

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

**FOURTEENTH  
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS**

**GENEVA, 5-24 MAY 2003**

**PROCEEDINGS**



**WMO-No. 972**

**Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization - Geneva - Switzerland**

## REPORTS OF RECENT WMO SESSIONS

### Congress and Executive Council

- 903 — Executive Council, fifty-first session, Geneva, 27–29 May 1999
- 915 — Executive Council, fifty-second session, Geneva, 16–26 May 2000
- 929 — Executive Council, fifty-third session, Geneva, 5–15 June 2001
- 932 — Thirteenth World Meteorological Congress, Proceedings, Geneva, 4–26 May 1999
- 945 — Executive Council, fifty-fourth session, Geneva, 11–21 June 2002
- 960 — Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress, Geneva, 5–24 May 2003
- 961 — Executive Council, fifty-fifth session, Geneva, 26–28 May 2003

### Regional associations

- 924 — Regional Association II (Asia), twelfth session, Seoul, 19–27 September 2000
- 927 — Regional Association IV (North and Central America), thirteenth session, Maracay, 28 March–6 April 2001
- 934 — Regional Association III (South America), thirteenth session, Quito, 19–26 September 2001
- 942 — Regional Association VI (Europe), thirteenth session, Geneva, 2–10 May 2002
- 944 — Regional Association V (South–West Pacific), thirteenth session, Manila, 21–28 May 2002
- 954 — Regional Association I (Africa), thirteenth session, Mbabane, 20–28 November 2002

### Technical commissions

- 921 — Commission for Hydrology, eleventh session, Abuja, 6–16 November 2000
- 923 — Commission for Basic Systems, twelfth session, Geneva, 29 November–8 December 2000
- 931 — Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, first session, Akureyri, 19–29 June 2001
- 938 — Commission for Climatology, thirteenth session, Geneva, 21–30 November 2001
- 941 — Commission for Atmospheric Sciences, thirteenth session, Oslo, 12–20 February 2002
- 947 — Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation, thirteenth session, Bratislava, 25 September–3 October 2002
- 951 — Commission for Agricultural Meteorology, thirteenth session, Ljubljana, 10–18 October 2002
- 953 — Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology, twelfth session, Montreal, 16–20 September 2002
- 955 — Commission for Basic Systems, extraordinary session, Cairns, 4–12 December 2002

**In accordance with the decision of Congress,  
the reports are published in the following languages:**

Congress	—	Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish
Executive Council	—	Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish
Regional Association I	—	Arabic, English, French
Regional Association II	—	Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian
Regional Association III	—	English, Spanish
Regional Association IV	—	English, Spanish
Regional Association V	—	English, French
Regional Association VI	—	Arabic, English, French, Russian
Technical Commissions	—	Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish

WMO issues authoritative publications on scientific and technical aspects of meteorology, hydrology and related subjects. These include manuals, guides, training materials, public information and the WMO *Bulletin*.

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2004**

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## LIST OF PERSONS ATTENDING FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

### A. Representatives of WMO Members

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>Afghanistan, Islamic State of</b>	A.Q. Qadeer	Principal delegate
	G.H. Nawabi	Delegate
	M.M. Ahmadi	Delegate
<b>Albania</b>	V. Thanati	Principal delegate
	P. Goxhi (Ms)	Alternate
	M. Sanxhaku	Delegate
	A. Mara	Delegate
<b>Algeria</b>	M.A-S. Dembri	Principal delegate
	A. Kirouane (5-16.5)	Principal delegate
	M. Kadi (17-24.5)	Alternate
	B. Zeddigha	Delegate
	A. Lagha	Delegate
	M. Haouach	Delegate
	C. Smaïl	Delegate
	A. Benzeguir	Delegate
	L. Ben Brahim	Delegate
	D. Soltani (Ms)	Delegate
M. Abbani	Delegate	
<b>Angola</b>	G.H. Joao	Delegate
	E.N. Sanguève	Delegate
	S.P.S. Da Silva (Ms)	Delegate
	C.P. Baptista	Delegate
	L.D. Constantino	Delegate
	A. Mengawako	Delegate
	L.T. Nanizeyi (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Antigua and Barbuda</b>	P. Jeremiah	Principal delegate
<b>Argentina</b>	M.A. Rabiolo	Principal delegate
	N. Nascimbene de Dumont (Ms)	Alternate
	F.P. Requena	Alternate
	C.A. Damboriana	Delegate
	A. Repetti (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Australia</b>	J.W. Zillman	Principal delegate
	K. O'Loughlin (5-14.5)	Alternate
	R.R. Brook (15-24.5)	Alternate
	V.K. Tsui	Delegate
	K.J. Wilson	Delegate
	A. Watson	Delegate
	C. Muller (Ms)	Delegate
	M.J. Manton	Delegate
	P. Schwerdtfeger	Delegate
	A. Forbes	Delegate
	N. Lawson	Delegate
	M. Smith	Delegate
	L. Brodrick	Delegate
<b>Austria</b>	P. Steinhauser	Principal delegate
	F. Neuwirth	Alternate
	G. Zapletal	Alternate
	P. Storer	Delegate

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	M. Najafov	Principal delegate
	E. Hasanov	Delegate
<b>Bahamas</b>	A.W. Rolle	Principal delegate
<b>Bahrain</b>	A.M.H. Isa	Principal delegate
	H.A. Al-Aali	Alternate
<b>Bangladesh</b>	T. Ali	Principal delegate
	Md. A. Hossain	Alternate
	F. Rabab (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Barbados</b>	C. Layne	Principal delegate
<b>Belarus</b>	Y.M. Pokumeiko	Principal delegate
	I. Egorova (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Belgium</b>	H. Malcorps	Principal delegate
	M. Adam	Delegate
	J. Zikmundova (Ms)	Delegate
	A. Quinet	Delegate
	G. Demarée	Delegate
	E. Honnay (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Belize</b>	C. Fuller	Principal delegate
<b>Benin</b>	S. Amehou	Principal delegate
	F.A. Lawson	Delegate
	E. Laourou	Delegate
	B.E. Accrombessi	Delegate
<b>Bhutan</b>	Bap Kesang	Principal delegate
	C. Tenzin	Delegate
	S. Tenzin	Delegate
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	M. Vukašinić	Principal delegate
	E. Sarac	Delegate
	D. Tekulja	Delegate
	M. Muminović	Delegate
	D. Kremenović-Kusmuk	Delegate
<b>Botswana</b>	C. Ntwaagae	Principal delegate
	G.K. Ramothwa (Ms)	Principal delegate
	P. Phage	Alternate
	G. Pitso	Alternate
	K. Kalote	Delegate
<b>Brazil</b>	A.C. Vaz de Athayde	Principal delegate
	M.A. Vasconcelos de Freitas	Delegate
	O. Vieira	Delegate
<b>British Caribbean Territories</b>	T. Sutherland	Principal delegate
	F. Sambula	Alternate
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b>	M.H. Aji	Principal delegate
	R. Kamaludin (Ms)	Delegate
	H.Z. Pungut	Delegate
<b>Bulgaria</b>	K. Tzankov	Principal delegate
	L. Bojkova (Ms)	Delegate
	R. Mitreva (Ms)	Delegate

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	F.N. Ouattara	Principal delegate
<b>Burundi</b>	J. Bihotori (Ms)	Principal delegate
<b>Cameroon</b>	J.S. Ndjemba	Principal delegate
	Endezoumou	
	F. Ngantcha	Delegate
	B. Bidima	Delegate
<b>Canada</b>	M.D Everell (12-21.5)	Principal delegate
	D. Grimes (5-14.5)	Alternate
	B. Angle (15-24.5)	Alternate
	M. Béland (15-23.5)	Delegate
	N. Cutler (Ms) (12-18.5)	Delegate
	A. Tellier (part-time) (5-24.5)	Delegate
	T. Yuzyk (6-14.5)	Delegate
	A. Simard (Ms) (5-12.5)	Delegate
	B. O'Donnell (18-24.5)	Delegate
	P. Morrisette (14-15.5)	Delegate
<b>Cape Verde</b>	A.P. Alves Lopes	Principal delegate
<b>Chad</b>	T. Moussa	Principal delegate
<b>Chile</b>	H. Oliva	Principal delegate
	R. Espinosa	Alternate
	E. Valenzuela	Delegate
<b>China</b>	Qin Dahe	Principal delegate
	Zheng Guoguang	Alternate
	Yu Jixin	Delegate
	Zheng Yunjie	Delegate
	Chen Zhenlin	Delegate
	Han Li	Delegate
	Pang Hong Kui	Delegate
	Ruan Shui-gen	Delegate
	Shi Yuguang	Delegate
	Yu Xinwen	Delegate
	Zhang Guocai	Delegate
	Zhao Datong	Delegate
<b>Colombia</b>	C. Reyes-Rodriguez	Principal delegate
	M. Henriquez	Alternate
	V. Gonzalez-Ariza (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Congo</b>	R.J. Menga	Principal delegate
	P. Ondongo	Delegate
	J.M. Megot	Delegate
	S. Boret Bokwango	Delegate
<b>Cook Islands</b>	P. Wichman	Principal delegate
	A. Ngari	Delegate
<b>Costa Rica</b>	E. Zárate	Principal delegate
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	C. Béké	Principal delegate
	A. Kignaman-Soro	Principal delegate
<b>Croatia</b>	B. Gelo	Principal delegate
	K. Pandžic	Alternate
	D. Trninic	Delegate
	D. Glasnovic	Delegate
	M. Adamic (Ms)	Delegate
	I. Cacic	Delegate
<b>Cuba</b>	T. Gutierrez	Principal delegate
	J.I. Mora Godoy	Delegate

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>Cuba</b>	C. Hurtado Labrador	Delegate
<i>(Cont.)</i>	O. León Gonzalez	Delegate
<b>Cyprus</b>	F-G. Lanitou	Alternate
	Williams (Ms)	
	H. Mina (Ms)	Alternate
<b>Czech Republic</b>	I. Obrusník	Principal delegate
	A. Slabý	Alternate
	R. Tolasz	Alternate
	J. Kubát	Delegate
	J. Novák	Delegate
<b>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</b>	Ri Tcheul	Principal delegate
	So Se Pyong	Delegate
	Ri Kwang Il	Delegate
	Kim Yong Ho	Delegate
<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	A.M. Kesia-Mbe	Principal delegate
	S. Mutomb Mujing	Delegate
	F. Sambassi Khakessa	Delegate
<b>Denmark</b>	L.P. Prahm	Principal delegate
	L. Wester-Andersen (Ms)	Alternate
<b>Djibouti</b>	O.S. Said	Principal delegate
<b>Dominica</b>	C. Depradine	Principal delegate
	T. Sutherland	Alternate
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	R.D. Núñez	Principal delegate
	J.M. Duquela	Delegate
	M. Bellode Kemper (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Ecuador</b>	G. García	Principal delegate
	M. Muñoz (Ms)	Alternate
<b>Egypt</b>	M.M. Arafa	Principal delegate
	M.H. Doos	Delegate
	M. Elewa	Delegate
<b>El Salvador</b>	M. Castro Grande	Principal delegate
	R. Recinos Trejo	Delegate
	M.A. Alcaine	Delegate
<b>Eritrea</b>	G.B. Kelati	Principal delegate
	W. Bereket	Alternate
<b>Estonia</b>	J. Saar	Principal delegate
	R. Kärner	Delegate
	E. Peenar (Ms)	Delegate
	A. Kallis	Delegate
	R. Schank	Delegate
<b>Ethiopia</b>	F. Yimer	Principal delegate
	B. Kassahun	Delegate
	A. Shiketa	Delegate
<b>Fiji</b>	R. Prasad	Principal delegate
<b>Finland</b>	P. Taalas	Principal delegate
	P. Huhtaniemi	Alternate
	M. Hurtola (Ms)	Alternate
	K. Soini (Ms)	Delegate
	M. Heikinheimo	Delegate
	Y. Viisanen	Delegate
	P. Plathan	Delegate
	M. Wiljander	Delegate
	P. Saarikivi	Delegate
	P. Seuna	Delegate
	J. Karanko	Delegate
<b>France</b>	D. Bussereau	Principal delegate
	B. Kessedjian	Alternate
	J.-P. Beysson	Alternate

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>France</b> (Cont.)	P. Courtier	Delegate	<b>Iceland</b>	S.H. Jóhannesson	Principal delegate
	M. Giacomini	Delegate		M. Jónsson	Principal delegate
	P. Givone	Delegate		I. Davidsdottir (Ms)	Delegate
	O. Moch	Delegate	A. Snorrason	Delegate	
	F. Duvernet	Delegate	<b>India</b>	S.K. Srivastav	Principal delegate
	D. Lambergeon	Delegate		T. A. Khan	Delegate
	T. Berthelot	Delegate		S. Mahto	Delegate
	J-P Dufour	Delegate		A. Pande	Delegate
	F. Maniaci	Delegate		S. Singh	Delegate
S. Connois (Ms)	Delegate	G. Srinivasan	Delegate		
<b>French Polynesia</b>	L. Finaud	Principal delegate	<b>Indonesia</b>	I. Gunawan	Principal delegate
	M. Lecorcher (Ms)	Alternate		D. Kasri	Delegate
<b>Gabon</b>	Y. Biké (Ms)	Principal delegate		H. Harjanto	Delegate
	A. Abena (Ms)	Delegate	T. Sunoko	Delegate	
	A.R. Mackosso (Ms)	Delegate	A.P. Sarwono	Delegate	
<b>Gambia</b>	S.Waffa-Ogoo (Ms)	Principal delegate	<b>Iran, Islamic Republic of</b>	A-M. Noorian	Principal delegate
	B.P. Jallow	Delegate		M.R. Alborzi	Alternate
<b>Georgia</b>	N. Beradze	Principal delegate		G.A. Kamali	Delegate
	<b>Germany</b>	U. Gärtner		Principal delegate	B. Sanaee
S. Mildner		Alternate		M. Amirshaghghi	Delegate
G. Steinhorst		Delegate		A-H. Delju	Delegate
G-R. Hoffmann		Delegate		A. Sardari	Delegate
V. Vent-Schmidt		Delegate		D. Parhizkar	Delegate
D. Frömming		Delegate		M. Jabbari (Ms)	Delegate
S. Demuth		Delegate		L. Salimabadi (Ms)	Delegate
K. Hofius		Delegate		E. Farman (Ms)	Delegate
H. Hüster		Delegate	F. Rahimzadeh (Ms)	Delegate	
P. Päßgen		Delegate	L. Yekanizadeh (Ms)	Delegate	
M. Wesseler (Ms)		Delegate	M. Mirsadeghi	Delegate	
D. Schulze		Adviser	M Esferi	Delegate	
<b>Ghana</b>		F.P. Mote	Principal delegate	A. Heyrani Nobari	Delegate
	F. Poku	Alternate	<b>Ireland</b>	D. Murphy	Principal delegate
	K. Wurodu	Delegate		E. Murphy	Delegate
	J. Wellens-Mensah	Delegate		B. Cahalane	Delegate
<b>Greece</b>	A. Papaioannou	Principal delegate	<b>Israel</b>	Y. Levy	Principal delegate
	(5-16.5)			J. Zarka	Alternate
	G. Sakellaris	Principal delegate		E. Fauvel (Ms)	Delegate
	(17-24.5)		S. Herlin (Ms)	Delegate	
M-F. Katsimardou-Refene (Ms)	Delegate	<b>Italy</b>	R. Sorani	Principal delegate	
I. Bassiakos (17-24.5)	Delegate		M. Capaldo	Alternate	
<b>Guatemala</b>	R.H.E. Alvarado		Principal delegate	P. Pagano	Delegate
	Ortigoza			S. Pasquini	Delegate
	C. Arroyave		Delegate	N. Vassalli	Delegate
<b>Guinea</b>	M.L. Bah		Principal delegate	F. Ferrini	Delegate
	B.M. Camara	Delegate	L.M. Michaud	Delegate	
<b>Guyana</b>	S. Kahuha	Principal delegate	G. Monacelli (Ms)	Delegate	
	<b>Honduras</b>	J.B. Zapata	Principal delegate	F. Prodi	Delegate
H. Flores Calix		Principal delegate	<b>Jamaica</b>	R. Smith	Principal delegate
G. Bu (Ms)		Delegate		S. McGill (Ms)	Principal delegate
M. Pérez		Delegate		P. Davies (Ms)	Delegate
<b>Hong Kong, China</b>	Lam Chiu-ying	Principal delegate	S. Betton (Ms)	Delegate	
	<b>Hungary</b>	I. Mersich	Principal delegate	<b>Japan</b>	T. Kitade
Z. Dunkel		Alternate	K. Nagasaka		Alternate
S. Nagy		Delegate	A. Beppu		Delegate
K.C. Szalóki (Ms)		Delegate	S. Nakagawa		Delegate
<b>Jordan</b>	H.N. Sha'er	Principal delegate	I. Takahashi		Delegate
	A. Isa Saleh	Alternate	K. Kuroiwa		Delegate
	J.K. Al-Rabadi	Alternate	<b>Jordan</b>	H.N. Sha'er	Principal delegate
	A.H. Abu Hazim	Delegate		A. Isa Saleh	Alternate
		J.K. Al-Rabadi		Alternate	



<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	N. Danenov	Principal delegate	<b>Mexico</b>	M. Rosengaus	Delegate	
	T. Kudekov	Alternate		Moshinsky		
	M. Tashibayev	Delegate	E. Pizano Cejka (Ms)	Delegate		
	O. Abramenko (Ms)	Delegate				
<b>Kenya</b>	A. Ligale	Principal delegate	<b>Monaco</b>	B. Fautrier	Principal delegate	
	A. Mohamed (Ms)	Principal delegate		C. Lanteri (Ms)	Delegate	
	J.R. Mukabana	Delegate		W. Deri	Delegate	
	M. Musoma (Ms)	Delegate		A. Jahlan	Delegate	
	S. Aura (Ms)	Delegate	<b>Mongolia</b>	K. Bekhbat	Principal delegate	
	S.R. Masika	Delegate		S. Enkhtuvshin	Principal delegate	
	W. Nyakwada	Delegate		D. Dagvadorj	Delegate	
	S.W. Kahuha	Delegate		V. Enkhbold	Delegate	
	S.M. Waweru	Delegate	<b>Morocco</b>	Mr A. Zahoud	Principal delegate	
	S. Ayub	Delegate		A. Diouri	Principal delegate	
	R. Ogola (Ms)	Delegate		A. Belhouji	Alternate	
M.L. Emurugat	Delegate	A. Mokssit		Delegate		
M. Oyugi	Delegate	O. Ouzzine (Ms)		Delegate		
<b>Kiribati</b>	T. Teitiba	Principal delegate	A. El Kadiri	Delegate		
<b>Kuwait</b>	K. Shuaibi	Principal delegate	<b>Mozambique</b>	F.D. Freires Lúcio	Principal delegate	
	A. Altaho	Delegate				
<b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>	M. Bakanov	Principal delegate	<b>Myanmar</b>	San Hla Thaw	Principal delegate	
<b>Lao People's Democratic Republic</b>	N. Somsanith	Principal delegate	<b>Namibia</b>	F. Uirab	Principal delegate	
<b>Latvia</b>	A. Leitass	Principal delegate	E.N.Z. Kambueza	Alternate		
	J. Karklins	Alternate				
	E. Kalniņš	Delegate				
<b>Lebanon</b>	A. Bejjani	Principal delegate	<b>Nepal</b>	M.L. Shrestha	Principal delegate	
	R. Nouredine (Ms)	Delegate				
<b>Lesotho</b>	M. Moleleki	Principal delegate		<b>Netherlands</b>	J. de Jong	Principal delegate
	B.T. Sekoli	Alternate			A. Kattenberg	Alternate
	K. Tau	Delegate			M. van der Valk	Delegate
	J. Setipa	Delegate	M. Noteboom (Ms)	Delegate		
<b>Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</b>	A.R. El Haj	Principal delegate	<b>Netherlands Antilles and Aruba</b>	A.J. Dania	Principal delegate	
	A.M. Al-Balazi	Delegate				
	W.S. Al Hares	Delegate				
<b>Lithuania</b>	P. Korkutis	Principal delegate	<b>New Caledonia</b>	P. Maresca	Principal delegate	
<b>Luxembourg</b>	A. Berns	Principal delegate	A. de Billy (Ms)	Alternate		
	M. Godefroid	Delegate				
<b>Madagascar</b>	N. Raelinera	Principal delegate	<b>New Zealand</b>	J.R. Lumsden	Principal delegate	
<b>Malawi</b>	J.A. Chikwenga	Principal delegate		N. Gordon	Delegate	
	D.R. Kamdonyo	Alternate		J. Schuyt	Delegate	
	J. Chirwa	Delegate				
<b>Malaysia</b>	Chow Kok Kee	Principal delegate	<b>Niger</b>	K. Souleymanem	Principal delegate	
	Tan Huvi Vein	Delegate		M. Labo	Delegate	
<b>Maldives</b>	A. Majeed	Principal delegate	<b>Nigeria</b>	L.E. Akeh	Principal delegate	
<b>Mali</b>	M. Konaté	Principal delegate		T. Obidike	Alternate	
				I.D. Nnodu	Delegate	
<b>Malta</b>	M. Bartolo	Principal delegate		O. Odumosu	Delegate	
	A. Mifsud (Ms)	Alternate		O.A.C. Orji (Ms)	Delegate	
<b>Mauritania</b>	M.S.O.M. Lemine	Principal delegate	J. Chabo	Delegate		
	M.O.M.L Béchir	Principal delegate				
	H.O. Hemet	Delegate				
<b>Mauritius</b>	S.N. Sok Appadu	Principal delegate	<b>Niue</b>	R. Raj	Principal delegate	
	B.K. Rudhee	Delegate	<b>Norway</b>	A. Eliassen	Principal delegate	
	V. Mungur	Delegate		L. Svendsen (Ms)	Alternate	
		K. Bjørheim		Delegate		
		K. Repp		Delegate		
		J. Sunde		Delegate		
		P.I. Lied	Delegate			
			<b>Oman</b>	Y.M. Al-Saifi	Principal delegate	
				A.H.M. Al-Harathi	Delegate	
				A. Al-Qassimi	Delegate	
			<b>Pakistan</b>	Q.Z. Chaudhry	Principal delegate	
				S.S. Hasan	Delegate	
				F.I. Khan	Delegate	

