that remained at central of all considerations for the WMO.

60. There was a challenge of fostering closer cooperation between NMSs and NHSs in countries where the services are separated (which is about 90% of the cases). In this connection Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at national and river basin levels was among others taken advantage of in fostering closer collaboration between Hydrological and Meteorological Services as both Services are involved in IWRM. This approach will be applied where possible. It was also recommended that the various guidelines being published by WMO should include encouragement for the Meteorological and Hydrological Services to work closer together.

International Exchange of Data and Products

61. Significant advances have been made in the development and implementation of the Hydrological Cycle Observing Systems (HYCOS) projects. The Secretariat used this opportunity to promote the implementation of Resolution 25 (Cg-XIII) through the implementation of the WHYCOS programme. The Secretariat also prepared and published, in English, French and Spanish, guidelines on the development, implementation and governance of HYCOS components. The international exchange of hydrological data and products has been considered as a pre-requisite for participating in HYCOS projects. All participating countries in the newly developed HYCOS projects signed agreements with the Executing Agency on the exchange of the hydrological data to allow free and easy exchange of data between the NHSs and the Project Regional Centre.

62. On the international exchange of climate data and products, data exchange between Members and data archiving institutions, and conditions imposed in this exchange, in particular the fact that some institutions put charges for Members to access to these archived data, was discussed by the Commission for Climatology (CCI) Management Group in February 2006 as a follow-up on discussions raised during CC-XIV, Beijing, November 2005, and other regional meetings. The Management Group noted that among others, issues related to data policies have been written to law in some countries. The CCI Management Group agreed to review this matter in consultation with CBS. However the CCI Management Group requested that regions need to make written requests to WMO on their specific concerns in this subject.

63. As regards aeronautical data, the thirteenth session of CAeM was informed of the possible implications of the migration of operational aeronautical meteorology data from the traditional alphanumeric codes (METAR, TAF SIGMET, AIRMET) to Table Driven Code Forms. At CAeM-XIII, the establishment of a Trust Fund for LDC was decided in order to ensure continued reception and display of World Area Forecast System data for aviation. Members were encouraged to consider the use of the public Internet and standard commercial graphics software to access WAFS data via FTP as an alternative to the costly and maintenance-intensive use of dedicated SADIS-IIG workstations for the replacement of ageing SADIS equipment

64. In connection with Marine Meteorology and Oceanography data, JCOMM has been developing its data exchange and management mechanisms and procedures within the context of the data exchange policies of both WMO and IOC. In this context, JCOMM is reviewing its Data Management Strategy, which is currently under review by the Commission.

65. Recent developments and initiatives such as on the expanded satellite activities which now cover R&D satellites and the GEOSS initiative have implications to the free and unrestricted international exchange of meteorological and related data and products that are under consideration.

66. Countries and the international community are making efforts to ensure effective follow-up to the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS). It is important that NMHSs are vigilant in their respective countries, as regards the aspects that concern exchange of data and products. This is with a view of getting them involved in relevant aspects that affect their activities.

Social and Economic Value of NMHSs

67. The work started on evaluation of the importance of the social and economic benefits of meteorological and hydrological services. In this context a conference on social and economic benefits of meteorological and hydrological services, was organized in Madrid Spain, 19-22 March 2007. The conference is expected to advance understanding in the way everyday social and economic decisions are influenced by weather, climate and water information and services, and the benefits of this information to society, of the decision-making process and how information providers need to adapt to decision-makers' needs. The conference provides a unique forum for interaction between both the public and private sector providers of weather, climate and water services, and present and future users of these services, including many in weather- and climate-sensitive sectors who do not yet incorporate environmental information in their decision-making.

68. As part of the process leading up to the conference, a number of regional events were held in Manila, Philippines (23-25 November 2005) and sub-regional workshops for North, Central and West Africa were held in Bamako, Mali (29 May-1 June 2006), in Brazil (11-14 July 2006), in Nairobi, Kenya (28-30 August 2006), United Republic of Tanzania (1-3 November 2006), Kuwait (18-21 November 2006) and Croatia (February 2007).

