

Third Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-3)

20-24 July 2015
Nuku'alofa
The Kingdom of Tonga

[ADD1] Agenda Item 9.1: Public Weather Services - Public Weather Services and Communication to Communities (SPREP)

Purpose

1. To provide additional information to agenda item 9.1, and to inform PMC-3 on the outcomes of the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17) on Public Weather Services (PWS).

Background

2. Information in PMC-3/WP 9.1 ADD 1 includes WMO Strategy for Service Delivery (https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/documents/WMO-SSD-1129_en.pdf), and it also addresses the outcomes of Cg-17 and how these will be applied to the current and future PWS activities and initiatives in the Pacific islands region.

Recommendations

3. The Meeting is invited to:
- **Note:**
 - a) Resolution 3.1(1)/1 (Cg-17): Implementation of WMO Strategy for Service Delivery (Refer to Annex 1 to PMC-3/WP 9.1 ADD 1);
 - b) Resolution 3.1(3)/1 (Cg-17): Public Weather Services Programme (Refer to Annex 3 to PMC-3/WP 9.1 ADD 1);
 - **Recommend:**
 - c) That, with regard to implementing PWS in the Pacific region, PMC members, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and NMHSs in the Pacific region are encouraged to:
 - i. Use the WMO Strategy for Service Delivery to guide the implementation of their national and regional public weather services programmes and activities;
 - ii. Assess the contribution of PWS to the social and economic benefits (SEB) provided to users through the work of NMHSs, and demonstrate such benefits to governments with the aim of securing due support for NMHSs, and further strengthening their capacity to deliver quality service. The recent Public Weather Services publication titled *“Valuing Weather and Climate: Economic*

Assessment of Meteorological and Hydrological Services” provides information on this area and is available online at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BwdvoC9AeWjUX2dJbIR6WlMybU0/view> ;

- iii. Ensure that PMC members, SPREP and NMHSs staff in the Pacific region performing PWS duties are familiar with these PWS publications which are an important resource for capacity building in various aspects of weather services;
 - iv. Contribute more city forecasts with longer lead time, higher spatial and temporal resolutions, current weather observations and additional weather elements to the World Weather Information Service (WWIS). You can view this site at: <http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/home.html> ;
- d) **WMO Strategy for Service Delivery:** it is recommended that PMC members, SPREP and NMHSs in the Pacific region implement the Strategy as provided in its Implementation Plan and to share their experiences and best practices.
- e) **Delivery of Impact-based Forecasts and Warnings:** This initiative seeks to reduce impacts of severe hydro-meteorological hazards by closing the gap between forecasts and warnings of hydro-meteorological events and an understanding of their potential impacts, both by the authorities responsible for civil protection/emergency management and by the population at large. It is recommended that PMC members, SPREP and NMHSs in the Pacific region make full use of the “WMO Guidelines on Multi-hazard Impact-based Forecast and Warning Services” recently published by PWS and available online at: http://library.wmo.int/pmb_ged/wmo_1150_en.pdf
- f) **Service Delivery for Health and Energy:** It is recommended that PMC members, SPREP and NMHSs in the Pacific region support the advancement of service delivery to various key sectors including health and energy by engaging with the WMO PWS Programme in these initiatives.
- g) **Severe Weather Forecasting and Disaster Risk Reduction Demonstration Project (SWFDDP):** Some countries in the Pacific islands region including Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu are already implementing the SWFDDP project. The Public Weather Service component of the project focuses on: identification of gaps in service delivery in NMHSs; assessment of warning service practices in NMHSs and their improvement; introduction to impact-based forecast and warning services; the use of modern communication technologies, including mobile technology applications and social media; provision of equipment and training for media presentation; implementation of the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) standard (https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/CommonAlertingProtocol_en.html); and working effectively with the media and disaster reduction communities. It is recommended that PMC members, SPREP, development partners and donors provide every support to the project and to engage with the PWS and DPFS Programmes of WMO in implementing the project.
- h) **Competency Framework for Public Weather Services Forecasters and Advisors:** Cg-17 approved the Public Weather Services forecasters and advisors top-level competency requirements to take effect from 1 December 2017. These fundamental WMO competency requirements cover: a Public Weather Services forecaster; weather

broadcasters and communicators; user interaction, media liaison and outreach activities; disaster prevention and mitigation weather advisor and in the innovation; and improvement and delivery of meteorological and hydrological services and products. Details of the competencies are contained in Resolution 3.1(3)/2 (Cg-17) (Annex 4 to PMC-3/INF 9.1). Cg-17 also agreed that the competencies be included in the WMO Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49 to serve as guidance to NMHSs in their implementation of Public Weather Services programmes and activities. It is recommended that PMC members, SPREP and NMHSs in the Pacific region familiarize themselves with these competency requirements and take steps to implement them.

- i) **National Focal Points for WMO Public Weather Services:** It is recommended that PMC members and NMHSs in the Pacific islands region review their National Focal Points for WMO PWS programme (https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/documents/NFP_Oct_2012.pdf) and inform WMO, if necessary.

Attachments

- Annex 1: Resolution 3.1(1)/1 (Cg-17): Implementation of WMO Strategy for Service Delivery.
- Annex 2: The WMO Strategy for Service Delivery may be viewed online at: https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/pwsp/documents/WMO-SSD-1129_en.pdf.
- Annex 3: Resolution 3.1(3)/1 (Cg-17): Public Weather Services Programme.
- Annex 4: Resolution 3.1(3)/2 (Cg-17): Report of the 2014 extraordinary Session of the CBS (CBS-Ext.(2014) Relevant to technical regulations concerning Public Weather Services.

13 July 2015