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
<b>Panama</b>	A. Beliz	Principal delegate	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	A. Al-Sheikh	Delegate
<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	Tau Ray Gabi	Principal delegate	( <i>Cont.</i> )	M. Bin Shafi	Delegate
<b>Paraguay</b>	H. Valiente Ramírez	Principal delegate	<b>Senegal</b>	O. Camara	Principal delegate
	F. Barreiro	Delegate		A. Ndiaye	Alternate
<b>Peru</b>	W. Gamarra	Principal Delegate		D.M. Sene	Delegate
	J. Yerren	Delegate		F.A. Lô (Ms)	Delegate
	C. Alarcón	Delegate	<b>Serbia and Montenegro</b>	M. Šcepanovic	Principal delegate
	D. Beleván	Delegate		D. Kardum	Principal delegate
<b>Philippines</b>	V.V. Asiddao (Ms)	Principal delegate		D. Divjak-Tomic (Ms)	Alternate
<b>Poland</b>	J. Zielinski	Principal delegate		G. Jovanovic (Ms)	Delegate
	J. Sadon	Alternate		D. Pavicevic	Delegate
	R. Klejnowski	Alternate		I. Milovanovic (Ms)	Delegate
	A. Dubicki	Delegate	<b>Seychelles</b>	W. Agricole (14-23.5)	Principal delegate
<b>Portugal</b>	J.C.D. Costa Pereira	Principal delegate		S. Masika	Delegate
	A.D. Baptista (6-15.5)	Principal delegate	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	D.S. Lansana	Principal delegate
	O. Rasquinho (5-13.5)	Alternate	<b>Singapore</b>	Woon Shih Lai	Principal delegate
	A.M. Saraiva (12-22.5)	Delegate		Lim Tian Kuay	Delegate
	R.A.D. Carvalho (6-11.5)	Delegate	<b>Slovakia</b>	Š. Škulec	Principal delegate
	A. Fernandes (Ms)	Delegate		V. Pastircák	Alternate
	P. Alves	Adviser		M. Kmošena	Delegate
<b>Qatar</b>	A.A.M. Al-Nuami	Principal delegate		K. Martinka	Delegate
	A.H. Al-Mulla	Alternate		P. Petrovic	Delegate
<b>Republic of Korea</b>	Ahn Myung-hwan	Principal delegate		P. Roncak	Delegate
	Shin Kyung-sup	Alternate	<b>Slovenia</b>	J. Roškar (5-11.5)	Principal delegate
	Park Kwang-joon	Delegate		A. Markov (Ms)	Alternate
	Chung Yun-ang	Delegate	<b>South Africa</b>	R. Mabudafhasi (Ms)	Principal delegate
	Park Jeong-gyoo	Delegate		J. Lengosa	Alternate
	Lee Dong-il	Delegate		E. Poolman	Delegate
	Choi Kyong-lim	Delegate		M.L. Kamoetie	Delegate
	Lee Mi-yon (Ms)	Delegate	<b>Spain</b>	M. Couchoud	Principal delegate
<b>Republic of Moldova</b>	V. Cazac	Principal delegate		Gregori (Ms)	Principal delegate
<b>Republic of Yemen</b>	F. Bin Ghanem	Principal delegate		R. Diaz-Pabon (Ms)	Delegate
	M. Al-Zandani	Delegate		J. García-Legaz	Delegate
<b>Romania</b>	M. Ioana	Principal delegate		J. Segovia	Delegate
	G. Constantinescu (Ms)	Delegate		A. Rodriguez-Fontal	Delegate
<b>Russian Federation</b>	A.I. Bedritsky	Principal delegate		C. Abad	Delegate
	O.S. Pushkareva (Ms)	Delegate		A. Yeves	Delegate
	A.A. Pankin	Delegate		J. Tamayo	Delegate
	P.G. Chernikov	Delegate		E. Cormenzana	Delegate
	N.N. Sikachev	Delegate		C. Martinez-Lopez (Ms)	Delegate
	A.I. Gusev	Delegate	<b>Sri Lanka</b>	N.A. Amaradasa	Principal delegate
	V. Bakumov	Delegate		S. Gunaratna	Delegate
	I.A. Shiklomanov	Delegate	<b>Sudan</b>	F.K. El Sayem	Principal delegate
	N.N. Pomoshchnikov	Delegate		I.A. Leimoon	Alternate
<b>Rwanda</b>	D. Musoni	Principal delegate		C. Jada	Delegate
<b>Samoa</b>	F. Malele	Principal delegate		M.H. El Rayah	Delegate
<b>Sao Tome and Principe</b>	A. Santana	Principal delegate	<b>Sweden</b>	H. Sandebring	Principal delegate
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	A.A. Attar	Principal delegate		E. Liljas	Alternate
	T.N. Abdulaziz	Principal delegate		G. Wennerberg (Ms)	Alternate
	A.A.K. Althwaini	Alternate		T. Kvick	Delegate
	S.M.S. Mohalfi	Alternate	<b>Switzerland</b>	D. Keuerleber-Burk	Principal delegate
	S.M. Al-Shehri	Delegate		J.M. Boulgaris	Alternate
	S.A.I. Bukhari	Delegate		G. Nützi (Ms)	Delegate
				E. Balzli	Delegate
				J. Romero	Delegate
				M. Spreafico	Delegate
				G. Müller	Delegate
				P. Morscher	Delegate

<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Capacity</i>	
<b>Switzerland</b> (Cont.)	P. Rauh	Alternate	<b>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b>	A. Eccleston	Delegate	
	C. Stocker (Ms)	Delegate		C. Johnson (Ms)	Delegate	
	A. Rubli	Delegate		A. Calver (Ms)	Delegate	
<b>Syrian Arab Republic</b>	N. Al-Shalabi	Principal delegate	<b>Ireland</b> (Cont.)	S. Goodchild (Ms)	Delegate	
	I. A-D. Al-Beik	Delegate		A. Broad	Delegate	
	K. Moalla	Delegate		J. Harmer	Delegate	
<b>Tajikistan</b>	B. Makhmadaliev	Principal delegate	<b>United Republic of Tanzania</b>	M.J. Mwandosya	Principal delegate	
<b>Thailand</b>	P. Buranaprapa	Principal delegate		M.S. Mhita	Principal delegate	
	S. Huntrakul (Ms)	Alternate		C. Mutalemwa	Alternate	
	C. Suvanpimol	Delegate		P.F. Tibaijuka	Delegate	
	N. Balankura	Delegate		K.A. Suleiman	Delegate	
<b>The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</b>	S. Alcinova	Principal delegate		D.G. Rutashoby	Delegate	
	Monevska (Ms)			M.R. Matitu	Delegate	
	D. Zafirovska (Ms)	Delegate		I. Kasyanju (Ms)	Delegate	
<b>Tonga</b>	L. Panov	Delegate		P. Kato	Delegate	
	N. Dzaferi	Delegate		<b>United States of America</b>	J.J. Kelly, Jr. (5-18.5)	Principal delegate
	U.L. Ata	Principal delegate	J.E. Jones, Jr. (19-24.5)		Principal delegate	
A. Faletau	Principal delegate	D.R. Rogers	Alternate			
O. Fa'anunu	Delegate	C.C. Barrett	Delegate			
<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>	W. Mills	Principal delegate	W.C. Bolhofer		Delegate	
			J.M. Cowley (Ms)		Delegate	
<b>Tunisia</b>	H. Mansour	Principal delegate	C. Lautenbacher		Adviser	
	A. Ben Jemaa	Delegate	H.L. April		Adviser	
	M.S. Koubaa	Delegate	R.O. Masters		Adviser	
	S.I. Ammar (Ms)	Delegate	R. McPherson		Adviser	
<b>Turkey</b>	A. Ünal	Principal delegate	V.R. Schneider		Adviser	
	H. Kivanç	Alternate	G.W. Withee		Adviser	
	M. Adigüzel	Delegate	E. Wuchte (Ms)		Adviser	
	H. Ergani	Delegate	M.C. Yerg, Jr.		Adviser	
<b>Turkmenistan</b>	S. Bayramov	Principal delegate	B. Brennan		Adviser	
<b>Uganda</b>			R. Hopkins		Adviser	
	N. Irumba	Principal delegate	D.W. Koran		Adviser	
	S.A.K. Magezi	Alternate	D. Larson (Ms)		Adviser	
<b>Ukraine</b>	A. Gakwandi	Delegate	J. Lewis (Ms)		Adviser	
	V. Lipinsky	Principal delegate	L. Poulton-Kamakura (Ms)		Adviser	
	S. Homanovska (Ms)	Delegate	J.F.W. Purdom		Adviser	
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>			D. Stone (Ms)		Adviser	
	N.S. Al-Aboodi	Principal delegate	C. Stonecipher	Adviser		
	M.A.H. Al-Mualla (Ms)	Principal delegate	T. Talley	Adviser		
	(15-24.5)		<b>Uruguay</b>	R. Micheline	Principal delegate	
	A.A. Algifri (5-16.5)	Alternate		R. Franco (Ms)	Delegate	
	A.D. Karaeen (13-24.5)	Delegate		<b>Vanuatu</b>	W. Posen	Principal delegate
	F.H.S. Al-Mehairi (5-16.5)	Delegate			J. Napat	Alternate
	A.H. Mangoosh	Delegate		<b>Venezuela</b>	B. Portocarrero (Ms)	Principal delegate
	A.A. Almandoos	Delegate			F. Camargo Duque	Principal delegate
	M.M. Alawar (Ms) (5-7.5)	Delegate			T. Carballo	Alternate
R.A. Bin Fahad (5-7.5)	Delegate	M. Hernandez (Ms)			Delegate	
E.M. Abdellatif (5-7.5)	Delegate	<b>Viet Nam</b>		Nguyen Cong Thanh	Principal delegate	
				Q.X. Ngo	Alternate	
			D.K. Nguyen	Delegate		
			D.H. Tran	Delegate		
			V.H. Tran	Delegate		
			H.T. Vu	Delegate		
<b>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</b>	S.W. Fuller	Principal delegate	<b>Zambia</b>	L. Mtesa	Principal delegate	
	P. Ewins	Alternate		M. Muchinda	Principal delegate	
	G. Ryall (Ms)	Alternate		A. Zulu	Delegate	
	P. Tarif (Ms)	Delegate		<b>Zimbabwe</b>	C.M. Katsande	Principal delegate
	G. Pankiewicz	Delegate			C. Chipaziwa	Alternate
	C. Smith (Ms)	Delegate			A. Makarau	Alternate
	S. Palmer	Delegate	S.T. Mukanduri		Delegate	
	P. Mason	Delegate	C. Zvirawa		Delegate	
	J. Mitchell	Delegate				
	S. Noyes	Delegate				
	J. Hearth	Delegate				

**B. Representatives of non-Member countries of WMO**

**Holy See** F. Nwachukwu

**C. Observer**

**Palestine** Y.O.A. El-Qawasma

**D. Presidents of technical commissions**

<i>Commission</i>	<i>Name</i>
Acting president CBS	A. Gusev
Co-presidents JCOMM	J. Guddal S. Narayanan (Ms)
President CAeM	N. Gordon
President CAS	A. Eliassen
President CCI	Y. Boodhoo
President CHy	D.G. Rutashobya
President CIMO	S.K. Srivastav
Vice-president CAgM	L.E. Akeh

**E. Invited experts**

D. Berthomier  
M.-C. Dumesnil (Ms)  
P. Mason  
R. Pachauri

**F. IMO lecturers**

M. Abu-Zeid  
I.A. Shiklomanov

**G. Scientific lecturers**

A. Thorpe  
Qin Dahe  
H.M. Wood (Ms)

**H. Representatives of international organizations**

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Name</i>
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	J. Carstensen
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	A. Keil
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	A. Cissoko
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	E. Bonev
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	A. Szollosi-Nagy

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Name</i>
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)	J. Harding T. Jeggle
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)	O. Turpeinen
World Health Organization (WHO)	C. Corvalan
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)	J. Neale
Agency for Air Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA)	A. Fadiga F.L. Finke J.-P. Makosso A. Salihi M. Sissako
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	J. Rissanen (Ms)
European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)	D. Burridge
European Space Agency (ESA)	E. Oriol-Pibernet (Ms)
European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)	P. Counet T. Mohr D. Williams
International Association of Broadcast Meteorology (IABM)	G. Fleming W.G. Giles I. Niedek (Ms) J. Teather
International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)	A. Musy
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)	P. Bernal B. Lee (Ms) C. Summerhayes
African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD)	M.S. Boulahya A.J. Micko (Ms)
Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO)	C. Depradine T. Sutherland
International Astronautical Federation (IAF)	L. Adame
Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)	A.A. Diallo M.S. Mbenga
Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD)	S. Al-Lozi
Association of Hydrometeorological Equipment Industry (HMEI)	B. Dieterink C. Lee
European Commission (EC)	M. Moren
Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI)	P. Lemke
International Committee for Weights and Measures (BIPM)	R. Wielgosz
International Ocean Institute (IOI)	I. Oliouline
International Research Institute for Climate Prediction (IRI)	R. Basher S.E. Zebiak

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>	<i>Name</i>
International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)	R. List	Permanent Delegation of the African Union	S.A. Kalinde (Ms) I.O. Mensa-Bonsu A. Musa
League of Arab States (LAS)	S. El Farargi M. El Sayed A.N.E. Shalaby	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)	R.M. Kebeasy

## ATTENDANCE AT PLENARY MEETINGS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Meetings</i>													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>Member States</b>														
Afghanistan, Islamic State of .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Albania .....	x	x	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Algeria .....	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Angola .....	x	x	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
Antigua and Barbuda .....	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	-	-	x	-	-	-	-
Argentina .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Armenia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Australia .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Austria .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Azerbaijan .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Bahamas .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Bahrain .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bangladesh .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	-	x
Barbados .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Belarus .....	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
Belgium .....	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x
Belize .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Benin .....	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
Bhutan .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Bolivia .....	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bosnia and Herzegovina .....	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	-	-	-	-
Botswana .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brazil .....	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
British Caribbean Territories .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brunei Darussalam .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
Bulgaria .....	x	-	x	-	-	x	-	x	x	x	x	-	x	x
Burkina Faso .....	-	-	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Burundi .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cambodia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cameroon .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-	x
Canada .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	-	x	-	x	x	x
Cape Verde .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	-	-











Name	Meetings													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
United Republic of Tanzania .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
United States of America .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Uruguay .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x
Uzbekistan .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Vanuatu .....	x	x	x	x	—	—	x	x	—	x	—	—	—	—
Venezuela .....	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	—	x	x	x
Viet Nam .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Zambia .....	x	x	x	x	—	x	x	—	—	x	x	—	—	—
Zimbabwe .....	—	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Observer</b>														
Palestine .....	—	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	x	—	—	—	—
<b>International Organizations</b>														
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) .....	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) .....	—	x	x	—	x	—	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	—	—	—	—
Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	—
African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	—
Agency for Air Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA) .....	x	—	x	x	x	x	—	x	x	x	x	x	—	x
Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOCD) .....	—	—	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Association of Hydrometeorological Equipment Industry (HMEI) .....	x	x	—	—	—	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO) .....	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	—	—	—	x	x	x	x
European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	x	—	—	—	—	—
European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) .....	x	x	—	x	x	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
European Space Agency (ESA) .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	x	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



# AGENDA

## **1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION** (Cg-XIV/PINK 1)

- 1.1 Opening of the session
- 1.2 Establishment of a Credentials Committee (Cg-XIV/PINK 1.2(1))
- 1.3 Approval of the agenda (Cg-XIV/Docs. 1.3(1); (2))
- 1.4 Establishment of Committees
- 1.5 Report of the Credentials Committee (Cg-XIV/PINKS 1.5(1); (2); (3))
- 1.6 Approval of the minutes

## **2. REPORTS**

- 2.1 Report by the President of the Organization (Cg-XIV/Doc. 2.1; PINK 2.1)
- 2.2 Report by the Secretary-General (Cg-XIV/PINK 2.2)
- 2.3 Report by the chairperson of the Financial Advisory Committee (Cg-XIV/Doc. 2.3(1), CORR. 1; PINK 2.3)
- 2.4 Consolidated report on amendments to the Technical Regulations (Cg-XIV/Doc. 2.4; PINK 2.4)

## **3. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL PROGRAMMES**

- 3.1 World Weather Watch Programme
  - 3.1.0 WWW basic systems and support functions; the report of the president of CBS (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.0; PINK 3.1.0)
    - 3.1.1 Global Observing System (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.1; PINK 3.1.1)
    - 3.1.2 WWW information system and services, including the Global Telecommunication System and data management (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.2; 3.1.2, ADD.1; PINK 3.1.2)
    - 3.1.3 Global Data-processing System; including emergency response activities (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.3; PINK 3.1.3)
    - 3.1.4 WWW System Support Activities, including the Operational Information Service (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.4; PINK 3.1.4)
    - 3.1.5 Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme; the report of the president of CIMO (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.5; PINK 3.1.5)
    - 3.1.6 WMO Satellite Activities (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.6; PINK 3.1.6)
    - 3.1.7 Tropical Cyclone Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.7; PINK 3.1.7)
    - 3.1.8 WMO Antarctic activities (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.1.8; PINK 3.1.8)
  - 3.2 World Climate Programme
    - 3.2.0 World Climate Programme; the report of the president of CCI (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.0(1); PINK 3.2.0(1))
    - 3.2.1 Coordination activities within the Climate Agenda (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.1; 3.2.1, ADD.1; PINK 3.2.1)
    - 3.2.2 Support to climate change-related activities, including IPCC and the Conventions on Climate Change, on Biodiversity, and on Desertification (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.2; 3.2.2, ADD.1; PINK 3.2.2)
    - 3.2.3 Global Climate Observing System (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.3; 3.2.3, ADD.1; PINK 3.2.3)
    - 3.2.4 World Climate Data and Monitoring Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.4; PINK 3.2.4)
    - 3.2.5 World Climate Applications and Services Programme, including CLIPS (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.5; PINK 3.2.5)
    - 3.2.6 World Climate Impact Assessment and Response Strategies Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.6, REV.1; PINK 3.2.6)
    - 3.2.7 World Climate Research Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.2.7; PINK 3.2.7)
  - 3.3 Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme
    - 3.3.0 Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme; the report of the president of CAS (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.3(1); PINK 3.3(1))
      - 3.3.1 Support to ozone and other environment-oriented conventions (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.3(2), CORR.1; PINK 3.3(2))
      - 3.3.2 Global Atmosphere Watch (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.3(2), CORR.1; PINK 3.3(2))
      - 3.3.3 World Weather Research Programme (Cg-XIV/Docs. 3.3(2), CORR.1; 3.3(3); PINKS 3.3(2); 3.3(3))
      - 3.3.4 Tropical Meteorology Research Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.3(2), CORR.1; PINK 3.3(2))
      - 3.3.5 Programme on Physics and Chemistry of Clouds and Weather Modification Research (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.3(2), CORR.1; PINK 3.3(2))
    - 3.4 Applications of Meteorology Programme
      - 3.4.1 Public Weather Services Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.4.1; PINK 3.4.1)
      - 3.4.2 Agricultural Meteorology Programme; the report of the president of CAgM (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.4.2; PINK 3.4.2)