IPY 2007-2008

69. Preparation and implementation of the International Polar Year (IPY) 2007-2008 advanced considerably. The Joint Committee for IPY completed evaluation of all full project proposals and endorsed 160 proposals as a prominent and valued part of the IPY programme. The WMO Intercommission Task Group (ITG) on the IPY developed recommendations on the role of technical commissions in the process of the preparation of IPY full proposals. The recommendations are being addressed by the technical commissions. The WCRP has also contributed to the planning of the IPY. In order to facilitate IPY implementation, the Joint Committee had established three Sub-Committees: on Observations, on Data policy and Management and on Education, Outreach and Communications.

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

70. The financial situation of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is sound. Arrears in Members' contributions have been decreasing during the fourteenth financial period. Cash balances and reserves are considered appropriate in view of the specific programme situation and operating principles. The implementation of the regular budget for the financial period processed in accordance with the approval provided by Members and with available resources.

CONCLUSION

71. Despite the wide range of complex issues impacting on the role and operation of WMO, the intense financial and major challenges being faced by many Members in maintaining their meteorological and hydrological service provision at the national level, the Organization, as a whole, has functioned effectively over the past four years and has achieved major progress on core activities. It is well placed to begin the Fifteenth Financial Period with a clear vision of the future, an effective strategy for its achievement and a renewed commitment from Members, the constituent bodies and the Secretariat.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

72. The President wishes to place on record his sincere appreciation to all those who have contributed in one way or another to the continued progress of the Organization over the past four years. He would like to express his special thanks to the Vice-Presidents and to other members of the Executive Council for their important work on behalf of WMO during the past four-year period. Particular thanks are due also to the presidents of regional associations and of technical commissions, especially those who completed their term, the chairmen and members of working groups, advisory groups and expert panels and individual rapporteurs, for the large voluntary effort that they have put in to ensure the effective working of the WMO. The President also records his special thanks to the Secretary-General and to his staff for their valued assistance and support which has, in so many ways, facilitated the work of the Executive Council and the other constituent bodies.

ANNEX I

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (as of 31 December 2006)

1. Officers

President:	A.I. Bedritsky (Russian Federation)
First Vice-President:	A. M. Noorian (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Second Vice-President:	T. Sutherland (British Caribbean Territories)
Third Vice-President:	Comodoro Miguel Angel Rabiolo (Argentina)

2. Ex-Officio members

President of RA I (Africa):
M.L. Bah (Republic of Guinea)

President of RA II (Asia):
A. Majeed H. Isa (Bahrain)

President of RA III (South America):
C.R.J. Vinas Garcia (Venezuela)

President of RA IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean):
C. Fuller (Belize)

President of RA V (South-West Pacific):
A. Ngari (Cook Islands)

President of RA VI (Europe):
D.K. Keuerleber-Burk (Switzerland)

3. Elected members

P-E. Bisch	(France) (acting)
F. Cadarso González	(Spain) (acting)
M. Capaldo	(Italy) (acting)
Qamar-uz-Zaman Chaudhry	(Pakistan)
F.D. Freires Lucio	(Mozambique) (acting)
T. Hiraki	(Japan) (acting)
W. Kusch	(Germany) (acting)
J.J. Kelly	(United States of America)
M. Konate	(Mali) (acting)
G.B. Love	(Australia) (acting)
J. Lumsden	(New Zealand)
P. Manso	(Costa Rica) (acting)
A. Divino Moura	(Brazil) (acting)
J.R. Mukabana	(Kenya)
D. Musoni	(Rwanda) (acting)
S. Nair	(India) (acting)
I. Obrusnik	(Czech Republic) (acting)
H.H. Oliva	(Chile)
Qin Dahe	(China)
J. Mitchell	(United Kingdom) (acting)
B.T. Sekoli	(Lesotho)
YAP Kok Seng	(Malaysia) (acting)
Five seats vacant	

The changes in membership since Fourteenth Congress are given below:

1. Ex-Officio members

Dr M.L. Bah (Republic of Guinea)	elected president of RA I at its fourteenth session (February 2007) in replacement of Dr M.S. Mhita (United Republic of Tanzania)
Mr A. Majeed H. Isa (Bahrain)	elected president of RA II at its thirteenth session (December 2004) instead of acting president from January 2001
Mr C.R.J. Vinas Garcia (Venezuela)	elected president of RA III at its fourteenth session (September 2006) in replacement of Mr Lic. Raul Michelini (Uruguay) (October 2003 to September 2006), who also replaced H. Valiente (Paraguay) (from April 2003 to October 2003) as acting president
Mr J. Fuller (Belize)	elected president of RA IV at its fourteenth session (April 2005) in replacement Dr A.J. Dania (Netherlands Antilles and Aruba) (2003- 04.2005)
Mr A. Ngari (Cook Islands)	elected president of RA V at its fourteenth session (2006), From June 2005, Mr Ngari as acting president in replacement Dr Woon Shih Lai (Singapore) (2003-June 2005).
Mr D.K. Keuerleber-Burk (Switzerland)	international partners, other relevant organizations, academia, the media and the private sector elected president of RA VI at its fourteenth session. From August 2003 as acting president of the Association in replacement of Dr Petras Korkutis (Lithuania), acting president.

2. Acting members designated by the Council

Dr A.Divino Moura (Brazil)	designated as an acting member by correspondence in February 2004 in replacement of Mr A.C. Vaz de Athayde (Brazil)
Mr P. Manso (Costa Rica)	designated as an acting member by correspondence in March 2004 in replacement of Mr E. Zárate H. (Costa Rica)
Mr I Obrusnik (Czech Republic)	designated as an acting member by correspondence in May 2004 in replacement of Mr D.K. Keuerleber-Burk (Switzerland)
Dr G. Love (Australia)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-sixth session (2004) in replacement of Dr J.W. Zillman (Australia)

Mr D. F. Cadarso González (Spain)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session (2005) in replacement of Mrs M. Couchoud Gregori (Spain)
Brig. Gen. M. Capaldo (Italy)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session (2005) in replacement of Mr R. Sorani (Italy)
Mr Sanjiv Nair (India)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session (2005) in replacement of Dr S.K. Srivastav (India)
Mr W. Kusch (Germany)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session (2005) in replacement of Dr U. Gärtner (Germany)
Mr P-E. Bisch (France)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr J.-P. Beysson (France)
Mr F.D. Freires Lucio (Mozambique)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr R.D.J. Lengoasa (South Africa)
Mr Yap Kok Seng (Malaysia)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr Chow Kok Kee
Dr T. Hiraki (Japan)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr K. Nagasaka who was designated as an acting member at the fifty-sixth session (2004) in replacement of Dr T. Kitade
Mr M. Konate (Mali)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr J.R. Ouattara (Burkina Faso) who was designated as an acting member by correspondence in May 2005 in replacement of Dr A. N'Diaye (Senegal)
Prof. J. Mitchell (United Kingdom)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Dr D. Rogers who was designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session (2005) in replacement of Mr P. Ewins
Mr D. Musoni (Rwanda)	designated as an acting member at the fifty-eighth session (2006) in replacement of Mr B. Kassahun (Ethiopia)
Five seats vacant	one caused by Eng M. Shawky Saadallah (Egypt) who was designated as an acting member at the fifty-seventh session in replacement of Mr M.M. Arafa (Egypt) one caused by Mr F.P. Mote (Ghana) one caused by Mr M.D. Everell (Canada) one caused by Mr Jaser K. Rabadi (Jordan) one caused by Dr M.L. Bah (Republic of Guinea)

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF PANELS, WORKING OR ADVISORY GROUPS AND OTHER BODIES REPORTING TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

EC PANELS OF EXPERTS

Panel of Experts on Education and Training (Twenty-first session, Antalya, Turkey, May 2004; Twenty-second session (extraordinary), Geneva, November 2005)

EC WORKING GROUPS AND ADVISORY GROUPS

Ad hoc Group on the Evolving Role of WMO (Geneva, January/February 2004)

Action Group for Enhanced WMO (Geneva, January 2005)

Working Group on the Evolution of NMHSs and WMO (First session, Geneva, April 2006)

Task Team on WMO Integrated Observing System (Geneva, January-February 2007)

Working Group on Long-term Planning (First session, Geneva, April 2004; Second session, Geneva, March 2006).