- 3.4.3 Aeronautical Meteorology Programme; the report of the president of CAeM (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.4.3(1); PINK 3.4.3)
- 3.4.4 Marine Meteorology and Associated Oceanographic Activities Programme; the report of the co-president of JCOMM (Cg-XIV/Docs. 3.4.4(1); (2); PINKS 3.4.1(1); (2))
- 3.5 Hydrology and Water Resources Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.5; PINK 3.5)
- 3.5.0 Hydrology and Water Resources Programme; report of the president of CHy
- 3.5.1 Programme on Basic Systems in Hydrology
- 3.5.2 Programme on Forecasting and Applications in Hydrology
- 3.5.3 Programme on Sustainable Development of Water Resources
- 3.5.4 Programme on Capacity Building in Hydrology and Water Resources
- 3.5.5 Programme on Water-related Issues
- 3.6 Education and Training Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.6(1); PINK 3.6)
- 3.6.1 Human resources development
- 3.6.2 Training activities
- 3.6.3 Education and training fellowships
- 3.6.4 Support to training events under other WMO major Programmes
- 3.7 Technical Cooperation Programme
- 3.7.1 General review of the Technical Cooperation Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.7(1); 3.7(2); PINK 3.7)
- 3.7.2 Organization and funding of the Technical Cooperation Programme (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.7(1); PINK 3.7)
- 3.8 Regional Programme
- 3.8.1 Reports of the presidents of regional associations (Cg-XIV/ Docs. 3.8.1(1); (2); (3); (3), ADD.1; (4); (5); (6); PINK 3.8)
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- 4. PROGRAMME SUPPORT SERVICES AND PUBLICATIONS**
- 4.1 Conferences (Cg-XIV/Doc. 4.1, CORR. 1; PINK 4.1)
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- 6.1 Report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Fifth WMO Long-term Plan (Cg-XIV/Docs. 6.1; 6.1, ADD. 1; PINK 6.1)
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- 7. SPECIFIC CHALLENGES FACING WMO**
- 7.1 International exchange of data and products (Cg-XIV/Doc. 7.1; PINK 7.1)
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- 7.3 Cooperation with other disciplines and programmes (Cg-XIV/Doc. 7.3; PINK 7.3)
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- 8. CONSOLIDATED PROGRAMME AND BUDGET — 2004-2007** (Cg-XIV/Docs. 8(1); (1), ADD. 1; ADD. 2; (2); (3); PINK 8)
- 9. COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**
- 9.1 Cooperation with the United Nations and other organizations (Cg-XIV/Docs. 9.1; (2); (2), ADD. 1; (3); (4); PINKS 9.1(1); (2); (3); (4), REV. 1)
- 9.2 World Summit on Sustainable Development (Cg-XIV/Doc. 9.2; PINK 9.2)
- 10. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL QUESTIONS**
- 10.1 Financial matters (Cg-XIV/Docs. 10.1(1); (2); PINKS 10.1(1); (2))
- 10.2 Proportional contributions of Members (Cg-XIV/Doc. 10.2(1); PINK 10.2(1))
- 10.3 Staff matters (Cg-XIV/Docs. 10.3(1); (2); (2), ADD. 1; PINKS 10.3(1); (2))
- 10.4 Secretary-General's contract (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.4)
- 11. GENERAL AND LEGAL QUESTIONS**
- 11.1 IMO and WMO Prizes (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.1)
- 11.2 Questions concerning the Convention (Cg-XIV/Docs. 11.2(1), REV. 1; (2); (3); PINKS 11.2(1); (2); (3))

- 11.3 Revision of the General Regulations (Cg-XIV/Docs. 11.3(1); (2); (3); (4); (5); (6); PINKS 11.3(1); (2); (3); (4); (5); (6))
- 11.4 Review of previous resolutions of Congress (Cg-XIV/Doc. 11.4; PINK 11.4)
- 11.5 Requests for membership of the Organization (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.5)
- 12. ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**
- 12.1 Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization (Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.1(1); (2), REV. 1; (3), REV. 1)
- 12.2 Election of members of the Executive Council (Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.2(1); (1), ADD. 1; (2))
- 12.3 Appointment of the Secretary-General (Cg-XIV/Doc. 12.3; PINK 12.3; (2); (3))
- 13. SCIENTIFIC LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS** (Cg-XIV/Doc. 13; PINK 13)
- 14. DATE AND PLACE OF FIFTEENTH CONGRESS** (Cg-XIV/PINK 14)
- 15. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION** (Cg-XIV/PINK 15)

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SESSION

<i>Final No.</i>	<i>Session No.</i>	
1	2.4/1	Technical Regulations of the World Meteorological Organization
2	3.1.0/1	World Weather Watch Programme for 2004–2007
3	3.1.2/1	Radio frequencies for meteorological and related environmental activities
4	3.1.5/1	Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme
5	3.1.6/1	WMO Space Programme
6	3.1.6/2	WMO Consultative Meetings on High-level Policy on Satellite Matters
7	3.1.7/1	Tropical Cyclone Programme
8	3.2.2/1	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
9	3.2.3/1	GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles
10	3.2.3/2	Global Climate Observing System
11	3.2.5/1	Services of the World Climate Programme (covering the World Climate Data and Monitoring Programme and the World Climate Applications and Services Programme)
12	3.3/1	THORPEX: A Global Atmospheric Research Programme
13	3.4.1/1	Public Weather Services Programme
14	3.4.2/1	Agricultural Meteorology Programme
15	3.4.3/1	Aeronautical Meteorology Programme
16	3.4.4/1	Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Activities Programme
17	3.5/1	Hydrology and Water Resources Programme
18	3.5/2	Panel of Experts on Fresh Water
19	3.6/1	Education and Training Programme
20	3.7/1	The WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme
21	3.7/2	WMO Programme for the Least Developed Countries
22	4.3/1	Publications Programme for the fourteenth financial period
23	5/1	Information and Public Affairs Programme
24	5/2	A subtitle for WMO
25	6.2/1	Sixth WMO Long-term Plan
26	6.3/1	Preparation of the Seventh WMO Long-term Plan
27	7.2/2	Quality management
28	7.2/1	Role and operation of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services

29	7.4/1	Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Programme
30	8/1	Maximum expenditures for the fourteenth financial period
31	8/2	Results-based budgeting
32	9.1/1	Agreement between the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the World Meteorological Organization
33	9.1/2	Equal opportunities for the participation of women in meteorology and hydrology
34	9.1/3	Holding of a third International Polar Year in 2007–2008
35	10.1/1	Establishment of the Financial Regulations of the World Meteorological Organization
36	10.2/1	Assessment of proportional contributions of Members for the fourteenth financial period
37	10.2/2	Review of the Working Capital Fund
38	10.4/1	Secretary-General's contract
39	11.2/1	Amendments to Article 13(c) of the Convention
40	11.2/2	Questions concerning the WMO Convention
41	11.2/3	Amendments to the Convention — Translation of the term "Regional Association"
42	11.3/1	Amendments to Annex II of the WMO General Regulations
43	11.3/2	Amendment to General Regulation 85(a)
44	11.3/4	Application of General Regulations 177 and 194
45	11.3/5	Amendment to the General Regulations — Translation of the term "Regional Association"
46	11.3/6	Use of Portuguese
47	11.4/1	Review of previous Congress resolutions
48	12.3/1	Tribute to the Secretary-General



# WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

## FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Geneva, 5-24 May 2003

### MINUTES OF THE FIRST PLENARY MEETING 5 May 2003 at 10 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.*

#### 1. **Opening of the session** (agenda item 1.1)

The **PRESIDENT**, Mr J.W. Zillman, declared open the Fourteenth Congress of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). He focused his remarks on the broad picture of the past, present and future of international cooperation in meteorology and its sister sciences and their contribution to the safety and welfare of people throughout the world. The scientific and institutional linkages between meteorology, hydrology and oceanography, he believed, were now very strong.

The President expressed special empathy with the hydrology community which had brought great strength to meteorology through its acceptance of WMO as the appropriate United Nations system framework for international cooperation and coordination on operational hydrology. Regarding oceanography, he felt that it should be a matter of great satisfaction in the international meteorological and oceanographic communities that, over the past four years, a genuine partnership had been forged between WMO and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM). The partnerships established with UNESCO and the International Council for Science (ICSU) in working towards a unified framework for monitoring, modelling and predicting the behaviour of the total earth system provided a sound foundation for exploring and exploiting future opportunities.

The President believed that the greatest challenges facing WMO were to find more effective ways of moving scientific and technological progress in the developed countries into operations and service improvement in the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of the developing world. The main problem remained that of resources. It was fair to observe that the developed world had collectively failed to do as much as it might have, through technology transfer, to underpin the capacity-building efforts of the

NMHSs of the developing countries, despite the acknowledged achievements of the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP) and the substantial contribution of individual countries through bilateral assistance with equipment and staff training.

The President was convinced that public meteorological services represented one of the best examples of an economic public good, and that the theory of public goods provided a powerful framework within which to build, or rebuild, the provision of meteorological services at the national level. In the case of meteorology, a public goods perspective made it clear that the responsibility for providing most of the essential infrastructure needed to meet community expectations and ensure the socially optimal level of public services must ultimately reside with governments. The recent developments in the theory of global public goods suggested that the entire international framework of cooperation and free exchange under the auspices of WMO and the provision of a wide range of services for the safety of life and property and for reducing the impact of natural disasters fell squarely in the realm of global public goods.

On the issue of climate change, the WMO community had foreseen its emergence as a major issue for the future of humanity and had put in place the international monitoring and research programmes needed to ensure that it could, and would, be addressed and managed on a sound scientific basis. The design and implementation of the World Climate Programme (WCP), followed later by its refocusing through the Climate Agenda, had served the world extremely well as governments began to face the far-reaching implications of greenhouse warming and the prospect of long-term climate change. He believed that a new global climate agenda and a new framework of cooperation were needed within which the WMO community could play its part. He had been greatly heartened by the recent initiatives in the United States and some other countries to take a fresh look at the structure and functioning of the national climate enterprise. He hoped that that new approach would extend to the global level and that Fourteenth Congress would take the steps needed to achieve international consensus on the essential elements of a new global

framework for cooperation in climate monitoring, research and service provision.

The President believed strongly in the need to commit to implementation of an integrated global observing system. For 150 years, the global meteorological community had shown remarkable foresight in laying the foundation, often decades or more ahead of the wider perception of the need, for reliable internationally-comparable records of past environmental conditions. It now faced a new challenge planning for the integrated earth observing system that was clearly emerging as an essential foundation for addressing a wide range of global environmental issues over the decades ahead.

Regarding the current state of National Meteorological Services (NMSs) around the world and their place in the total international meteorological and scientific system, the President believed that the established concept of the primarily government-funded NMS would remain fundamental to the effectiveness of essential public meteorological services through the twenty-first century. He regarded the development of a rigorous and robust economic and public policy framework for meteorological service provision as an essential step toward that end and considered it entirely appropriate that WMO should take a lead. He felt also that education and training of NMHS staff were the key to the future, and that a renewed commitment to attracting the best young scientists and technicians into the field was of the utmost importance.

The President emphasized the need to preserve the integrity of the atmospheric sciences and to ensure their wise and responsible use in advising individual governments and the global community on such fundamentally important issues as protection of the ozone layer and mitigation of anthropogenic climate change. He noted with particular satisfaction the establishment of the joint WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its subsequent role in pioneering the use of science to inform policy makers in that important area. The WMO framework of *Guides* and *Manuals* and occasional firm statements on issues such as weather modification and the scientific basis and limitations of weather and climate forecasting would continue to be critically important to the integrity of the science and the services based on it.

The President expressed his satisfaction with the operation of the Executive Council since Thirteenth Congress, in spite of the considerable turnover in its membership. He highlighted some of the major decisions facing Fourteenth Congress, including: determining the role that WMO should play in a world that was simultaneously more comprehensively integrated and more sharply divided than at any previous time; reaching consensus on a new vision for the future of WMO and a realistic strategy for achieving it; agreeing on the objectives of all

Major Programmes and deciding how to achieve them with the best combination of resources; electing a new President, Vice-Presidents and Executive Council; appointing a new Secretary-General; and recommitting the Organization to the unity of meteorology and its sister sciences in pursuit of the noble aspirations of the WMO Convention and the continued effectiveness of WMO as the model of international cooperation within the United Nations system.

#### 1.1 **Statement by Professor G.O.P. Obasi, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization**

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** extended a warm welcome to all delegates, representatives of international organizations, His Royal Highness the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, ministers and other high-level government officials. He drew attention, in particular, to the two countries that had most recently acceded to the WMO Convention — Bhutan and Kiribati — and welcomed their delegations.

The Secretary-General recalled that the year 2003 marked the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the First International Meteorological Conference, which formally underlined the importance of meteorology and stressed that international cooperation in the science was a sine qua non condition to progress. That spirit of cooperation led to the establishment of the International Meteorological Organization in 1873 and subsequently in 1950 to the World Meteorological Organization, a specialized Agency of the United Nations.

Congress, noted the Secretary-General, remained the WMO's highest policy-making organ. As such, it offered to each of its 187 Members the forum to contribute to the formulation of WMO's policies and programmes and to the implementation strategies that should guide the Organization into the future. He emphasized that Congress decisions had strong implications on the effectiveness of WMO and provided the framework for contributions of NMHS in addressing many of the long-term concerns of humankind at the national, regional and global levels.

Fourteenth Congress would consider, and provide guidance on, a number of major issues relevant to the sustainable development of nations, including:

- (a) Mitigation of natural disasters that had in recent years caused over 60 000 deaths, affected more than 200 million people, and led to economic losses of up to US\$ 100 billion annually. It was recalled that the 1997/1998 *El Niño* event alone caused damage estimated at US\$ 96 billion.
- (b) The challenge of water resources management, as over 1 billion people presently had no access to drinking water and 31 developing countries

representing 2.8 billion people already faced chronic water problems;

- (c) Issues related to climate change that might intensify the degradation of the environment and cause sea-level rise with adverse consequences for small island developing States (SIDS) and coastal zones;
- (d) The depletion of the ozone layer, an issue that endangered life on planet Earth;
- (e) Support to food security, as 800 million people faced chronic food shortages and malnutrition;
- (f) Support to other vital sectors of the economy, including transport, health and tourism;
- (g) Assistance to Members to meet their international obligations related to the Conventions on Climate Change, on Desertification and on Ozone as well as those arising from global conferences such as the United Nations Millennium Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

The Secretary-General noted that to a large extent the contributions of WMO in those areas, including the timely warnings on many of today's environmental concerns, had been possible due to painstaking efforts in providing accurate and continuous data and projections of the state of the global atmosphere, water resources and the oceans through WMO's unique programmes and networks of observing stations and Centres. Many of the contributions of WMO in those areas were detailed in the publication *A Decade of Progress – The World Meteorological Organization in the 1990s and the New Century*.

The Secretary-General noted that WMO's leadership role in applying scientific and technological innovation, in supporting capacity-building and human resources development, and in ensuring that the benefits accruing from advances in the sciences of meteorology and hydrology were sustained and available to all countries had been the hallmark of WMO. He noted that an innovative support programme for the least developed countries (LDCs) would be proposed to Congress.

The Secretary-General noted that in view of its leadership role in its own field of competence, WMO was recognized universally as the United Nations system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere, its interactions with the oceans, the climate it generated and the resulting distribution of water resources on Earth.

The challenge to Congress was to ensure that the significant benefits that the world community derived from the WMO system were maintained, even enhanced, recognizing that WMO was one of the foremost organizations in the service of humankind. At the national level, the cost-benefit ratio of meteorological services was estimated to be of the order of 1:10. Internationally, the Organization helped to ensure the availability of products and services worth more than US\$ 6 billion dollars per

year globally, a sum 135 times the cost of running WMO. The Secretary-General invited Congress to take measures that would ensure the enhancement of the comparative advantage of WMO. Thus, in view of the advent of globalization and unprecedented advances in science and technology, the Organization should be strategically placed so that every nation benefited in an equitable manner from the evolving global socio-economic environment and from the Programmes of the Organization. WMO also needed to continue to develop innovative ways of delivering services, of ensuring free and unrestricted exchange of data and products, of enhancing partnership with relevant parties, and of continuing to improve its basic system.

The Secretary-General observed that as Congress looked to the future, it must keep in view the need to maintain the delicate balance between continuity and change. He expressed his confidence that the collective wisdom of Congress would prevail in forging a consensus towards enhanced progress and strengthened contribution of the science of meteorology and hydrology to society through unity and in harmony. Thus, challenges must be turned into opportunities, and stumbling blocks into stepping stones. He concluded by noting that a journey of a thousand miles began with a single step, and that even now that single step could be taken to ensure that WMO continued to serve the cause of humanity and the enhancement of international cooperation.

## **1.2 Statement by H.E. Mr J.-M. Boulgaris, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Switzerland with the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**H.E. MR J.-M. BOULGARIS** welcomed all the participants to Fourteenth Congress. He noted that it was only several weeks ago that Geneva celebrated the victory of the Alinghi team that won the America Cup. That success would not have been possible without the contribution of sponsors, including meteorologists who were given the task of anticipating any changes in wind direction. He referred to the great achievement of the Alinghi team, so as to underline the fact that the team was made up of many nationalities; this was a true spirit of international cooperation that had for a long time been the strength for meteorology. WMO was founded in 1950, and celebrated its fiftieth birthday three years ago.

H.E. Mr J.-M. Boulgaris highlighted the many accomplishments of Professor Obasi, who had been serving as Secretary-General of WMO for 20 years. Those included the current Headquarters of the Organization. He noted that the futuristic construction of the building symbolized both the role fulfilled by WMO and its Members, and also the close relationship that existed between the Organization and Switzerland. Under Professor Obasi, a number of new programmes had been

launched or strengthened — the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and the World Weather Watch (WWW) Programme, to name but two.

Regarding the new challenges facing the world, he noted that each year more than 200 million human beings were victims of natural disasters and many of them lost their lives. For Switzerland, whose alpine territory made it particularly exposed, it was essential to reduce that vulnerability in the face of extreme meteorology, hydrology and climatic situations. He underscored the importance of regional cooperation to assist the two billion inhabitants on Earth who did not have access to drinking water, and the need to address the growing scarcity of freshwater. He mentioned that Switzerland participated in a project which supported the Hydrometeorology Services of Central Asia. He noted the progress that WMO continued to make regarding its structures, to ensure efficiency, transparency and flexibility, in order to respond better to the needs of the future, and requested the current Congress to make a step in proposing to modify the Convention on the introduction of protocols.

H.E. Mr J.-M. Boulgaris noted that since the foundation of WMO enormous progress had been made with regard to atmospheric science. The excellent quality of climatic models and the technological development in the world of satellites were as a result of international cooperation. Sometimes, it was more efficient to invest in Member countries which were less privileged, than to obtain a sophisticated computer. WMO played a decisive role in the area of transferring knowledge. The strength and the success of the Organization could be measured against the development offered to less favoured Member countries.

### **1.3 Statement by H.R.H. Prince Ūlukalala Lavaka Ata, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga**

**PRINCE ŪLUKALALA LAVAKA ATA** expressed pleasure at the opportunity to address Congress, noting that that was the first occasion on which the head of Government from Tonga had done so. He noted the importance of the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan (6LTP) that would be adopted by Congress and expressed Tonga's support for the regional cooperative programmes therein as the framework for sustainable development in the South-West Pacific region. Tonga believed that such cooperative programmes were the most cost-effective means for sharing limited resources and for mitigating the negative effects of isolation, while emphasizing that national interests should not be eclipsed by such approaches. Tonga looked forward to hosting the tenth meeting of the Regional Meteorological Directors later during the year and endorsed the strategic action plan for long-term development of meteorology in the Pacific region.

Tonga, being a small State with a fragile economy and limited resources, was especially vulnerable to extreme events such as tropical cyclones, rainfalls and droughts. A growing demand for improved hydrometeorological services had led to the Government's commitment to the establishment of an autonomous forecasting capability, the further development of which would depend on adequate human resources, capacity-building and infrastructure. Prince Ūlukalala Lavaka Ata expressed Tonga's appreciation to WMO, its Members and the Secretary-General for their support in the form of technical cooperation and the development of strategies to strengthen Tonga's meteorological capabilities, and reaffirmed Tonga's full commitment to the Organization and its Convention.

### **1.4 Message from H.E. Mr M. Kasyanov, Chairperson of the Government of the Russian Federation**

**MR A.I. BEDRITSKY**, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation with WMO, conveyed a message from H.E. Mr M. Kasyanov. WMO was a specialized agency of the United Nations family where many countries worked in partnership toward improving forecasts at all scales, from the regional to the global scale, which ultimately helped the social and economic progress of mankind. The Russian Federation had always been very active at various stages of activities of WMO. The Russian Federation had made a considerable contribution to many WMO Programmes. Given how topical climate change had evolved, it was hoped that WMO and the Member States would take an active part in the World Climate Change Conference organized on the initiative of the President of the Russian Federation. That Conference would take place in the autumn.

### **1.5 Statement by H.R.H. Prince Turki Bin Nassir Bin Abdulaziz, Minister for Meteorology and Environment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**H.R.H. PRINCE TURKI BIN NASSIR BIN ABDULAZIZ** extended his appreciation for the possibility to address Fourteenth Congress and noted that for many years, and since the start of international scientific collaboration in the domain of meteorology, Saudi Arabia had always been a partner in the international community. He informed Congress that Saudi Arabia continued to assume its role at the regional level, given its geographical situation, its conviction that meteorological services depended principally on observation, collection and analysis of information given, on climatic changes, and on the full cooperation with the international community in matters related to the exchange of information, knowledge and scientific work. Like many other countries and regions, Saudi Arabia had to face a number of problems such as drought and desertification.

He noted the challenges and problems linked to meteorological and hydrological services in all the regions of WMO and reaffirmed the strong determination to work closely with the parties concerned to realize the objectives of the Organization and those of the international community. In that regard, the Presidency of Meteorology and the Environment had put in place recently a centre for the monitoring of drought and desertification. It had also launched the second phase of a cloud-seeding project, in collaboration with WMO, and had provided, in collaboration with the Saudi airline company, two planes or more at the disposal of the Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay (AMDAR) Programme. Furthermore, specialist studies fellowships had been offered to Members of WMO and, in particular, to the neighbouring States at the meteorology faculty of the University of King Fahd Abdul Aziz and the plan was to reinforce actions in that area. Saudi Arabia also contributed to the efforts of the international community in the area of climatic changes and provided assistance to studies relevant to climatic changes.

H.R.H. Prince Turki Bin Nassir Bin Abdulaziz informed Congress that the candidature of Mr Nizar Ibrahim Tawfiq for the position of Secretary-General of WMO had been withdrawn as a result of ill health.

#### **1.6 Message from H.E. Mr A.K. Dapaah MP, Minister of Communications and Technology of the Republic of Ghana**

**H.E. MR M.F. POKU**, Ambassador of the Permanent Mission of Ghana with the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, conveyed a message from H.E. Mr A.K. Dapaah. Ghana had fully participated in the activities of WMO because of the importance it attached to the objectives of the Organization and of the benefit that had accrued to it as a Member through voluntary cooperation programmes in the area of human resources development and the acquisition of equipment. He thanked WMO and its Members for their work in the field of meteorology and operational hydrology as well as for the continued attention focused on NMHSs and staff and on resources to carry out its work. Ghana was particularly pleased to observe that WMO was actively committed to the further development of information systems and services, including the development of information and communication technology (ICT) aimed at improving quality and at enhancing effective dissemination of weather and climate information for the benefit of society. Ghana had adopted a development policy which relied on exploiting to the maximum the potential of ICT in achieving sustainable development which would address the issues of deprivation and poverty in the country. The Government was aware of the vital role which reliable weather and climate information played in ensuring food security, in availability and management of water resources, and in enhancing

the substance of its economic objectives. For that reason, the Government had committed substantial resources to improve the quality of the services of Ghana's NMHS. In that regard, it was transforming the Meteorological Services Department from a civil service institution to an autonomous institution that freed it from the main civil service bureaucracy. Appropriate infrastructure reforms, marked by the necessary regulatory framework, would only benefit the Ghana Meteorological Service Department by generating income to support some of the operations, improve efficiency and minimize external support in the long term. In the short term, Ghana would require support to enable it to acquire basic equipment and train personnel to facilitate a successful transformation.

#### **1.7 Statement by H.E. Honourable M. Moleleki, Minister of Natural Resources of the Kingdom of Lesotho**

**H.E. HONOURABLE M. MOLELEKI** expressed his pleasure to be able to address Congress and conveyed special greetings from His Majesty King Letsie III and His Excellency the Right Honourable Mr Pakalitha Mosisili. He noted the global nature of the science of meteorology and climate and the need for collaboration in systematic observation and sharing of data, which had resulted in improved forecasts for all users. In Lesotho, the role of meteorology in enhancing and sustaining economic productivity and social development was increasingly being recognized. The science of meteorology had a bearing in one way or another on many of the challenges facing the developing world, such as poverty, food security, natural disasters, diseases and economic recession, and it was therefore imperative for Congress to formulate the WMO policy framework so as to be able to address those challenges.

H.E. Honourable M. Moleleki noted the increasing importance of information as a resource, especially the weather and climate information provided by NMHSs, and the need for Congress to establish guiding principles on how improved meteorology could contribute to socio-economic endeavours, especially in developing countries. He commended the WMO Technical Cooperation Programme (TCOP) in assisting developing countries to establish their meteorological infrastructure, as well as WMO support for training, while noting the need for increased efforts to support many NMSs as they converted into cost-recovery institutions.

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) should pave the way to the continent's socio-economic improvement, and it was expected that Congress resolutions would be consistent with that initiative. The Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) had ratified the Protocol on Transport, Communications and Meteorology in which meteorology was a driving force for development.

Lesotho was particularly influenced by, and vulnerable to, extreme weather and climate conditions, as well as climate change. It had therefore ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1996 and had submitted its initial national communication to the Conference of the Parties. The Government recognized the importance of meteorological services to socio-economic development and had elevated the Lesotho Meteorological Service to a full Department in 2000. An expansion of the infrastructure had been possible thanks to the assistance of a number of partners, including China, Egypt, Finland, Kenya, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

**1.8 Statement by H.E. Honourable J.A. Chikwenga, Deputy Minister of Transport and Public Works of the Republic of Malawi**

**H.E. HONOURABLE J. CHIKWENGA** extended warm greetings to the participants of Fourteenth Congress. He noted that in Malawi meteorology was seen as a lifeline for development, survival and poverty reduction. He noted that most natural disasters in the world were weather- and climate-related and that Malawi had had its share of such disasters, including landslides, drought and floods in recent years. Such disasters had made Malawi's primary development goal of poverty reduction much more difficult.

Malawi had high expectations that Fourteenth Congress would lead to resolutions that would help improve the seasonal climate forecasts on which Malawi's agriculture-based economy depended. The Government of Malawi was committed to improving meteorology and to that end had developed a strategic plan for the National Meteorological Service. The Meteorological Service had also conducted a user-needs assessment and an infrastructure assessment.

H.E. Honourable J. Chikwenga highlighted meteorological training as a crucial need for Malawi and urged participants of Fourteenth Congress to consider training for the LDCs so that they could keep abreast of rapid meteorological advancements. He also took the opportunity to thank those who had assisted Malawi in the field of meteorology, including Australia, Egypt, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. Finally, he thanked those who assisted in implementing such regional projects as the Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum and the Southern Africa Development Community Drought Monitoring Centre in Harare.

**1.9 Statement by H.E. Mr A. Zahoud, Secretary in Charge of Water of the Kingdom of Morocco**

**H.E. MR A. ZAHOU** thanked WMO and its Members for the efforts deployed to the service of the international community. He in particular thanked

Mr Zillman and Professor Obasi for the competence and the devotion with which they directed the Organization.

He noted that the scientific progress and the technological advances realized had largely contributed to the development of science, and had shown the potential benefits that could be derived by a country, where the knowledge of atmospheric phenomenon constituted a major stake for the economy and the security of the population. If the development of meteorology was inseparable from its ability to insert itself in the global national economy, it was equally strongly linked to its capacity to acquire, adapt and produce new technologies and new services. The general objective of the development of meteorology was sustained by the constant ambition to become in the mind of the public and of the economic operators, the daily reference for matters regarding the weather and climate. For that, we should provide information and advice to users which were useful and adapted to their needs.

H.E. Mr A. Zahoud informed that the National Meteorological Service of Morocco, strengthened by political support, had concentrated its efforts for the last 12 years, first on the elaboration of a promising strategy, then on the implementation of restructuring, and finally on the choice of a meteorology of a new dimension, that harmonized with the economic and social fabric of a country. The phase of modernization and its implementation consisted of acquiring modern services, launching research and development programmes in numerical weather prediction (NWP), climate prediction and weather modification. Many African and Arab authorities had had the opportunity to benefit from the Moroccan modernization experience. Morocco placed at the disposal of countries in North and West Africa the products of numerical prediction developed in cooperation with the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) and the Atmospheric Laser Doppler Instrument (ALADIN) consortium.

He highlighted the difficulties of developing countries, in particular those in the African region, in maintaining their infrastructure and the risk posed to WWW in the middle and long term. In that regard, it was necessary and urgent to put in place a priority programme to improve the basic system of the WWW in Africa in the coming years.

**1.10 Statement by H.E. Ms K. Chikwe, Minister of Aviation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria**

**H.E. MS K. CHIKWE** expressed warm congratulations to delegates to Fourteenth Congress on behalf of President Olusegun Obasanjo and of the people of Nigeria. She noted that the current WMO Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, an eminent son of Nigeria, would be retiring after 20 years of meritorious service. She expressed the appreciation of her Government to all the Member

States of WMO for the support and cooperation extended to him during his long career.

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe drew the attention of the delegates to the work ahead during the next 20 days of Fourteenth Congress, during which time delegates would be taking stock of WMO's achievements and charting the course of action for the next four years. She highlighted the goals of WMO as embodied in Article 2 of the WMO Convention, in particular noting its objective to "further the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities".

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe noted the intricate interdependence between human activities and weather and climate and pointed out that man depended on rainfall, temperature and other climate factors to grow food and to engage in many other economic activities. Today, climate change and its impact on agriculture, biodiversity, ecosystems, water supplies, etc. had become very topical. Phenomena such as global warming, ozone depletion, drought, desertification and flooding were of major concern and were either induced or exacerbated by human activities. The loss of human lives, coupled with destruction of farmland and ecosystems resulting from extreme meteorological and hydrological events, had been great. Climate variability was especially high in Africa.

During her recent address at the second session of the Technical Conference on the Participation of Women in Meteorology and Hydrology, she had emphasized that advances in meteorology and hydrology should be translated into accelerated development in African countries. She drew particular attention to the challenges that rural African women faced in providing food and water for their families. The problems faced by those women were usually worsened by weather-related disasters. Even more, the available statistics showed that in the event of a severe meteorological or hydrological phenomenon, the risk of loss of life or other negative impacts was 2.4 times higher in Africa than in Europe, and about 1.8 times higher than in the Americas.

In focusing on her part of Africa, H.E. Ms K. Chikwe noted that before embarking on most social and economic activities, the weather was often forecast in a traditional way. Thus, before any important outdoor activity during the rainy season, a rainmaker was consulted to hold back the rain or make it fall as necessary. The rural farmer determined the farming season through his observation of the weather; however, his observing methods were limited and the needed accuracy was lacking. Therefore, contemporary technology was essential to replace those traditional and/or crude methods. Africans needed facilities both for effective forecasts and for the application of weather information to agriculture, water resources planning and management, aviation, disaster mitigation, etc. They needed state-of-the-art weather radar for

aviation, equipment such as radio and internet (RANET) for rural communities, etc.

Funding, however, had always been a problem because governments had to contend with widespread poverty. In most African countries, over 70 per cent of the population lived below the poverty line of less than US\$ 1 per day. Significantly, most factors responsible for that situation were environmental or weather related. NEPAD identified agriculture as the sector best able to deliver broadly-based economic advancement in Africa. Other sectors were important (e.g. petroleum development, tourism), but the importance of agriculture was determined by the fact that more than 70 per cent of Africa's poor resided in rural areas. President Obasanjo, in particular, had noted the importance of improving Nigeria's agriculture.

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe hoped that delegates would share her concern about Africa. The rest of the world could not afford to leave Africa behind. She therefore appealed to WMO to look into ways of increasing funding to African countries to finance projects that would make applications of weather information realizable and also to address Africa's vulnerability to severe meteorological and hydrological phenomena. A well-defined plan was needed, she stated, so that when Congress met again in 2007, Africa would be a success story.

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe expressed appreciation to WMO for the immense assistance provided to Nigeria's Meteorological and Hydrological Services, in particular through the VCP. She also noted the WMO-sponsored consultancy services provided by China and India related to the establishment of an instrument calibration and fabrication workshop and donations of RANET equipment and other items, as well as the assistance provided by the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA) for the rehabilitation of the observational network. The changes in Nigeria were a testimony to what Professor Obasi had achieved generally for other countries during his tenure as Secretary-General. In addition to the Regional Training Centre in Lagos, Nigerian universities trained professionals in meteorology. Nigeria had enough manpower in meteorology to deploy some staff to other countries.

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe noted that President Obasanjo was particularly impressed with, and supportive of, the greenhouse farming and RANET projects of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NIMET). As a mark of Nigeria's commitment to the development of meteorology, it would continue to place at the disposal of WMO the facilities for hosting international and regional meetings of WMO and its constituent bodies. Nigeria had made a formal offer to WMO to host the fourteenth session of Regional Association I in 2006.

H.E. Ms K. Chikwe re-emphasized how grateful and proud Nigeria was of Professor Obasi's successful 20-year tenure as the second longest serving Secretary-General of WMO.

**1.11 Statement by H.E. Mr A. Al-Noaimi, President of the Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority of the State of Qatar**

H.E. MR AL-NOAIMI welcomed all participants to Fourteenth Congress. He noted that the NMS of Qatar had been established in the early 1960s and that Qatar joined WMO in 1974. It was now concentrating on climate matters.

Qatar had developed a 10-year plan to improve the Meteorological Service. The goals were to provide better services and to encourage scientific

research. There were currently five meteorological stations in Qatar, and those were to be increased to eight automatic weather stations (AWSs). Furthermore, the plan called for 30 AWSs by 2010, each to be installed according to international specifications.

H.E. Mr Al-Noaimi noted that Qatar would be establishing a national climate centre and that it would serve as an archive for climate data. He noted that training and the development of human resources in Qatar were especially important. He wished Fourteenth Congress every success.

*The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE SECOND PLENARY MEETING  
5 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.47 p.m.*

**Opening of the session** (agenda item 1.1)  
(continued)

The **PRESIDENT**, stating that four speakers were scheduled for the continuation of the morning's opening session, invited the first speaker to take the floor.

**1.12 Statement by H.E. The Honourable Ms R. Mabudafhasi, M.P., Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism of the Republic of South Africa**

H.E. MS R. MABUDAFHASI expressed honour in addressing Fourteenth Congress on behalf of the Government of South Africa. She paid tribute to the WMO leadership and its vision, and hoped the Organization would continue along the established path under the leadership. She thanked the Secretary-General for his role and valuable contribution to meteorology. As a true son of Africa he had championed the cause of meteorology and meteorological challenges facing the world and Africa in particular, and she extended her good wishes to him for the future and expressed the hope that he would continue to contribute to the welfare of people worldwide.

She wished participants fruitful deliberations, which should position WMO to address global challenges that had an impact on sustainable development, particularly in the developing countries, whose vulnerability was the greatest. Those challenges would include the state of weather and climate observations, for lack of data from such observations compromised forecast quality, climate-change monitoring and other elements. The integration of meteorology with other disciplines, including agriculture, oceanography and hydrology,

had improved, but more needed to be done, particularly in developing countries. Collaboration, teamwork and joint projects between national weather Services of rich and poor nations, between North and South, were no longer optional but critical for success in meteorology, as weather knew no boundaries.

Tropical cyclones from the Indian Ocean had brought catastrophic conditions to southern Africa, particularly to Mozambique, in the form of devastating floods earlier in the year as well as in previous years. WMO should therefore continue to build bridges between NMHSs, narrowing the digital divide and building capacity worldwide, to improve and safeguard people's lives and environment. The true worth of science and research was to improve the lives and safeguard the property of ordinary people. The poor were vulnerable to natural weather-related disasters, which further exacerbated poverty. It was thus a priority to capacitate people with the knowledge and skills required to understand such disasters and to respond adequately so as to minimize their impact.

She concurred with the Minister from Nigeria that the knowledge base needed to be expanded by harmonizing scientific and indigenous knowledge, so that better solutions could be found. She wished to convey that message to Congress, and urged WMO and NMHSs worldwide to be even more sensitive to societal needs, particularly the historically marginalized.

The Government of South Africa had a very high regard for its National Weather Service and WMO. WMO facilitated cohesion between agencies on the African continent and collaboration with other global institutions. South Africa was committed to working with its sister organizations on the continent in line with the objectives of NEPAD. Furthermore, it



was committed to global collaboration under the WMO umbrella in areas such as data exchange, research, technology and skills exchange, and capacity-building in order to assure global sustainable development.

Africa had engaged on a path of sustainable development through NEPAD. African political leaders had, together with other players, identified a number of initiatives and programmes intended to provide clear action plans and implementation mechanisms for NEPAD. WMO and others engaged in initiatives in meteorological science favourable to development on the continent should seek synergy and consolidate their programmes with NEPAD initiatives. It would be most beneficial if some of the WMO programmes were to feature on the NEPAD list of programmes. She looked forward to the practical effects of the deliberations. The recommendations of Congress would certainly influence the meteorological agenda throughout the globe.

### **1.13 Statement by H.E. The Honourable Mr W. Posen, Minister for Meteorology of the Republic of Vanuatu**

Honoured to be addressing Fourteenth Congress, **H.E. MR. W. POSEN**, on behalf of the Government of Vanuatu and personally, thanked WMO, the Government of Switzerland and the representatives of the city of Geneva for organizing and hosting the meeting. The focus of his speech would be the development of meteorology at the regional and national levels since Thirteenth Congress.

At the regional level, WMO Members in the Pacific Region had developed, in collaboration with regional organizations such as the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), the following documents:

- (a) The Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change; Climate Variability and Sea-level Rise;
- (b) The Strategic Action Plan for the Development of Meteorology in the Southern Pacific Region, which covered the development of meteorology in the Pacific for the next six years;
- (c) The Needs Analysis for the Strengthening of Pacific Islands Meteorological Services: Meeting the Challenges Report, which prioritized the needs of users of national and other meteorological Services, established common standards for the region, and provided the basis for regional development assistance programmes;
- (d) The Pacific Island Global Climate Observing System Action and Implementation Plans, which set out plans and priorities for regional development assistance required to implement the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) in the Pacific region;

- (e) The Pacific Hydrological Observing System (Pacific-HYCOS), and the Pacific Islands Training Programme in Hydrology initiatives, which set out priorities for development assistance to hydrology.

The last four initiatives were all part of the first, and all had been endorsed by the governments of the Southern Pacific Island countries.

He expressed his appreciation to all those that had provided the necessary resources for supporting the work carried out in connection with the above-mentioned documents, in particular the Governments of Australia, United States, New Zealand, France, Fiji, the Pacific Island Countries, working through their meteorological services and other organizations, SPREP, SOPAC, WMO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Those regional initiatives were intended to complement work at the national level aimed at improving basic meteorological services infrastructure and meeting the needs of user communities.

Turning to the national level, he said that the development of meteorology was a high priority for the Government of Vanuatu. Thus the Ministerial Budget Committee had endorsed plans for a new building and other facilities for the Vanuatu Meteorological Service, which would be responsible for coordinating work on climate change. Vanuatu had produced a Meteorological Service Strategic Development Plan (2000–2009) in March 2000, and he thanked the President, the Secretary-General and WMO Members for their continued support and assistance in helping to make possible the highest level of meteorological development.

He believed that the challenges and global developments of the twenty-first century, such as the Geneva Declaration approved at Thirteenth Congress; globalization; economic crises; natural disasters; rapid advances in science and technology; the United Nations Millennium Summit Declaration; the United Nations Conventions on Climate Change, on Desertification and on Biological Diversity; and outcomes of the WSSD could be met through synergy between WMO programmes and the efforts of WMO Members.

Frameworks for the development of meteorology in the Pacific region were in place to meet global challenges at regional and national levels. In closing, he called on WMO, donor agencies, United Nations agencies and other development partners to provide assistance to implement the work covered in the above-mentioned documents.

### **1.14 Statement by Mr D. Bussereau, Secretary of State for Transportation and Maritime Affairs of France**

**MR D. BUSSEREAU** said that the French Government considered meteorological and related activities to be of great importance, which his attendance at the opening of Fourteenth Congress

was intended to reflect, as well as that Government's esteem for the role of WMO.

Meteorology and hydrology had always held great importance for maritime and air transport, and were becoming ever more important in protecting human life and property and for economic activities. Countries should therefore ensure that their national hydrometeorological Services had the means to carry out their responsibilities effectively and, in the face of increasing financial constraints, should consider the expenditure involved above all as an investment, with benefits outweighing costs. Owing to improved forecasting and protective measures, cyclones of equal force to those of 20 or 30 years ago were now claiming fewer lives in French departments overseas, for example in New Caledonia. In line with the Geneva Declaration of 1999, and through the Executive Council Advisory Group on Role and Operation of NMHSs, the Organization could help its members to develop standards on financing the basic activities of national Services.

WMO ought also to play a stronger part in several major fields. Water resources were a primary issue, with 25 per cent of the world's population having no access to clean water, and 50 per cent no access to proper sanitation. On the initiative of President Jacques Chirac, France had contributed to the launch of hydrological cycle observing systems as part of the World Hydrological Cycle Observing System (WHYCOS). WMO should also reaffirm its role as a leader on issues of sustainable development and environmental protection.

The capacity problems of the Global Observing System (GOS) for remote sensing from earth, air and space demonstrated the need for solidarity within the world meteorological community. All shortcomings of the WWW reduced the relevance of the global meteorological and climate system. Bridging the North-South divide was a vital challenge. Within WMO, the main tools for tackling that divide were the Education and Training Programme (ETRP) and TCOP, and France, who had always been concerned with the critical needs of developing countries and countries in transition, proposed that those programmes should be reviewed and improved for their enhanced support.

In that regard, France had always been and would continue to be very much involved in the VCP. New initiatives, such as NEPAD, could give LDCs an opportunity to develop their capacities. France supported the Preparation for the Use of Meteosat Second Generation in Africa (PUMA) project and the development of RETIM in Africa, which would provide more equal and reliable access to meteorological and climate data as a whole and to the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT) satellite products. Access to such data was a necessity for

the modernization of the African Services so that they could carry out their responsibilities more thoroughly and efficiently.

He paid tribute to Professor Obasi's role in establishing WMO as a renowned and respected Organization, providing it with sound foundations for meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century.

The French Government particularly appreciated WMO's role in leading the IPCC. Following the IPCC's Third Assessment Report, there was no longer any serious disagreement concerning climate change and projections for future centuries. The report had affected government policy worldwide.

A plenary session of IPCC had been held in Paris in February of the previous year, and Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin had commended its achievements. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and WMO should continue to work in harmony as co-sponsors of IPCC, while the scientific work should be led by experts in meteorology and climate working under the aegis of WMO. The IPCC Secretariat should therefore remain in Geneva, on WMO premises. He also praised the longstanding cooperation between WMO and the Secretariat of the UNFCCC, and other multilateral agreements on the environment.

France had always been very active in the work of WMO, and at the fifty-third session of the Executive Council in June 2001, confirmed that involvement by having put forward its Permanent Representative at WMO, Mr J.-P. Beysson, as a candidate to succeed Professor Obasi. He was a man of real stature suitable to lead the Organization. Mr Beysson had held top national and international positions in government and in major scientific, technical and financial organizations for thirty years, and had done dynamic and internationally recognized work at *Météo-France*. His responsibilities within WMO had grown over the preceding nine years, and he had been elected to the Bureau in 1997 and elected First Vice-President at the previous Congress. As Chairman of the Executive Council Advisory Group on the Exchange of Meteorological and Related Data and Products, Mr Beysson had promoted the free and unrestricted exchange of meteorological data, which was beneficial to developing countries in particular.