Working Group on Antarctic Meteorology (Ninth session, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, November 2006,)

Advisory Group on the Role and Operation of NMHSs (Geneva, March 2005)

Advisory Group of Experts on Technical Cooperation (Fifth session, Geneva, March 2004; Sixth session, Geneva, March 2006)

Advisory Group on Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (First session, Geneva, March 2005; Second session, Geneva, January 2007)

Advisory Group on Climate and Environment (Fifth session, Geneva, February 2004; Sixth session, Geneva, March-April 2005; Seventh session, Geneva, February 2006; Eighth session, Geneva, March 2007)

OTHER ADVISORY BODIES

WMO Bureau (Fifty-first session, Geneva, 28-30 January 2004; Fifty-second session, Geneva, 7 June 2004; Fifty-third session, Geneva, 26-28 January 2005; Fifty-fourth session, Geneva, 20 June 2005; Fifty-fifth session, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 18-20 January 2006; Fifty-sixth session, Geneva, 19 June 2006; Fifty-seventh session, Moscow, Russian Federation, 23-25 January 2007; Fifty-eighth session, Geneva, 6 May 2007)

OTHER BODIES REPORTING TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Financial Advisory Committee (FINAC) (twenty-third meeting, Geneva, 7 June 2004; twenty-fourth meeting, Geneva, 20 June 2005; Twenty-fifth meeting, Geneva, 19 June 2006; Twenty-sixth meeting, Geneva, 6 May 2007)

WMO Consultative Meetings on High-Level Policy on Satellite Matters (Fourth session, Geneva, January 2004; Fifth session, Geneva, January 2005; Sixth session, Buenos Aires, Argentina, January 2006; Seventh session, Geneva, January 2007)

Joint WMO/IOC/ICSU Scientific Committee for the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) (Twenty-fourth session, Moscow, Russian Federation, March 2004, Twenty-fifth session, Guayaquil, Ecuador, March 2005, Twenty-sixth session, Pune, India, March 2006, Twenty-seventh session, Zanzibar, Tanzania, March 2007)

Steering Committee for the Global Climate Observing System (Twelfth session, March, 2004, Geneva; Thirteenth session, October 2005, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation; Fourteenth session, October 2006, Geneva)

Joint IOC/WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Committee for Global Ocean Observing System (Seventh session, Paris, France, April 2005; Eighth session, Paris, France, February 2007)

Meetings of Presidents of Technical Commissions (Annual sessions, Geneva, February 2004, January 2005, January 2006 and February 2007)

WMO Staff Pension Committee (One session at each EC-session)

SELECTION COMMITTEES

Selection Committee for the IMO Prize (One session at each EC-session)

Selection Committee for the WMO Research Award for Young Scientists (One session at each EC-session)

Selection Committee for the Professor Dr Vilho Vaisala Award (One session in two years)

Selection Committee for the Norbert Gerbier-MUMM International Award (One session at each EC-session)

Joint Consultative Meeting of the IOC Officers and WMO Bureau

Joint Consultative Meeting of the IOC Officers and WMO Bureau (First meeting, January 2006, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Second meeting, January 2007, Moscow, Russian Federation)

ANNEX III

**SESSIONS OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS HELD SINCE
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS**

Regional Association I	Fourteenth session, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 14-23 February 2007
Regional Association II	Thirteenth session, Hong Kong, China 7-15 December 2004
Regional Association III	Fourteenth session, Lima, Peru 7-13 September 2006
Regional Association IV	Fourteenth session, San José, Costa Rica 5-13 April 2005
Regional Association V	Fourteenth session, Adelaide, Australia 9-16 May 2006
Regional Association VI	Fourteenth session, Heidelberg, Germany 7-15 September 2005

ANNEX IV

SESSIONS OF TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS HELD SINCE FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Commission for Basic Systems (CBS)	Thirteenth session, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation. 23 February to 3 March 2005
	Extraordinary session, Seoul, Republic of Korea 9 to 16 November 2006
Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO)	Fourteenth session Geneva, WMO Headquarters 7 to 14 December 2006
Commission for Hydrology (CHy)	Twelfth session, Geneva, WMO Headquarters 20-29 October 2004
Commission for Atmospheric Sciences (CAS)	Fourteenth session, South Africa 16 to 24 February 2006
Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM)	Thirteenth session, Geneva, WMO Headquarters 23 November to 1 December 2006
Commission for Agricultural Meteorology (CAgM)	Fourteenth session, New Delhi, India 28 October to 3 November 2006
Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM)	Second session, Halifax, Canada 19 to 27 September 2005
Commission for Climatology (CCI)	Fourteenth session, Beijing, China 3 to 10 November 2005