Mr Beysson would strive to modernize WMO and lead it into the twenty-first century as a respected, vigorous and effective Organization working for both meteorology and sustainable development. That must involve drawing together all the component parts of the world meteorological community and associated communities, and special attention must be paid to the developing, and in particular the least developed, countries, in order to prevent further growth of the North-South divide.

**1.15 Statement by Mr M.S. Mbenga, Executive Secretary of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS)**

**MR M.S. MBENGA** said that he was honoured and particularly pleased to have been invited to address Fourteenth Congress on behalf of CILSS, in view of the over twenty years of cooperation between CILSS and WMO. CILSS had been created in September 1973 following the severe droughts affecting the countries of the Sahel in the late 1960s.

WMO had always been in the vanguard of project development and implementation, working in conjunction with NMHSs and institutions in the region. The Regional Training Centre for Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology and their Applications (AGRHYMET), a CILSS specialized agency, had been established at Niamey in that context. A centre of excellence in training, information management in support of food security, and environmental monitoring, it was the most tangible result of the intensive collaboration between CILSS and WMO. Today AGRHYMET was a WMO Regional Meteorological Training Centre (RMTTC) and, as part of efforts to develop capacities and train personnel, WMO granted fellowships to nationals of the CILSS member countries for higher technical and engineering training in agrometeorology and hydrology at AGRHYMET and elsewhere. As a result of support from WMO and other development partners, the Centre had so far trained 71 engineers and 139 senior technicians in agrometeorology, and 38 engineers and 101 senior technicians on behalf of CILSS member states.

WMO and CILSS had also been very close partners in several major technical assistance projects to develop integrated monitoring and forecasting systems for crop yields, to identify risk zones and develop early warning systems in the region. The projects had in particular helped strengthen meteorological networks and establish successful pilot projects in agrometeorology in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger.

In water resources, CILSS had been active in developing hydrological information systems at national and regional levels. CILSS and the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) had recently been collaborating with WMO on the West and Central Africa Hydrological Cycle Observing System (AOC-HYCOS) project. The Centre participated in other initiatives supported by the World Vision for Water, such as the project on Integrated Water Resources Management in West Africa. Given the high level of expertise and experience attained at the Centre, CILSS was willing to make available to WMO and its members all its facilities and skills for joint programming.

Since the foundation of CILSS and the institution of the AGRHYMET programmes, CILSS and WMO had developed great experience of working together, permitting the strengthening of

human and material capacities. That had included helping to fit out NMHSs in the CILSS member states and develop AGRHYMET to contribute significantly to efforts for food security and rational management of natural resources in the subregion. He was grateful to WMO and other forms of international cooperation for their sustained solidarity with the CILSS member countries over more than two decades. The need for WMO to be even more closely involved with CILSS led him to hope that a still closer degree of cooperation, in the form of "working arrangements", could be brought about.

In 2002, Mauritania, Senegal and The Gambia in the Sahel had experienced heavy rainfall outside the wet season, causing heavy losses of human life, livestock and crops. The meteorological disaster had reminded them how meteorology, which was crucial to the development activities of the Sahel, needed to be incorporated in programmes to foster growth. In that effort, CILSS counted on support from WMO and the international community in general.

The Sahel was a region where rainfall was particularly irregular and capricious, and could well become more fragile still with the climate changes that were on the horizon and bringing into play still more ominous scenarios. The region's development was largely tied up with agriculture, itself highly dependent on rainfall. Every year the onset of the rainy season was looked forward to with eager anticipation. It was a matter of great concern to know far enough in advance the quality of the next rains, and that preoccupation was known to be shared by WMO, with its numerous programmes on the subject.

The peoples of the Sahel had often experienced large-scale rainfall fluctuations: in the 1940s they had known patterns that limited the growth of grain; in the 1960s there had been some successes in growing such crops further north; in the 1970s, however, drought struck. It was the repeated droughts, moreover, that contributed to the creation of CILSS. In research, CILSS would be pleased if studies could be conducted in the Sahel to establish strategies for dealing with difficulties in raising cereal crops, in case of new fluctuations.

The delay in the onset of the rains in 2002 had resulted in a fall in agricultural output and water availability, and an increase in the number of vulnerable persons, all of which exacerbated the pressure on the limited resources of CILSS member states. CILSS hoped that WMO, together with the NMHSs of the subregion, could help decision makers and populations turn their climate into a positive factor of production.

CILSS sought to play a more important part in West African affairs, based on drought monitoring through the capacities of AGRHYMET. Since the establishment of ACMAD, CILSS was leading solid collaboration, in particular through seasonal forecasting and dissemination of information. Among

other efforts, AGRHYMET had come together with ACMAD and other agencies to create the Platform for Regional Institutions for the Environment and Meteorology (PIREM), with a view to seeking synergies in their activities.

As rainfall deficit and greater climate variability had been experienced since the 1970s, and because of the resultant threat to development, the CILSS member states had been steadily augmenting efforts to increase rainfall through cloud-seeding, in which assistance was needed from WMO and other countries, of the type that had been provided by Morocco to Burkina Faso since 1998. CILSS wanted to hold a conference on provoking rainfall, centred on the work of the IPCC. In that effort, CILSS sought the help of WMO and other interested parties, with a view to obtaining an increase in water supplies to help the Sahel escape from its infernal cycle of famine and poverty.

Finally, as a regional institution responsible for food security and environmental matters in West Africa, CILSS would continue to cooperate with other regional and international agencies in the socio-economic development of its member countries by playing an active part in such initiatives as the new Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) common agricultural policy and NEPAD.

## 2. Establishment of a Credentials Committee (agenda item 1.2)

The **PRESIDENT**, referring to General Regulation 22, pointed out that a Credentials Committee could be established after the completion of the opening formalities and for the duration of the session. General Regulation 23 referred to the participation of individuals whose credentials were found not to be in order. Credentials Committees had been established at previous Congresses and if there were no objections, he proposed to follow the same procedure and the same regional balance of membership.

*It was so agreed.*

After having consulted with the presidents of the regional associations, the President proposed membership of the Credentials Committee. He suggested the Committee consist of the principal delegates of the following Members:

Regional Association I:	Burkina Faso, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique, Nigeria
Regional Association II:	Oman, Republic of Korea, Thailand
Regional Association III:	Brazil
Regional Association IV:	Bahamas, Jamaica
Regional Association V:	Malaysia
Regional Association VI:	Denmark, Estonia, Lebanon, Romania.

*It was so agreed.*

## 3. Approval of the agenda (agenda item 1.3) (Cg-XIV/Docs. 1.3(1); (2))

The **PRESIDENT** submitted the agenda for Fourteenth Congress (Cg-XIV/Docs. 1.3(1); (2)) for approval, explaining that, under General Regulation 138, it could be amended at any time during Congress.

*The agenda was approved.*

## 4. Establishment of committees (agenda item 1.4)

In conformity with General Regulation 24, the **PRESIDENT** proposed the establishment of the following committees:

### 4.1 Nomination Committee

In accordance with General Regulation 25, and on the basis of consultation with the Bureau and the presidents of the regional associations, the **PRESIDENT** proposed the establishment of a Nomination Committee composed of the presidents of the regional associations and other principal delegates, as follows:

Regional Association I:	Congo, Malawi, United Republic of Tanzania
Regional Association II:	Bahrain, Maldives
Regional Association III:	Paraguay
Regional Association IV:	Belize, Netherlands Antilles and Aruba
Regional Association V:	Singapore
Regional Association VI:	Greece, Jordan, Lithuania.

*It was so agreed.*

The President observed that all principal delegates concerned had been consulted and that, in accordance with General Regulation 30, he would convene the first meeting for election of the chairperson. In accordance with General Regulation 26, a representative of the Secretary-General, with consultative status, would be invited to assist the Committee in its work.

### 4.2 Drafting Committee

The **PRESIDENT** observed that experience had shown that a Drafting Committee was not necessary and, therefore, proposed that such a committee should not be established.

*It was so agreed.*

### 4.3 Coordination Committee

The **PRESIDENT** proposed the establishment of a Coordination Committee with the composition prescribed in General Regulation 28, including the co-chairpersons of the Working Committees, when established.

*It was so agreed.*

#### 4.4 Working committees

The **PRESIDENT** advised that the Executive Council had planned the work of Congress on the basis of two such committees. The allocation of agenda items between the proposed Committees A and B appeared in Document Cg-XIV/INF. 3. If there were no objections, he would assume that the establishment of two working committees, and the proposed allocation of the agenda items, was approved.

*It was so agreed.*

The President also proposed that the Committee of the Whole would deal with a number of major issues on which it would be undesirable to have parallel functioning committees. He would invite the First Vice-President, Mr J.-P. Beysson, to chair the Committee of the Whole.

*Sitting as Committee A, Congress elected Mr A. Diouri (Morocco) and Mr T.W. Sutherland (British Caribbean Territories) as co-chairpersons by acclamation. [In a subsequent meeting, Committee A elected Mr A. Ndiaye (Senegal) as a third co-chairperson.]*

*Sitting as Committee B, Congress elected Mr A.M. Noorian (Second Vice-President) and Mr A.I. Bedritsky (Russian Federation) as co-chairpersons by acclamation.*

*The Plenary meeting was reconvened.*

#### 4.5 Approval of the minutes

The **PRESIDENT** proposed that the minutes of as many Plenary meetings as possible should be approved during Congress and that the remainder would be approved by correspondence after the closure of the session, in accordance with General Regulation 113.

*It was so agreed.*

#### 4.6 Working hours

The **PRESIDENT** proposed that the working hours should be the same as those for previous Congresses:

Monday to Friday:	9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. 2.30 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.
Saturday:	9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

The President advised that, on a trial basis, Congress would meet without formal coffee breaks.

*It was so agreed.*

#### 5. Review of previous resolutions of Congress (agenda item 11.4)

The **PRESIDENT**, after having consulted the Bureau and the presidents of the regional associations, proposed that Mr W.G. Molina (Peru) be nominated Rapporteur to Review the Previous Resolutions of Congress.

*It was so agreed.*

#### 6. Report by the President of the Organization (agenda item 2.1) (Cg-XIV/Doc. 2.1)

The **PRESIDENT**, recalling his opening statement, said that he would summarize his assessment of the past, present and future of WMO and would propose how some of the most important issues that Congress should address could be dealt with. He pointed out that in the longer version of his opening statement that appeared in the April issue of the WMO Bulletin, he had taken stock of the successes, failures and lessons learnt over the past four years, including the extent to which he felt he had been able to discharge the Regulation 9 responsibility of the President to guide and coordinate the activities of the Organization. In accordance with Regulation 137, he was required to provide a formal report to Congress, covering all the components of WMO, some formal legal requirements and any other matters affecting the Organization. Presuming that Members were familiar with the range of activities undertaken during that period, he would focus only on the highlights and the important issues that should be debated during Congress.

The membership of the Organization had recently increased to 187, and he was delighted that Kiribati and Bhutan were the latest Members to join. All officers elected by Thirteenth Congress had continued to serve, with the exception of the Third Vice-President. That post was still unoccupied, as elections by correspondence had proven inconclusive. Of the 26 members of the Executive Council who had been elected by Thirteenth Congress, only 11 remained. There were 10 acting members and 5 seats were vacant.

All of the major WMO Programmes had progressed fairly well under the circumstances over the past four years, in line with the plans approved by Thirteenth Congress, albeit with significant problems resulting from severe limitations in the WMO regular budget, the currently constrained technical cooperation funding and the difficult funding at the national level in most countries. While not assessing the performance of the individual programmes, he was pleased to note the achievements of many of the more user-focused activities, such as public weather services, disaster mitigation, agricultural and marine services, and climate.

With regard to the work of the constituent bodies, the President wished to comment very briefly on the Executive Council. To carry out the tasks assigned to it by Thirteenth Congress, the Executive Council had had to rely heavily on the voluntary contributions of its members, especially the Vice-Presidents and Mr Peter Ewins, Chair of the Working Group on Long-term Planning, who provided leadership on many important issues and tasks. The Working Group's work was reviewed at the annual Executive Council sessions. The Council over the

past four years had operated by consensus, and had accepted that its role was to do its best to reach agreement on how to serve the best interests of the entire Organization and accepted that that would involve constant search for balance, and would require compromise on many important issues. He reported that the Executive Council had implemented a number of changes to its own working methods, which although not necessarily favoured by all Members, were aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Council.

Stating that the regional associations and technical commissions had performed well, and some extremely well, the President regretted not being able to attend as many of their sessions as he would have wished. In that regard, he was grateful to the First and Second Vice-Presidents who had participated in various capacities and for the time they had devoted to the regional associations and technical commissions. Most importantly, he drew the attention of Congress to the huge debt of gratitude he believed was owed to the officers of the constituent bodies themselves for the enormous and vastly important effort they exerted to enable them to play their essential role in the effective operation of WMO.

Turning next to the WMO Secretariat, he noted that it consisted of a dedicated core of people who firmly believed in the importance of WMO, and who were remarkably committed to ensuring that the charter of the Organization was carried out and the needs and aspirations of Members were served. The staff had been under enormous pressure in the past four years to do increasingly more with fewer resources. With the objective of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Organization, the Secretary-General had undertaken a comprehensive review of the Secretariat early in the financial period and had revised its structure. There had, however, been many heavy demands on the Secretariat, especially those associated with the introduction of the new financial management and accounting system. That, as well as the role of the Financial Advisory Committee, was mentioned in his report. He also reported that, while the Secretary-General and his staff had done a great deal under a huge workload and pressures to support the work of the officers and constituent bodies, there had also been some aspects that could be improved in the future, and he would be pleased to pass on his personal views informally to his successor.

The President also wished to place on record that there had been no cases involving a decision, directive or action taken by him since the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council, which were required to be reported to Congress under the provisions of Article 9(8) of the General Regulations.

Turning to what he thought were some of the most significant matters needing careful consideration of Congress so that the decisions taken were to set WMO on a wise course for the

future, he very briefly drew attention to the significance of each.

There would be long-term implications for the deeply ingrained WMO culture of trust and free exchange of information and technology amongst nations from the geopolitical consequences of the deeply disturbing events of 11 September 2001 in the United States.

The WMO system of cooperation was at the same time one of the beneficiaries and a potential victim of economic globalization. He drew attention to the importance of factoring in the significance of globalization to the long-term development planning of WMO.

The tremendous potential of scientific and technological progress to enhance the benefits which the work of WMO could bring to all countries also served as a reminder that those would be realized only through careful planning, hard work and strong and persistent advocacy.

He focused on what every NMS, regardless of region or state of development, perceived as one of the most difficult issues: the future arrangement for the provision of aviation meteorological services in a world which had brought into much stronger contrast the fiercely competitive culture of the aviation industry and the inherently and essentially cooperative culture of meteorology. Of all the issues before Congress, that was probably the one that would need to draw most heavily on the accumulated wisdom of the global meteorological community.

He believed that one of the most exciting opportunities in the years ahead was the development of a new and stronger spirit of trust and partnership among the public and private sectors and academia in bringing the full benefits of the science of meteorology and hydrology to national communities.

The role of WMO in important international meetings was vital. The WSSD provided WMO with enormous challenges and opportunities in taking the lead in the use of science in the role of sustainable development. WMO would also play an important role in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Specific attention was put on the enormous challenges WMO faced in planning for its proper role in the evolving agenda of issues related to climate and global environmental change. He believed it was imperative for Congress to lay out a broad strategy to ensure that WMO and the global meteorological, hydrological and oceanographic communities played their proper role in that highly complex and politically difficult area.

Emphasis was also placed on the WMO strategy for moving forward with national and international efforts in natural disaster reduction and mitigation. As an area in which WMO could take enormous pride in its achievement in the past, it was perhaps also WMO's greatest opportunity for serving the global community over the next decade.

The greatest potential crisis facing humanity could be the threat of the global shortage of freshwater and its implications for the stability and relationships within and between States. While it was not the role of WMO to become centrally involved in the immensely complex political, economic and environmental policy issues associated with the global water crisis, it was the role of WMO and NMHSs to provide much of the information and research foundation to enable those issues to be addressed in a well informed and scientifically sound manner.

There were also the complex issues associated with the evolving role of NMHSs and their relationships with the national and international private sectors and academic communities. The Executive Council had worked hard on those issues over the past four years and he hoped that its recently issued statement would prove helpful in informing the debate, and especially the follow-up strategy of Congress.

The Organization faced a very difficult financial situation, an issue that would be addressed by the Secretary-General in more detail under agenda item 10.1.

Summing up his report, the President said that it was a mechanism through which the outgoing officers and members of the Executive Council reported to the Members on their stewardship of the Organization over the past four years. Congress should now take the responsibility of providing decisions and guidance for the new Executive Council.

In concluding, the President declared that there were many people whose contribution to the work of the Organization over the past four years deserved the highest recognition of Congress. There was one person in particular, however, who stood out for special appreciation by Fourteenth Congress for his personal contribution and commitment to WMO over the past 20 years. Professor Obasi had served WMO with enormous energy and dedication since 1983, and although he and the President had had differing views on some matters, the President assured Congress that there was no one more single-mindedly committed to WMO and to its future than the Secretary-General. There would be other occasions when Congress would have the opportunity to honour Professor Obasi, but the President wished to conclude his report by requesting Congress to show its appreciation for the work of the Secretary-General and his leadership of WMO over the past 20 years.

The **DELEGATE OF BAHRAIN** said the President's report summed up well all the activities of the Organization as it highlighted some very important issues, in particular regional centres. He was speaking as a person in charge of one of those regional centres and not in his capacity as president of Regional Association II. He felt it important, given the competition and diversity of communication

means, as there were a larger number of private institutions bringing about increasingly more competition. The aviation sector was a case in point, for which meteorology no longer received the necessary government support. He believed it was important, therefore, that the regional bodies reached agreements with the public sector so as to obtain that government support. That could lead to certain pressures from which meteorological services might suffer, but the private sector was a reality that could not be avoided and additional costs would have to be covered at the expense of certain activities. The exchange of data among countries and the dissemination of information related to aviation were at the very core of meteorological services. As for cost recovery, measures had to be taken so that meteorological services would not rely solely on public funds, and in that regard he wished to thank the President and the Secretary-General and the members of the Executive Council for all of their efforts during the last financial period.

The **DELEGATE OF BOTSWANA** congratulated the President for the good work he had done over the past four years. She believed that his report had highlighted very important issues that were of great concern to NMSs, such as the impact of globalization, climate change, the global environmental agenda, scientific and technical progress, and natural disaster prevention and mitigation. Those issues were critical to NMHSs, especially in developing countries, and determined their effectiveness at the national, regional and global levels. Congress should develop a strategy that would determine both the technical and human resources that would be used to help develop the Services. In that way, their role would be made exceedingly clear so that they were capable of providing the necessary leadership at the national, regional and global levels. She believed that Congress would develop a work programme for the next financial period that would enable the Services to expand without being compromised in any manner.

The Secretariat had worked under a very constrained budget, since for the past three financial periods WMO had adopted zero nominal growth budgets. If the same zero nominal growth budget were maintained, its activities would definitely suffer. She expressed her gratitude to the Secretary-General and the staff who were able, under great constraint and restraint, to execute the very important WMO programmes and at the same time help NMHSs to remain effective to the extent that the Organization was able to do so. Under that constraint, with respect to international cooperation, WMO had presented itself as a very competitive Organization with full scientific authority in its subject area. She believed that Congress would draw up initiatives that would help the Organization to continue to make the same impact in the future.

The **DELEGATE OF INDIA** wished to place on record his country's sincere appreciation of the extremely good work done by the President of WMO during the past eight years by providing able guidance to all the WMO programmes and not allowing them to deviate from their set objectives; that was commendable. He had highly appreciated the President's ability to handle the complex issues that had arisen in the course of the past eight years, such as globalization and commercialization. The way he had handled those issues and allowed the meteorological community to understand the situation was really remarkable. He wished to reiterate his appreciation, and was certain that in times to come the President's wisdom would be remembered with gratitude.

The **DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA** congratulated the President on his comprehensive report, which reflected the development of WMO under his able leadership over the past four years. In that period WMO had, through the successful implementation of the various scientific and technical programmes, achieved major progress in various areas. He thanked the President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary-General for their dedicated efforts. As was shown in the report, however, there were many major issues affecting WMO. Though they had to be solved in the next few years, they could be turned into opportunities for development of the world meteorological community. In so doing, WMO would have to draw up detailed solutions and implement plans that could be helpful for training in NMHSs.

One special issue he wished to comment on was the recent severe weather phenomena in his country, where extremely strong rainfall and typhoons had been increasing in magnitude and frequency. For example, heavy rainfall associated with Typhoon *Rusa* in August 2002, which had covered about 900 kilometres in 3–4 hours over eastern regions of the country, had resulted in the greatest precipitation since records began, causing extensive damage and loss. Meteorological disaster prevention and mitigation had, as a result, become the most important priority for his country's meteorological Services. He believed that many other WMO Member States faced the same situation. His delegation therefore fully supported the establishment of the WMO programme on disaster reduction proposed by the Executive Council. It also hoped to see the outcome of research and information from the international research centre on *El Niño*, established in Ecuador. Secondly, concerning the WSIS, he informed that the Korean Meteorological Administration had been in contact with the Korean authorities concerned so that the use of information technology for natural and human-induced disaster mitigation might be reflected in the statement of the world summit. He understood that the objective of the meeting was closely connected with the destination of useful meteorological

information. Therefore, close attention should be paid to the content of the meeting.

The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM** observed that the last four years had been a period of great accomplishment in a whole range of spheres. Much of WMO's success had been due to the work of the President, and he was delighted to offer him the United Kingdom's congratulations and thanks. In his own capacity as a member of the Executive Council and chairperson of the Working Group on Long-term Planning, he had valued greatly the President's advice and comments and help. At the same time he wished to acknowledge and thank unreservedly the work of the Secretary-General and Secretariat in supporting the work that the Council and Planning Group had tried to push through. Referring to the President's report, in relation to aviation and the role of the private sector in meteorology, WMO could either view changes in both spheres as a threat or as an opportunity. If they were viewed as a threat then the Organization was doomed; if they were grasped as an opportunity then together it could achieve success. As was stated in the report by the President, both the aviation and the meteorological communities needed to develop the appropriate partnerships and collaborative activities. He was convinced that such an approach was the only way to make progress. WMO was a strong organization with much to offer and should not fear changes in the aviation or private sector. The President was leaving the Organization in good form, faced only by difficulties that were not of his making but of the world situation. It was in a good position and he was to be congratulated for that.

The **DELEGATE OF GUINEA**, thanking the President for his clear and concise report, sought to draw attention to problems of concern to most countries on the African continent, as had been referred to by the Minister of Aviation and Transport, who had informed delegates of the problems of women and children, and other vulnerable groups in society. In the President's report, allusion had been made to the impacts of major events. As the Minister had pointed out that morning, for the last few years, leaders of the different countries in Africa were becoming more and more aware of the problems of concern to rural communities, by trying to set up new partnerships, such as NEPAD. The Secretariat had paid attention to that because NEPAD's goals corresponded to those of the Organization. For that reason, subjects such as the WSSD, climate change and the global environment agenda, natural disaster prevention and mitigation and the global water crisis were all examples of the different problems of concern to a great part of Africa. His delegation hoped that there would be a closer partnership between WMO and NEPAD, and that the new partnership could give greater help to the meteorological services dealing with the various problems referred to in the document, and provide a clearer vision of the whole, both to leaders and the



rural populations of the different countries. In that way, the meteorological Services would during the next few years be able to help greater numbers to improve living standards and to combat poverty in their subregions. He wanted once again to thank the President for all his efforts during his years of office.

The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES** joined his colleagues in congratulating the President on his eight years of dedicated service, as evinced in his high-quality address and report, both of which were authoritative and thought-provoking. He knew that the job had been difficult for him and he had been forced to make many personal sacrifices, running a high-calibre national weather service – a major task in its own right – as well as throwing heart and soul into the running of WMO. He wished to submit to all his colleagues that WMO was a better organization for having him as President and he thanked him for his valued service.

The **DELEGATE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION** wished also to express his appreciation for the way in which he as President, together with the Secretary General, the Vice-Presidents, members of the Executive Council, presidents of the regional associations and technical commissions, had moved the Organization forward since Thirteenth Congress. Despite the evident funding constraints during that period, he had succeeded in solving a series of major problems facing the Organization. He also wished to express his personal gratitude not only for the way that the President had moved forward and coordinated the work of the Organization, but also had developed in his personal capacity his work in the economics of meteorology as a social product. That was a very important topic inasmuch as the link between meteorology and economics was bound more and more to influence the effectiveness of the Organization's work. The President's contribution to the development of the theory together with the world's leading economists was a very useful basis for future work, so that meteorological products would be ever more strongly reflected in evaluations made, in the globalized world economy.

He also wished to note that questions relating to cooperation between the Organization and international civil aviation and the private sector's use of the mass media and the search for an effective mechanism for integrating international collaboration on the basis of both cooperation and competition (i.e. the market principle) would help in the future in the search for effective mechanisms in such a way that national Services and WMO might be able to bring together the fundamental principles on which their work was based, such as free and unrestricted exchange and international collaboration, and to bring NMHSs closer to sectors that employed the market principle. He agreed with the delegate of the United Kingdom that the development of such collaboration need not be a cause for fear. In the future, the effectiveness of WMO's work would depend on it finding the right way

towards collaboration, and in that respect he thought that Congress would give precise guidelines for the future.

He agreed with the opinion expressed by the President to the effect that work on behalf of the Organization in electoral positions demanded full commitment and a considerable amount of time and that fact had to be taken into account in weighing up the candidates who sought to make a contribution to different elected positions within the Organization. He also thought that many points raised in the report would be discussed under other items of the agenda and that they could, in the light of the discussions, decide on the actions to be taken. In that way, the Organization could, in its fourteenth financial period, not only overcome the difficulties it had been experiencing, but also meet the challenges that lay ahead and were faced by world society.

The **DELEGATE OF MAURITIUS** wished to align himself with previous speakers and expressed his delegation's satisfaction with the President's eight-year tenure in office. He had done a wonderful job and his delegation wished to express its appreciation. He had also prepared a very clear, concise report, some parts of which were very thought-provoking. He was certain that the points elaborated on in the report would help delegates in the individual discussions to prepare a real road map for WMO and the NMSs at the national and regional levels. That would give them a vision that the world and the populations of the different countries would appreciate.

The **DELEGATE OF IRELAND**, complimenting the President on his report, considered that it excellently summarized the issues and challenges facing WMO and world meteorology at present, and, in particular, public service meteorology. The range of data and products available in today's world was unprecedented; and the Internet provided access to them in ways that would have been unthinkable 10 to 20 years previously. However, all meteorologists understood very clearly that data and products would not be possible without the basic infrastructure underpinning the capacity to produce them. It had always been a challenge for WMO Members to make that link understood by decision makers, users and the general public. He believed that one possibly negative aspect of the role of the Internet was that the link between the infrastructure and the finished products was less visible than ever before. All of that added to the tasks of the weather services in justifying the resources needed to put in place the infrastructure and convince users that the investments were necessary and the associated costs needed to be recovered. He hoped that during Congress the accumulated wisdom the President had mentioned would fit delegates to meet the challenge.

The **DELEGATE OF MALAYSIA** said that under the President's two-term leadership the Organization had made great strides. Focusing on the challenges

posed in the report, particularly so far as the impact of globalization was concerned, it was a matter of how Congress would be able to provide the guidance sought instead of shying away from issues. With respect to scientific and technical progress, it was also important to discuss how ICT development could continue to assist in the dissemination of meteorological information, warnings and forecasts to users. It had to be borne in mind how the costs of going into such new technology could be kept at a reasonable level. With regard to aviation, he endorsed the view that WMO should be a partner, but that should be reviewed as in the last few years its role had begun to degrade in relation to civil aviation, particularly with regard to cost recovery. It was widely known in national Services that the conditions set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in relation to cost recovery were not that easy. The aviation sector moreover had introduced new quality requirements. Congress should map out a new strategy to return to partnership status, rather than merely reacting to situations created by civil aviation.

With regard to the WSSD, the President had been right to stress that the role of NMHSs had now become more prominent. It was important to work out how the national Services could be assisted with the relevant information, by providing simple guidance on technical services, so as to meet sustainable development goals.

On climate change, WMO had already provided good leadership in the IPCC. There would henceforth be greater opportunities under the UNFCCC for providing information on systemic and side effects, education and training. It was also important to ask how NMSs could capitalize on the Convention, how the WCP could continue to play its long-standing leadership role now that the Convention had come into force, and how it could help the national Services participate in aspects of climate change such as response strategies, adaptation programmes, natural disaster prevention and mitigation. In all such activities, faster response times, exchange of information and provision of early warnings were needed to minimize loss of life and property. The President had in his report identified many of the subjects involved and Congress would take up many of the issues.

The **DELEGATE OF CANADA** said that the comprehensiveness of the report and its statement of the challenges that lay ahead were a reflection of the President's own character, as demonstrated over the last eight years, together with his leadership, commitment and passion for meteorology that had been instrumental in moving forward on some difficult issues. The issues included the roles and operations of NMHSs, his emphasis of the importance of the Organization to governments, and the distance covered under his leadership in promoting partnerships and engaging the private sector.

The **DELEGATE OF CHINA** said that the general summary of WMO's activities and the analysis of future trends and developments made by the President was useful for the guidance of Congress. His delegation congratulated the President on his very effective eight-year tenure of office, his wisdom and energy, and his devotion to the organization, in particular in the areas of climate change, assistance to developing countries, application of new technologies, role and operations of NMHSs, and the free and unrestricted exchange of meteorological and hydrological data and products. His delegation appreciated the analysis of what would happen to the meteorological community in years to come, and hoped that the President would continue to follow WMO's work with close interest.

The **DELEGATE OF JAPAN**, associating his delegation with the remarks and gratitude of other delegations for the excellent work carried out by the President during the past eight years, and their appreciation of the report by the President, wished to make some general remarks. He thought that particular attention should be paid to information technology, particularly techniques for the dissemination of products, such as information to user communities in both the private and public sectors, particularly in the forthcoming financial period. More attention should also be paid to free and unrestricted utilization of the products relating to disaster prevention. The associated products should be made public and released to user communities in appropriate fashion. He also thought that coordination and cooperation between NMHSs and other private and governmental sectors was of crucial importance. Recognizing the difficult financial and structural situation faced by WMO, he thought that that was also true of national organizations, not only in Japan. In former times NMHSs tried to operate on their own, but they should now draw closer to the other sectors in broader cooperation. The answer was to consider the private sector not as competitors but as partners of the national Services. He would like to recall the very vital role of WMO in many fields, but today, because of financial difficulties, it might have to conduct its affairs as effectively and economically as possible, and that would be elaborated on during upcoming discussions.

The **DELEGATE OF FRANCE**, associating himself with previous delegates who had remarked on the excellent work of the President during his tenure, praised the President's report, while noting that many points needed to be discussed in depth during Congress. During his eight most useful years in office, the President had displayed diplomacy, leadership, energy and dedication, had asked the right questions about the future of WMO and NMSs, and allowed useful discussions to begin on major issues, which had led to progress in the major areas.

On behalf of his delegation, he thanked him for his excellent work as President.

The **DELEGATE OF MOROCCO** wished to align himself with the previous speakers who had praised the President, and thanked the President on behalf of Morocco for his eight years of service to the Organization. He was proud to have worked with the President on the Executive Council and in a working group. He expressed appreciation for the President's report, which was a masterful presentation of the issues in international meteorology, and its conclusions were particularly noteworthy.

The **DELEGATE OF NEW ZEALAND** also wished to be associated with other delegations who had noted the high quality of the President's report, and thanked him, particularly for his work during the past eight years and the many accomplishments in defining the role and operation of NMHSs, which would be recognized in the future as a turning point for WMO. He particularly appreciated the recognition that positive collaboration from all participants in the meteorological community, including governments, non-governmental, academic or commercial bodies, was possible.

The **DELEGATE OF KENYA**, associating himself with the previous delegations who had noted the President's excellent and comprehensive report, reflected on the comprehensive work programmes carried out by WMO on limited resources. He paid recognition to the President's efforts to take on challenges such as globalization, commercialization and quality management such as ISO 9000. The leadership, relevance and scientific competence of WMO had been reaffirmed and the Organization had grown in status. He therefore wished to join the President in paying tribute to the Secretary-General for enhancing the status of WMO in sustainable development. Much had been achieved, and many challenges were emerging, such as the role of meteorology in sustainable development, the role of education and training, which was pertinent to developing countries, the role of globalization, which was sometimes a threat to developing countries, aviation matters including quality assessment, and information and communication technology, which constituted a large gap between the developing and developed countries. All that material had been covered in the President's excellent report, for which he thanked him.

The **DELEGATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCAST METEOROLOGY (IABM)** noted that an outside body such as IABM did not fit easily into such an august organization, and expressed appreciation for the President's courtesy in welcoming his organization and allowing it to participate in debates on media issue. In the language of the media, he remarked that the President "would be a hard act to follow".

The **DELEGATE OF NIGERIA** stated that his delegation wished to join other delegations who had

congratulated the President for his visionary leadership over eight years. Referring to the President's comments on the restructuring of the technical commissions, he noted that those commissions had been effective in harnessing the energy of teams of experts from within and outside the WMO system. He looked forward to implementation of plans to restructure the commissions in the coming four years. The issue of commercialization of meteorological services for the purpose of cost recovery had taken hold over eight years, and he hoped emphasis on that matter would continue, as it was beneficial to the self-development of meteorology, particularly in the developing countries. He commended the progress made in the free exchange of meteorological products, and the extension of Resolution 40 to Resolution 25 on hydrology. Free and unrestricted exchange had enhanced the quality of products and forecasts from NMHSs, and he hoped that the range of exchangeable data would be further increased.

The **DELEGATE OF JORDAN** thanked the President on behalf of the Government of Jordan for his work in preparing an excellent report. For the years during which he had been an extraordinary President, he deserved the respect and friendship of all the Members. He extended his good wishes for the President's every success in the service of the meteorological community.

The **DELEGATE OF ZAMBIA** paid tribute on behalf of his delegation to the President's excellent work in office, and thanked him for the excellent report and documentation. He also paid tribute to the work of the Secretary-General and extended best wishes to him. His country attached great importance to the work of WMO. In recent years, Zambia had passed through a period of serious drought, which was followed by excessive rain brought by the recently devastating Tropical Cyclone *Japhet*. The drought had adversely affected food production and the cyclone had reduced the crop yield to almost zero. With good technological advances WMO would be able to continue providing information to enable developing countries to cope with many natural calamities. He wished Congress very successful deliberations.

The **DELEGATE OF MAURITANIA** congratulated the President on the clarity of his report and for his work over eight years, which had enabled the speaker in particular to make his NMS more transparent. The President's writings and actions had helped to bring the Meteorological Services into contact with, and closer to, its competitors in areas such as climate change activities and the UNFCCC.

The **DELEGATE OF ARGENTINA** wished to be associated with other delegations who had thanked the President, and also thanked the President on behalf of Argentina for his eight years of intensive work, and his comprehensive report. As the representative of a developing country, he extended

particular thanks for the President's attention to the ETRP, which should be an ongoing aspect of the Organization's work. When the President had represented Region III, the speaker had felt well represented and expressed his gratitude to him for

that. Generally, he felt that as the President left office, he should feel he had achieved all he had set out to achieve.

*The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE THIRD PLENARY MEETING  
6 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.*

**7. Statement by the Honourable Ms Susan Waffa-Ogoo, Secretary of State for Fisheries, Natural Resources and the Environment of the Republic of the Gambia** (agenda item 1.1)

**HONOURABLE MS WAFFA-OGOO** noted that the late twentieth century had seen major developments in science and technology brought about by the availability of new data collection and transmission platforms and related progress in observational data acquisition. Such developments had facilitated improved monitoring and planning for economic activities such as agriculture, water resources development, and transportation.

She then focused on the situation in Gambia, noting that while it had had satisfactory hydrological, meteorological and telecommunication networks, the adequacy and timely availability of data and information had been limited due to the deterioration of the basic data-recording and communication systems. She suggested that that situation might be common to most WMO Member States. The number of fully operational hydrological stations had been reduced drastically, while many meteorological stations had not replaced broken equipment and instruments. Of great concern was the inability of the national Government to meet the cost of maintaining adequate operations, given the poor economy and the changing attitude and priorities of donors. She noted that the basic systems should not be allowed to deteriorate further.

Recovering the costs of providing meteorological services had been a problem. That had been especially true for services provided to the aviation industry, and Gambia would need to work with WMO and ICAO on that issue in the future.

Honourable Ms Waffa-Ogoo noted how Gambia had benefited from the WMO Climate Information and Prediction Services (CLIPS) Project, by making it possible to provide projections of the seasonal climate for planning purposes, especially in agriculture.

Human resources were identified as an especially important issues for Gambia. Honourable Ms Waffa-Ogoo called for the continuing education

and specialized training of staff. In the past, Gambia had benefited from training organized through RMTCs in Cairo, Lagos, Nairobi and Niamey. Gambia thanked all donors for helping to make participation in those programmes possible. Funding for training, however, remained a problem for Gambia. She also encouraged the development of partnerships between Members and various national, regional and international bodies to strengthen the capacities of NMHSs.

**8. Report by the presidents of regional associations** (agenda item 3.8.1)  
(Cg-XIV/Docs. 3.8.1(1); (2); (3); (4); (5); (6))

**8.1 Report by the president of Regional Association I (Africa)** (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(1))

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I** introduced his report by highlighting some of the main activities that had been undertaken by the Association since Thirteenth Congress. He noted that he had been reappointed to serve as president of the Association at its thirteenth session in Swaziland in November 2002, and that the post of vice-president, to which Mr F. Ounnar of Algeria had been elected, was now vacant. The many activities involving the Regional and Sub-regional Offices, working groups, rapporteurs, training events, and a number of major regional events had been successful and very beneficial to the work of the Association and to his own duties, activities and missions as president.

In the area of network implementation, he noted that there had been modest improvements in the performance of some networks, but that the major problems relating to lack of consumables and trained staff and deficiencies in the operations and telecommunications had persisted. More than 100 Regional Basic Synoptic Network (RBSN) stations were located in countries experiencing conflicts and strife. Remedial actions to overcome shortcomings were being addressed under a modernization strategy currently under way.

The CLIPS office had organized climate outlook forums in the Region, and Climate Computing (CLICOM) systems and training had been provided through cooperative projects

coordinated by WMO with the support of many Members. Two GCOS regional workshops had been held, in 2001 and 2003, leading to action plans aimed at improving the GCOS networks in the Region. A total of 841 training fellowships had been awarded through various WMO and other programmes, but more would be needed in the coming budgetary period. Cooperation between WMO and the various economic sub-groupings in Africa had continued during the period.

The president highlighted some of the high priority issues for the Region in the light of the latest scientific and technological advances and taking advantage of opportunities offered by global and regional initiatives such as the WSSD, NEPAD and the African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD). Those included: enhancing the basic meteorological and hydrological observing networks, telecommunication systems and data-processing facilities through the implementation of the RA I Strategy for WWW Basic Systems in Africa; strengthening of capacity for natural disaster prevention and mitigation through the improvement of forecasting and warning systems of severe weather events; development of reliable seasonal and inter-annual forecasting capability and improvement and understanding of the nature and extent of potential threat from climate change in the Region; developing human resources to meet the growing demand of meteorological and hydrological services from users; and strengthening regional cooperation through the continued development of ACMAD as a centre of excellence and the establishment of joint programmes and projects in meteorology and hydrology within the context of sub-regional economic groupings.

In closing, the president expressed his appreciation to all those who had contributed in one way or another to the activities of the Association, in particular the vice-presidents of the Association, the chairpersons and members of working groups as well as rapporteurs of the Association, Members who provided facilities for hosting various meetings, conferences, seminars and training events, and Members who generously provided assistance and extended cooperation under the VCP or bilaterally. He expressed his deep appreciation especially to the President and the Secretary-General of the Organization for their strong support and advice and extended his best wishes for their future endeavours.

## **8.2 Report by the president of Regional Association II (Asia) (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(2))**

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II** provided an overview and highlights of the major activities of the Association since Thirteenth Congress. He noted that the twelfth session of RA II was held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 19 to 27 September 2000 and that at that time, the Association adopted Resolution 1 (XII-RA II). The

Association requested that that resolution be brought to the attention of Congress. The president identified the major issues of concern to the Region as followed:

- (a) Maintenance and further development of the existing observing network, telecommunications systems and data-processing facilities, as well as the development of alternative data sources such as AMDAR;
- (b) Further strengthening of collaboration among NMSs so as to enhance their capabilities to access sophisticated products in the preparation and dissemination of timely warnings, particularly for severe weather and climate events like typhoons, tropical cyclones, floods, sand/dust storms, droughts, etc.;
- (c) Utilization of new technologies, in particular new information technologies, to advance the ability of national and regional Centres to serve end users;
- (d) The development of effective public weather services to ensure better understanding and appreciation of the value of, and increased benefit from, weather and climate information;
- (e) Capacity-building, including human resources development and the effective use of Web technology, to bridge the gap between NMHSs of developing and developed countries;
- (f) Better planning and management of water resources, better climate monitoring, and improved research and applications (including regional climate prediction);
- (g) The advancement and modernization of regional Centres with regional responsibility and RMTCs for better serving the Members of the Association.

The president noted a number of activities and initiatives of RA II, including: development of a Strategic Plan for the Enhancement of National Meteorological Services in RA II; a seminar on public weather services and global data-processing systems held in Bahrain; the organization of a regional workshop on capacity-building for the NMHSs of LDCs in Asia in Thailand; the third Technical Conference on the Management of NMSs in Oman; and the meeting of Directors of NMSs in Kazakhstan (March 2003). He further noted that a series of process studies and other investigations had been carried out, including such projects as the South China Sea Monsoon Experiment.

He conveyed his thanks to those Members who provided facilities for hosting events during the period since Thirteenth Congress and to all those who provided support to the development of NMHSs in RA II. He cited, in particular, Korea, Japan and China for contributing to the AMDAR Panel activities and to Saudi Arabia for taking the lead in the AMDAR Middle East Pilot Project. The president closed by extending his gratitude and appreciation to the Secretary-General and the Secretariat, particularly the staff of the Regional Office for Asia

and the South-West Pacific, for their assistance and advice in the work of the Association.

### 8.3 Report by the president of Regional Association III (South America) (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(3))

The **ACTING PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** had taken up his position very recently following the departure of the former president from his position as Permanent Representative of Ecuador. Many details of activities in the Region were presented in the Congress document, which he was presenting on behalf of the former president.

During the period under consideration the working groups and rapporteurs had carried out their tasks satisfactorily in accordance with the mandate given by the Association, and with the assistance of the Regional Office for the Americas in Asuncion, Paraguay. The Association, at its thirteenth session, re-established the current working groups; it also established groups on climate activities and agricultural meteorology and a steering group for the coordination and implementation of the Regional Meteorological Data Communication Network (RMDCN).

Network implementation and performance had shown some improvement during the period thanks to coordinated efforts by Members concerned, the Secretariat and donor countries. Existing gaps in the observational data coverage continued to be mainly due to difficulties in the operations of observing and telecommunication networks and high cost and lack of consumables and spare parts in certain countries.

Four countries were now running mesoscale models and all National Meteorological Centres (NMCs) could effectively use products from advanced Global Data-processing System (GDPS) centres. Members in the region were playing an active role in the WCRP, particularly in the various studies of the variability of the warm-season monsoons over Central and South America. The implementation of the International Research Centre on El Niño (CIIFEN) in Guayaquil, Ecuador, was under way.

Issues of high-priority concern to the Region included: the continuing need for long-term fellowships to increase human resources; maintenance and development of the basic observation networks; climate change and environment-related matters; natural disasters; international data exchange and the role and operation of NMHSs in the Region.

In conclusion, the acting president expressed thanks to all those who had contributed to the work of RA III, and especially to the Government of Spain and its National Meteorological Institute for having provided the opportunity to train several staff in the Region, and to the Government of China who, with WMO support, made it possible for the Permanent Representatives of RA III to undertake a

study tour in China. The acting president also thanked the Secretary-General and Secretariat staff, especially the staff of the Regional Office for the Americas and the WMO Technical Cooperation Department.

### 8.4 Report by the president of Regional Association IV (North and Central America) (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(4))

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV** highlighted some of the issues in the Region that had been detailed in the Congress document. He noted the recommendation of the thirteenth session of the Association, held in Venezuela in 2001, that Congress consider renaming the region from "North and Central America" to "North America, Central America and the Caribbean". The annual RA IV Hurricane Committee meetings had been carried out successfully during the period, but adequate funds for that high-priority activity had been extremely difficult to locate and extra efforts would be needed to rectify that problem in the next period. Implementation of the new International Satellite Communication System to serve the Regional Meteorological Telecommunication Network (RMTN) in the Region was under way with the support of Finland and the United States. Ten upper-air stations in the southern part of the Region were being upgraded with the assistance of the United States. Preliminary discussions had been carried out toward the establishment of a Regional Climate Centre (RCC) in RA IV and additional meetings were planned.

The president noted that there remained an urgent need for further capacity-building in the Region, for example in the form of training support to prepare for replacement of the current cadre of professionals. He welcomed the Regional Action Plan that had been developed following the GCOS Regional Workshop in 2002 and thanked the various countries and agencies that had supported that effort to address the decline in the regional climate observing network. He emphasized the success of the Subregional Office in Costa Rica and reiterated the opinion of the Association that it should be upgraded to a Regional Office to serve better the entire Region.

Many important events, activities and seminars had been organized in the Region thanks to the support of WMO and Member countries. A significant increase in interest had been shown in the Region in the area of agrometeorology. He expressed thanks to the president of the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology in that regard.

In closing, he expressed appreciation to all those governments, organizations and persons who had provided support to the NMHSs of the Region, and in particular to Canada, Finland, France, Japan, Spain and the United States. He also expressed special thanks and appreciation to the Secretary-General and the President, as they completed their

terms in office, for the outstanding support that they had provided over the years to the Region and to the Organization.

#### **8.5 Report by the president of Regional Association V (South-West Pacific)** (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(5))

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V** provided a brief overview of the highlights and major activities of the Association since Thirteenth Congress. He noted that the thirteenth session of the Association was held in Manila from 21 to 28 May 2002. He noted further that the number of Members of the Association had remained constant at 21. Portugal discontinued its membership after operations in the South-West Pacific but there was now a new Member, Kiribati. All planned meetings and events of the Association had been implemented with the exception of a seminar on cost recovery and administration, which would take place later in the year.

The president noted that many Members of RA V were tropical Small Island Developing States and were highly vulnerable to natural disasters such as tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, floods, droughts, and forest fires. He stressed that many countries in the Region were affected by *El Niño* and were vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially sea-level rise. Many countries must also face the difficult challenge of catching up with the rapid advances in science and technology.

The president drew attention to the following programmes that should be given special priority:

- (a) Maintenance and strengthening of the WWW regional aspects of the Global Telecommunication System (GTS), GOS and GDPS. The quality of data, products and services should be improved, and the capacities of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) in Nadi and the ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre (ASMC) in Singapore should be strengthened;
- (b) Strengthening of capabilities for natural disaster prevention and reduction through the improved provision of more reliable and effective warning of tropical cyclones, monsoon depressions and other extreme weather events. The high priority of the Tropical Cyclone Programme (TCP) should be maintained;
- (c) Improvement of understanding of the nature and extent of potential threat from climate change, climate variability and extreme weather events in the Region;
- (d) Assistance for the implementation of the Pacific-HYCOS to address increasing water scarcity, gradual destruction and higher incidence of pollution of freshwater resources;
- (e) Enhancement of human resources through education and training activities, with particular emphasis on SIDS;

- (f) Implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for the Development of Meteorology in the Pacific Region (2000–2009) and the meteorological needs analysis done in cooperation with SPREP and development partners;
- (g) Strengthening of regional cooperation through the establishment of joint programmes and projects in meteorology and hydrology within the context of such regional groupings as the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), SPREP and SOPAC.

The president closed by expressing his appreciation to all Members who contributed to the work of the Association during the reporting period. He gave special thanks to Messrs Arona Ngari, Lim Joo Tick and R. Sri Dihartha for their valuable services and contribution to the work of the Association. He thanked as well both the Secretary-General and the President of WMO for their long service, assistance, and support to the Region.

#### **8.6 Report by the president of Regional Association VI (Europe)** (Cg-XIV/Doc. 3.8.1(6))

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI** provided a brief overview of the highlights and major activities of the Association between Thirteenth Congress and 31 January 2003. He noted that the Association held its thirteenth session in Geneva from 2 to 10 May 2002, during which time 21 resolutions were adopted. The total number of Members of the Association had increased from 48 to 49 with the addition of Monaco.

The president highlighted a number of regional events during the period, including the RA VI Seminar on Capacity Building and New Technologies in Meteorology: Challenges and Opportunities for the Balkan Countries; the Third Technical Conference on Management of NMSs in Region VI; and the Workshop on the Operation of NMHSs in Developing Countries and Countries with Economies in Transition.

He noted that since the beginning of 2001, activities related to RA VI had been carried out by an assigned expert in the WMO Secretariat, pending the Office's eventual establishment. He stressed the importance of establishing a Subregional Office for Europe, noting that the Association had requested Fourteenth Congress to allocate adequate budgetary resources for the establishment of the Office in 2004.

Areas of special concern were reported by the president to be:

- (a) The improvement and optimization of the global systems for observing, recording and reporting on the weather, water resources, ocean, climate and the related natural environment in the most effective manner, including the standardization of techniques for observing data and planning networks on a regional basis;

- (b) The improvement of the accuracy and reliability of the analysis, forecasts, warnings and risk assessments of natural hazards such as floods, strong winds, droughts, forest fires, severe storms, avalanches, pollution events and periods of intense relative heat and cold;
- (c) The enhancement of capacity-building, especially for the developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

He concluded by expressing his appreciation to all those who contributed to the work of the Association, in particular to General C. Finizio, and Messrs I. Mersich and F. Quintas Ribeiro. He also expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation to the Secretary-General of WMO and to his staff.

The **PRESIDENT** thanked the regional association presidents for their clear and informative presentations. He noted especially that the Organization owed a tremendous debt of gratitude to them, as well as the many rapporteur and working group members for helping the Organization to perform so effectively at the regional level in what was in fact a voluntary capacity.

The **DELEGATE OF BOTSWANA** expressed her appreciation to all the regional association presidents, and in particular to the president of RA I, noting that discussions would be taken up on many of the issues involved at Congress. Many gaps still existed in the RBSN networks for both surface and upper-air observations, due in large part to the cost of consumables, and she suggested that that might be alleviated to some extent through the efforts of GCOS in relation to the GCOS networks. She noted the problem of a lack of expertise needed for the provision of climate warnings and emphasized the need to support CLIPS in that regard. Some relevant workshops had been held in RA I to date, but follow-up action was needed to make those efforts truly successful.

The **DELEGATE OF SENEGAL** expressed special thanks to the president of RA I for his dedication in serving the Region. He stressed the importance of the issue of water and its management as the key to future sustainable development. That was especially so for countries in the Sahel region of Africa, with increasing populations and increasing demand from year to year. Governments were working on multi-faceted solutions, but progress in addressing the issue was mixed and the concern in the area was great. It was essential for WMO to anticipate the problems surrounding the water issue and give it higher priority in research and operational programmes. It was also particularly important to maintain and strengthen the observing networks without which the water issue could not be resolved.

The **DELEGATE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION** expressed his appreciation to all the presidents of the regional associations and to the associations themselves, noting that they played a fundamental role in the effectiveness of the Organization and that

it was through their efforts that significant progress could be achieved. He welcomed the progress made in introducing new technology in many Regions, noting as examples the increase in countries now using numerical prediction models and the increased use of AMDAR data. However, there remained a serious imbalance in the resources available across Regions, which needed to be addressed by Congress. Communications and training needs were particularly important. He also noted the importance of regional and subregional offices in the regional structure and suggested that they should be considered for establishment in all Regions.

The **DELEGATE OF BENIN** thanked the president and Bureau of RA I for the report. He stated that a way needed to be found to improve the efficiency of the work of the RA I rapporteurs, and that RA I should consider training meteorological officers.

The **DELEGATE OF BELARUS** endorsed the previous speakers in commending the work of the regional associations. He cited Germany, France, Poland and Israel for special thanks for providing training and technical assistance and for helping in re-establishing the country's observation network.

He noted that even in RA VI there were problems, and recommended that a Regional Office be established to help deal with these. He stated that the question of funding had not been fully resolved in WMO, but that training, especially in hydrology, should be a priority.

The **DELEGATE OF FRANCE** thanked the presidents of the regional associations for their presentations. He pointed out that capacity-building related to modelling extreme phenomena and all water resources issues were very important. He pledged that *Météo-France* would continue to develop those activities. He noted that France had been particularly active in helping to launch projects in Africa.

The **DELEGATE OF GUINEA** thanked the presidents of the regional associations, citing in particular the president of RA I. He noted that no Region had been spared by droughts, floods and other natural disasters related to meteorology. RA I, in addition, had experienced epidemics provoked by meteorological phenomena. The Region should focus more on those issues, and more funding to address them was needed.

## 9. **Sixth WMO Long-term Plan** (agenda item 6.2) (Cg-XIV/Docs. 6.2; 6.2, ADD. 1; ADD. 2)

At the invitation of the President, the **SECRETARY-GENERAL** introduced the draft of the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan for the period 2004–2011, as contained in Cg-XIV/Docs. 6.2; 6.2, ADD. 1 and ADD. 2. He noted that it was useful to recall that the WMO long-term planning process had been put in place to facilitate the increased effectiveness of the Organization. It continued to be improved since it



was formally introduced in 1983. Five Long-term Plans had been prepared up to now; those described the programmes and activities of the Organization aimed at protecting life and property, safeguarding the environment and contributing to sustainable development, all for the enhanced well-being of the peoples of the world. The Plans also reflected WMO's responsibility to ensure effective international cooperation in the fields of meteorology, hydrology and related disciplines and their contribution to the benefit of society.

The overall purpose of long-term planning in WMO was to set broad objectives and strategies for the Organization and to provide it with sufficient guidance for the formulation of the four-year programme and budget. It also contributed to the smooth and effective implementation of the scientific and technical programmes of the Organization. It provided an effective mechanism through which Members might work together to identify their common objectives and develop coordinated plans for achieving them. In particular, long-term planning helped to ensure that:

- (a) WMO Programmes were sensitive and responsive to the needs and aspirations of Members;
- (b) Advance consideration was given to the possible impacts on WMO Programmes of foreseeable scientific, technological, social and economic developments;
- (c) There was necessary coordination between programmes to optimize the WMO programme structure and use of available resources;
- (d) The Secretary-General's programme and budget proposals to Congress for the next financial period were developed in harmony with the wishes and intentions of Members.

The Secretary-General stated, moreover, that the WMO Long-term Plan had three main purposes, namely:

- (a) To serve as a basis for guiding the constituent bodies and the Secretariat on the preparation of their programme plans and the monitoring of progress;
- (b) For use by Members as a reference point to help guide planning at the national level;
- (c) To provide a basis for briefing and informing other organizations/entities which potentially contributed to, and benefited from, the work of WMO and its Members.

In that light, Thirteenth Congress in 1999, by its Resolution 24 (Cg-XIII) decided that the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan (6LTP) should be prepared, and requested the Executive Council to establish the necessary coordination mechanism for its preparation. In response, the Council established its Working Group on Long-term Planning to assist it in that area. The Group was ably chaired by Mr Peter Ewins of the United Kingdom. The presidents of regional associations and technical commissions actively participated in the Working Group.

The following elements were considered in the preparation of the draft 6LTP:

- (a) The trends and/or developments that would significantly influence the way WMO and its Members' NMHSs would function in the future;
- (b) The evolving needs of Members, NMHSs or society that needed to be met;
- (c) The WMO vision;
- (d) The desired outcomes;
- (e) The strategy and associated goals.

In this connection, and as part of the interactive and iterative long-term planning process, a questionnaire was sent to all Permanent Representatives of Members of WMO as well as to the presidents of technical commissions and regional associations, requesting them for their views on those topics. The summaries and analyses of the responses to the questionnaire were used as a basis for elaborating the vision, desired outcomes, and strategies and associated goals of WMO.

WMO and its Members, especially their NMHSs, recognized that they would increasingly face challenges and/or opportunities which included matters related to globalization, trade liberalization and the market-led economy, the evolution of the role and operation of NMHSs, alternative service delivery, international data exchange, and enhancement of the coordination in the geosciences, particularly within the United Nations system. In light of that, it was felt that there was a need for a statement on the vision of WMO, a statement that captured in a clear, succinct and balanced manner the essence of the Organization, its purposes and aspirations. It was proposed that the WMO vision should be "To provide world leadership in expertise and international cooperation in weather, climate, hydrology and water resources, and related environmental issues, and thereby to contribute to the safety and well-being of people throughout the world and to the economic benefit of all nations."

The vision statement conveyed the idea of what WMO was, did and should do, and the reason why WMO did it, as well as what it wished to become. The vision also provided a basis for formulating desired outcomes as well as strategies and associated goals. Those provided the framework for the formulation and development of the 6LTP.

The draft 6LTP presented a set of six desired outcomes in which WMO could significantly contribute, namely:

- (a) Improved protection of life and property;
- (b) Increased safety on land, at sea and in the air;
- (c) Enhanced quality of life;
- (d) Sustainable economic growth;
- (e) Protection of the environment;
- (f) Enhanced WMO effectiveness.

To contribute to the realization of those desired outcomes, nine strategies with associated goals were proposed to be adopted to meet the

evolving global needs for expert advice and services pertinent to weather, water, climate and the related natural environment. The nine strategies, which were hierarchically related, pertained to:

- (a) Delivery of increasingly accurate and reliable warnings;
- (b) Provision of increasingly beneficial weather, water, climate and related environmental services;
- (c) Enhancement of WMO's role as the United Nations system's authoritative voice on the state and behaviour of the Earth's atmosphere;
- (d) Public information;
- (e) Understanding and improving the modelling of the processes;
- (f) Improved observation;
- (g) Enhanced NMHSs;
- (h) Working more effectively with international partners, other relevant organizations, academia, the media and the private sector;
- (i) Improved effectiveness, efficiency and flexibility of the WMO structure, practices and working mechanisms.

Hence, the overall approach to the preparation of the 6LTP was significantly different from the previous WMO Long-term Plans. In line with that approach, the existing WMO programme structure was reviewed and assessed. That consisted of the eight Major Programmes, namely: the WWW Programme, the WCP, the Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme (AREP), the Applications of Meteorology Programme (AMP), the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme (HWRP), the ETRP, TCOP and the RP. Those Programmes were formulated in such a way as to ensure the realization of particular strategies and their associated goals.

Moreover, another new feature was the addition of a cross-cutting programme on natural disaster prevention and mitigation. Also, within the various programme descriptions, new developments were taken into account resulting in specific proposals. For instance, the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council agreed that consideration should be given to expanding the Satellite Activities Programme to a WMO space programme. In addition, also for the first time, the 6LTP contained a description of programme-support activities in six areas, namely: documentation services, conference services, publications services, office automation and information technology support, external relations and information and public affairs.

Furthermore, it was also proposed that the period of coverage of the 6LTP, instead of the previous 10 years, should be eight years (from 2004 to 2011), and should be aligned with the four-yearly Congress sessions, with the start corresponding to the beginning of a programme and budget cycle (i.e. the financial period 2004–2007). It was further proposed that the Plan should be a clear detailed plan for the first four years, with the second four years being less detailed but giving guidance, focus

and direction, and describing prospects for the future.

The Secretary-General stated that as we looked ahead to the period 2004–2011 covered by the 6LTP, he had every confidence that WMO could meet the challenges and avail itself of the opportunities that lay ahead. WMO could achieve that by working together with its partners in the United Nations system, through the NMHSs, and in cooperation with other international and national institutions as well as with different sectors. He reiterated that the draft 6LTP laid down an appropriate framework and a positive set of actions that could be achieved by WMO provided the required resources were made available for their implementation. He urged Congress to adopt the Plan.

He stated his confidence that Congress would also want to go on record with its appreciation to the Executive Council and the EC Working Group on Long-term Planning for the able way in which the Council and the Group performed their task. Through their devoted work, with the assistance of the Secretariat, Congress was privileged to have before it at the present time an innovative and comprehensive draft 6LTP.

In conclusion, the Secretary-General stressed that the major strengths of the 6LTP were that it reflected a consensus within the Organization, it provided a vision, and it set a course along which Members were prepared to move together. As Members shared and maintained that vision, consensus and common aspirations, as well as pledged their strong commitment and support, WMO would face the future with much confidence.

#### **10. Consolidated programme and budget 2004–2007** (agenda item 8) (Cg-XIV/Docs. 8(1); (2); (3))

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL**, in presenting the programme and budget proposals for the fourteenth financial period contained in Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(1), explained that they had been developed in conformance with the guidance provided by the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council, as reflected in Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(2). That guidance addressed funding levels, programme priorities and the proportional allocation of the budget to programmes. The proposals also took into account the guidance by all of the WMO Members through their input to the WMO Long-term Plan.

As had been agreed by the Council, the present programme structure was used as a basis for the development of the budget proposals. Furthermore, in accordance with the guidance of the fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions of the Executive Council, and in order to ensure the consistency in priority setting, the preparation of the proposals had been simultaneous and coordinated with the development of the 6LTP for the period 2004–2011, in such a way that the programme and budget

proposals reflected the goals and objectives of the 6LTP. The WMO vision, desired outcomes, strategies and associated goals in the 6LTP, therefore, served as the basis for the preparation of the proposals.

The proposals themselves had been formulated in the results-based budgeting (RBB) format. They not only described expected results and performance indicators, but also contained other information required for strategic decision-making, such as objectives, which were directly linked to the 6LTP, and project activities, with descriptions of outputs to be delivered. Also in the narrative text of each programme was a summary of main achievements for the period 2000–2002.

Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(3) contained a draft resolution on RBB that Congress was being invited to adopt. RBB was a key instrument for ensuring effective management oversight, and performance measurement and reporting were an integral part of the RBB process. The draft resolution outlined a governance mechanism to be put in place through the Executive Council with a view to overseeing the implementation of programme activities within an RBB framework which included monitoring, evaluation and performance reporting.

The fifty-third and fifty-fourth sessions of the Executive Council had indicated in their guidance four key programme areas that should receive greater emphasis in the fourteenth financial period:

- (a) Contribution to the protection of life and property, especially disaster prevention and mitigation;
- (b) Climate change and its impacts;
- (c) Development of NMHSs and provision of services for socio-economic benefits of people;
- (d) Hydrology and water resources.

Those key priority areas would be addressed through the implementation of the eight major scientific and technical programmes as at present.

The Secretary-General then outlined the planned activities within the WMO major Programmes and their components. The WWW Programme continued to be the fundamental and highest priority Programme of the Organization and would continue to put priority on capacity-building activities, capitalizing on technological advances to enhance the WWW components, especially in developing countries. It would continue developing mainly through the implementation of three interconnected, and increasingly integrated, core components, the GOS, GTS and GDPS, to provide basic data and forecast products and services.

Under the GOS, efforts would continue to improve and optimize global systems for observing the state of the atmosphere and the ocean surface, in the most effective and efficient manner. Assistance would be provided to Members, particularly developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in their efforts to address deficiencies in their national observing networks.

One of the main goals of the WWW was the restructuring of the GOS into a composite system, particularly as regarded the upper-air component. In undertaking that restructuring, guidance provided through the development of the Integrated Global Observing Strategy (IGOS) should be considered.

The GTS would continue to provide the telecommunication services for the timely and secure collection and exchange of observational data and the distribution of processed information. It was planned that the GTS would be upgraded through exploiting new technical and economic opportunities, and through modern cost-effective data communication services from telecommunication providers. Satellite-based digital data-distribution services would play a larger role. The GTS would eventually evolve into the Future WMO Information System (FWIS). WMO would continue support to all Regions in accordance with their respective strategic plans in enhancing their telecommunication network.

The network of Meteorological Centres which made up the GDPS would continue to generate weather and climate analyses, forecasts, advisories, warnings and specialized forecast products. The programme would promote the provision to all NMHSs of more specialized and increasingly reliable forecast products, which would relate to the widest possible range of spatial and temporal scales, including early warnings. In particular, it was expected that capabilities of the less developed national WWW centres would be enhanced for the assimilation and analysis of data from major centres and the generation of value-added products.

The implementation of the core WWW components would be supported by such Programmes as the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme (IMOP) and the WWW Data Management Programme (WWWDMMP).

In the development of the new proposed WMO Space Programme, an important focus would be the implementation of the long-term strategy of the new WMO Space Programme using, among other things, contributions from focused science groups and applying modern technologies for education and training purposes. The space-based component of the WWW GOS had been expanded to include appropriate missions of research and development satellites.

The WWW Programme included two Programmes which directly addressed the issue of disaster reduction. The TCP would place emphasis on assistance to Members in their efforts to mitigate tropical cyclone disasters, essentially using a number of Regional Centres in the tropical cyclone basins. Enhanced support would be given to Hurricane and Tropical Cyclone Committees in the basins. The Emergency Response Activities (ERA) would assist NMHSs and relevant international organizations to respond effectively to environmental

emergencies with large-scale transboundary air pollution, caused in particular by possible nuclear or chemical accidents, volcanic eruptions and land fires. The implementation of those two Programmes would constitute a major contribution of WMO to the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) and to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as adopted by the WSSD.

The leading role played by WMO in the implementation of the WCP would continue to enable the Organization to provide an authoritative international scientific voice on climate and climate change. The Programme also assisted Members in the application of climate information and knowledge to national sustainable development. Within the framework of institutional support to the Programme, the Secretariat would continue to initiate and coordinate activities in areas of data collection, climate research, applications and training, and would mobilize necessary national and international resources. It would be important for WMO to place further emphasis on the ability of climate services to contribute to the economic, societal and environmental well-being of its Members most affected by climate change. Efforts would be made to improve the effectiveness of, and cooperation between, technical commissions and regional mechanisms in climate-related areas.

In terms of coordination of activities within the Climate Agenda, the Secretariat would seek to raise WMO's profile within the United Nations system on climate- and environment-related matters. The Secretariat would provide Members with regular information on the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements associated with climate change and the preparation of documentation on the views and needs of Members concerning research and observational issues related to those agreements.

Greater attention would be given to developing comprehensive climate data management systems with geographical information system (GIS) capabilities, and to ensuring that high-quality data from global observing systems for climate were readily available to WMO Members in suitable formats. That would be ensured primarily by the implementation of the World Climate Data and Monitoring Programme (WCDMP). The development of climate services by Members would be assisted by the World Climate Applications and Services Programme (WCASP). Special emphasis would be placed on services for national sustainable development and on devising methods of adapting to, and mitigating, the adverse impacts of climate change and its variations. The CLIPS project would be the vehicle for much of the Programme development and implementation.

WMO would continue its co-sponsorship (with UNEP) of the IPCC. WMO actively contributed to IPCC's assessment activities and would make a major contribution to the Fourth Assessment Report

that was now being prepared for publication in 2007. Special attention had to be paid to the small island States that were being threatened by sea-level rise.

WMO would continue to collaborate with its partners in the planning and implementation of observing networks coordinated under GCOS. Particular attention would be given to implementing the recommendations of the Second Adequacy Report to the UNFCCC and to completing the Regional Workshop Programme and its related Regional Action Plans. WMO would continue its strong support for climate research through the WCRP. The overall priorities would be the assessment of the nature and predictability of seasonal to inter-decadal variations of the climate system at the global and regional scales, and providing the scientific basis for operational predictions of those variations; detecting climate change and attributing causes, and projecting the magnitude and rate of human-induced climate change, regional variations, and related sea-level rise.

Research activities of Members in atmospheric and related sciences would continue to be coordinated and stimulated by AREP. Also, through that Programme, critical information would be provided for international conventions on major atmospheric environment problems such as stratospheric ozone depletion through the ozone research and monitoring activities, transboundary pollution and climate change. In that context, the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) programme served first as a long-term atmospheric chemistry and ultraviolet monitoring system. Secondly, it supported scientific assessments to understand atmospheric composition changes and their effects on climate, urban environments and ecosystems. Thirdly, it developed air quality and climate predictive capabilities through modelling and data analysis. Support to the enhancement of GAW would be pursued.

The development and application of improved weather forecasting techniques, with emphasis on high-impact events, would be ensured through the implementation of the World Weather Research Programme (WWRP). The Programme had adopted a comprehensive approach involving all timescales associated with weather prediction, and would ensure that the benefits of research advances were widely shared among nations. Capacity-building was an integral part of the Programme. Those efforts were particularly important in the Tropical Meteorology Research Programme (TMRP). WMO would continue to implement the Programme on Physics and Chemistry of Clouds and Weather Modification Research (PCCWMR) with a view to promoting basic research in that area and to encouraging applications of research results.

The purpose of the AMP was to facilitate the application of meteorology, particularly in the protection of life and property, safeguarding the

environment and contributing to sustainable development. Assistance to Members by the Public Weather Services Programme (PWSP) in the provision of reliable and effective weather and related services would be enhanced.

Under the Agricultural Meteorology Programme (AgMP), Members' capabilities to provide agrometeorological information and data for operational applications in order to help develop sustainable and economically viable agricultural systems would be strengthened. Particular importance would be attached within the programme to the issues of drought and desertification. Support would continue to be given to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and to its Secretariat.

The major thrusts of the Aeronautical Meteorology Programme (AeMP) would be on activities, jointly with ICAO, directed to the further development of the World Area Forecast System (WAFS), the provision of meteorological services to air navigation, and specialized training of aeronautical meteorological personnel, in particular regarding cost recovery issues.

A priority activity of the Marine Meteorology and Associated Oceanographic Activities Programme (MMAOAP) continued to be the enhancement of marine meteorological and oceanographic services in support of the safety of life at sea and of the full range of specialized marine user groups. Continuing support would be given to joint activities with the IOC, through JCOMM, in particular in the implementation of operational oceanographic observing data management and services system. In that connection, WMO would continue to enhance its cooperation with UNESCO's IOC.

The HWRP would continue to apply hydrology to meet the needs for sustainable development as regarded water and related resources, to the prevention and mitigation of water-related disasters; and to ensure effective environmental management at the national and international levels. A very important area of activity within the programme would be working together with other partners on the development of a global network of flood warning centres. The Programme on Basic Systems in Hydrology (BSH) provided the basic building blocks and framework for the majority of the scientific and technical aspects of WMO activities in hydrology and water resources. It covered the collection, transmission and storage of data, the implementation of the Hydrological Operational Multipurpose System (HOMS), and the development of WHYCOS. A particular focus for the 2004–2007 period would be the development and updating of guidance and training material on water resources assessment methodologies for use in developing countries.

The application of hydrological analyses and methodologies to solve a variety of hydrology and

water resources problems was the purpose of the Programme on Forecasting and Application in Hydrology (FAH), which would continue to be closely linked with WCP and TCP. The main long-term objective of the Programme on Sustainable Development of Water Resources (SDW) was to promote the effective use of hydrology in support of sustainable development. The programme would contribute to integrated water resources management to meet societal needs and manage the risks posed by floods as a follow-up to the WSSD. Through the Programme on Capacity Building in Hydrology and Water Resources (CBH), WMO would assist in the development and operation of National Hydrological Services (NHSs), including the education and training of their staff both at the managerial and professional level, increasing public awareness of the importance of hydrological work, and providing support to technical cooperation activities.

In their effort to obtain adequately educated and trained personnel for the continued development of their Meteorological and Hydrological Services, Members would continue to receive assistance through the ETRP. The Human Resources Development Programme would provide the framework for assessing the present and future needs of Members for trained and retrained personnel and for providing an objective basis for planning and setting priorities, as well as for assisting and providing advice to Members. Under the Training Activities Programme, WMO would contribute to the training process in training centres, including RMTCs, by the provision of training materials, training of instructors including management training, and facilitating, through education, the interface between Meteorological Services and their user communities. The Education and Training Fellowships Programme in the next financial period would focus on the provision of long-term and short-term fellowships to NMHSs personnel and also on familiarization visits/study tours for senior management personnel of NMHSs. Coordination and support to training events on specialized subjects would facilitate the transfer of knowledge and technology among Members.

The programme and budget proposal related to the TCOP covered the requirements for support to activities related to the WMO VCP, support to the implementation of the core technical cooperation activities through programme and project development as well as continuous mobilization of resources in support of meteorological and hydrological activities at the national, regional and global levels, through the establishment of closer collaboration with funding institutions such as the World Bank, regional development banks and the European Commission. For the VCP, annual planning meetings of potential contributors would be organized and the programme would be promoted through the enhancement of publicity and fund

raising with potential donors. Furthermore, a proposal had been submitted to Congress to establish a WMO programme for LDCs which would be funding essentially from extra-budgetary resources.

The RP would continue to address meteorological, hydrological and related issues which were either unique or of common concern to a Region, or group of Regions, taking into account particular local and regional situations. It would provide a framework for the implementation of the global aspects of WMO Programmes at the national, regional and subregional levels. The Programme would support the regional associations, which had a key role to play by helping to elevate the level of NMHSs and implementation of the regional aspects of the WMO Programmes in the Regions, and would contribute, in particular, to interregional projects and programmes concerning natural disaster reduction and mitigation, drought, environmental hazards, and water resources assessment and management.

Support would be provided to regional and subregional offices established in WMO Regions, which facilitated the implementation of the RP and assisted NMHSs through the identification of their requirements, in the formulation of national and subregional meteorological and hydrological programmes, and in the mobilization of resources for the implementation of such programmes. They also proved to be very effective in bringing the Organization closer to its Members and to increasing its visibility in the Regions.

The programme-supporting services included basic Secretariat functions such as servicing sessions, conferences and meetings, and the production of WMO publications. The structure of the programme and organizational units was being finalized in order to optimize the effectiveness and efficiency of conference, language, publication and distribution services. The overall increased demand for documentation, including that associated with the additional requirements in Arabic and Chinese, together with the new requirements for electronic publishing and distribution, had imposed a net increase on the demand for services. That occurred despite the introduction of stringent economy measures, including a substantial reduction in the volume of documentation for constituent body meetings. In order to ensure adequate conference planning support and interpretation services, the use of the WMO Conference Centre, particularly on a cost recovery basis, would be significantly extended. WMO publications specifically defined as mandatory publications by resolutions of Congress were funded through the regular budget Publications Fund. From electronic files produced in the Secretariat, it was planned to provide printing services and electronic products that met the requirements of Members and ensured the timely distribution of WMO publications and technical documents in printed and electronic forms.

In the area of resource management, further modernization of administrative and budgetary management would be pursued to complement RBB. Internal operating processes would be simplified in order to reduce the administrative burden on Programme managers and to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Secretariat. The Oracle financial system would be further developed. As a result, it was expected that policy-making organs and executive management would be provided with improved financial statements on regular budget-funded activities and extrabudgetary programmes, as well as with programmatic and budgetary performance information.

ICT represented an essential component for the global activities of WMO and for the operations of the Secretariat. The implementation of Intranet had improved communication among staff and would be pursued. An electronic document management system (EDMS) had been introduced to streamline the working methods and procedures. It was expected that the Secretariat's productivity would continue to increase through effective use of ICT.

Further progress would be made in the implementation of the Staff Development, Training and Learning (SDTL) strategy through the establishment of yearly training priorities and plans. Accountability framework for managers and improved performance management would be developed. In the area of common services, savings in staff costs would be achieved through optimal use of in-house staff resources coupled with outsourcing and better use of temporary staff. Users would be provided with services related to facility management, procurement, supplies, mail and communications, security and catering, and maintenance and management of the building and of the technical installations.

The Secretary-General then turned to the overall issues concerning the programme and budget proposals. Regarding the overall resource level, the programme and budget proposals had been prepared in accordance with the guidance of the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council and had proposed two Options, namely a total amount of SFR 253.8 million for Option A and 258.8 million for Option B, to be funded from assessed contributions. The Council also indicated proportional budget allocation to the nine Major Programmes under Budget Part 3 — Scientific and technical programmes. The Secretariat followed that guidance and therefore revised the original proposals now incorporated in Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(1).

After the distribution of Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(1), and in accordance with customary practice, the estimates reflected therein were re-costed to reflect the most current rates of actual inflation (March 2003) and the inflation forecast recommended by the United Nations. That re-costing resulted in estimates which would permit an additional SFR 9 million of purchasing power to be accommodated within

Option A. That meant that the SFR 253.8 million would now be sufficient to carry out the programme activities envisaged in both Options A and B with an additional SFR 4 million to be used for other high-priority programme activities. A budget ceiling of SFR 253.8 million was now being proposed. He nevertheless emphasized that that amount represented a negative growth of 3.7 per cent in real terms, meaning that the budget would not be sufficient to keep the same volume of activities as compared to the thirteenth financial period. The Secretary-General assured Congress that, in spite of the budgetary situation, the Secretariat was committed to the enhancement of its responsiveness to the needs of the Members and of the international community, through continuous performance measurement and improvement, which were at the heart of RBB.

In conclusion, the Secretary-General observed that the world had changed drastically in the last couple of decades. Among those things which remained unchanged were, unfortunately, the tendency to reduce allocations to the WMO regular budget. He recalled the severe constraints which had had to be imposed on many activities considered as high priority both by Congress and the Executive Council. He recalled also, however, numerous examples of successful delivery of programme activities, with the help of Members and through the dedicated work of the Secretariat. He observed that those successes could continue, and the Organization would be able to make significant progress toward its goals in the fourteenth financial period, only with commensurate funding.

*The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.*

#### MINUTES OF THE FOURTH PLENARY MEETING 6 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.45 p.m.*

#### 11. **Statement by H.E. Mr S. Kane, Minister of Transportation of the Republic of the Niger**

Expressing his thanks to the Congress organizers for their cordial welcome, **H.E. MR SOULEAMANE KANE** expressed his Government's unstinting support for WMO and appreciation to the Secretary-General and the staff of the Organization. In 1994, Professor Obasi had become a member of Niger's Order of Merit. Niger had been transformed into a true research and development centre for meteorology, refining and commissioning a whole range of observation systems through such agencies as ACMAD, AGRHYMET, the African School of Meteorology and Civil Aviation (EAMAC), the Niger Basin Authority (NBA), the Hydrological Forecasting System for the River Niger Basin (HYDRONIGER) and the International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT).

He expressed his Government's gratitude to the international community for the long succession of workshops held in Niamey. In early 2003, Niamey had hosted a workshop on strengthening the capacities of Directors of Meteorological Services of West and Central Africa, as well as the GCOS Regional Workshop for Western and Central Africa. During the workshops, application plans for using meteorological products throughout the economy and regional action plans for the WWW had been drawn up.

The events of the past decade, in particular since the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, had shown that the different challenges on a national, regional and global level had given Meteorological Services a crucial role to play, as was proven by the impressive number of requests for services in a variety of fields.

In Niger, as in many countries of the Sahel where climatic cycles underwent considerable perturbations giving rise to such catastrophes as drought, flooding and storms, communities were no longer passively inclined to believe in the inevitability of destiny. Rather, they were more inclined to believe what the weather forecast held in store for them.

The harm caused to persons and property in recent severe weather events and climatic phenomena were always at the forefront of people's attention, and public authorities were constantly being put under pressure in that regard. Congress should therefore evaluate national and regional capacities for early warning of severe events. The challenges were great and numerous, financial resources limited and few, but that was actually a source of stimulation, obliging the Organization to make exceptional efforts so that national contributions could become a reality.

He congratulated WMO on its successes, and hoped that it would continue to contribute effectively to the sustained development of the different regions by consolidating the striking improvements in the effectiveness of its already noteworthy meteorological tools, which had a major part to play in cooperation.

**12. Statement by Mr Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

**MR P. BERNAL**, conveying the greetings of Professor Su Jilan, Chairperson of the Commission, and of Mr Koichiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO, acknowledged and expressed gratitude for the kind words used by the Secretary-General of WMO to describe the cooperation between the two Organizations. The two agencies could be proud of the level of cooperation and integration in the implementation of certain programmes. The establishment of JCOMM, reporting both to WMO and UNESCO, had shown a new and successful style of work in the United Nations system. They had managed, through judicious decisions of their governing bodies, to circumvent the formal difficulties for the functioning of the body, and the IOC was grateful to WMO for its continuing commitment.

IOC had placed the highest priority on implementation of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS). GOOS was supported in IOC by two sections, the Operational Observing System and the Ocean Services System. In the last two years, several regional offices had been created in support of the developing GOOS network, most recently in Perth, Western Australia, and in Rio de Janeiro. The Perth office was well advanced in developing the Indian Ocean GOOS (IOGOOS), and an operational agreement among 15 organizations surrounding the Indian Ocean Basin had been signed in 2002 in Mauritius.

IOC had also transformed the Toulouse-based Secretariat of the Data Buoy Cooperation Panel into the JCOMM In Situ Observing Platform Support Centre (JCOMMOPS), that included the Argo Information Centre. There were now 698 operational Argo floats, designed to collect the equivalent vertical profiles for the upper layers of the oceans that radiosondes collected for the atmosphere. The 698 floats represented an investment of US\$ 11 million to the Member States. The goal was to deploy 3 000 floats between 2003 and 2005, after which total operating costs would amount to the same figure.

The most important challenge in the oceanographic community was the step-by-step consolidation of operational oceanography, in the absence of a pre-existing operational infrastructure at the national level, through implementation of the regional components of GOOS, working with Member States. The building up of an operational infrastructure, very different from the meteorological infrastructure, was proving to be a very special challenge. Regional GOOS projects were at different stages of development. EuroGOOS in the North Sea was the most advanced, resting on a formal agreement between national operational agencies

and many of the NMHSs, whose terms of reference had been extended to include oceanographic observations. The Baltic Ocean Observing System (BOOS) was another example that was producing routine operational products, while the North-East Asia Regional GOOS was routinely making available data from China, Japan, Korea and the Russian Federation. Several other areas were also covered.

The challenge of building up an integrated worldwide range of observing systems required a common strategy and a common plan to help societies and decision makers set the same main objectives and the same priorities though coming from different actors and agencies. Without a strong commitment from all sectors of society, it would be impossible to reverse the negative trends threatening the maintenance of observing networks around the world, and still less to enlarge the support base for developing the new systems required. The need for input from the private as well as the public sectors had been underscored in the IOC's last biennial report to the General Conference of UNESCO, when it had stressed the benefits of a common shared strategy between both sectors and the advantages of a common observing platform, and had pointed out that achieving the new vision would require the development, negotiation and adoption of international norms and agreements, especially in the area of data and information exchange.

He believed that there were challenges that the two Organizations faced in common, although WMO had been based on pre-existing national services, whereas IOC did not, and was obliged to, develop those services now. He was convinced that by working together they did have a strong base to succeed.

**13. Sixth WMO Long-term Plan and Consolidated programme and budget 2004–2007** (agenda items 6.2 and 8)  
(Cg-XIV/Docs. 6.2; 6.2, ADD. 1; ADD. 2; 8(1); (2); (3)) (*continued*)

The **PRESIDENT** recalled that the Executive Council Working Group on Long-term Planning had produced the draft Sixth WMO Long-term Plan for consideration by Congress. The work of the Group, chaired by Mr P. Ewins, Principal Delegate of the United Kingdom and chairperson of the Executive Council Working Group on Long-term Planning, had been considered by the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council and the document produced was a recommendation of the latter.

At the invitation of the President, Mr P. Ewins, Principal Delegate of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the Executive Council, congratulated the Secretary-General on the clarity and completeness of his presentation of the Long-term Plan. Thanking his colleagues on the Working Group for their support and hard work in producing the Plan, the presidents of the regional associations and the technical commissions, who helped greatly in improving the quality of the document, as well as



the Secretariat, he pointed out that the difference between the new Plan and some of its predecessors was that it was seamless with the programme and budget. That seamlessness was very important because for the first time there would be a Long-term Plan and a programme and budget that were self-consistent. Moreover, the Plan was also consistent with the work of the constituent bodies and provided the framework within which Members carried out their national programmes, thus making the entire programme wholly coherent.

The vision that the Plan endeavoured to put forward was intended to be short, clear and succinct. It should express what WMO wanted it to be, and it had to be a vision that appealed to Members, the Commissions, other agencies, the public at large and the Secretariat. The effort to produce a vision that satisfied all those stakeholders' needs had been a challenge in itself.

Defining the notion of an outcome had also been hard to arrive at. By way of example, the production of a weather forecast constituted output, but if the weather forecast was then used to save lives, it represented an outcome, in the view of the Working Group, which also considered that outcomes should be the aim of the Group.

The strategies that the draft Plan put in place described not only the working practices of the WMO Secretariat, but also the strategies of Members who contributed to the outcomes from their own national programmes. Thus, the strategies should be shared by the Secretariat and the Members of the Organization.

Finally, in the programme and objectives, the latter were objectives for WMO as a whole, and not just for one segment. The Executive Council had produced a Plan that was a major step forward, thus expressing the confidence of WMO in its own future, which he commended to Congress.

The **DELEGATE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION** expressed his gratitude to the Secretary-General for the concise and clear presentation of the very complex finance and planning mechanism that the Organization was carrying out. Hopefully, Congress would again endorse the idea that long-term planning within WMO was crucial for ensuring a smooth and effective implementation of projects and programmes broken down by different activities. The preceding four years of work on the Plan and the programme and budget had contributed new elements to the process. As they could see, the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan covered two four-year periods. The eight years involved coincided better with financial planning periods than had previously been the case in WMO. Then there was the new orientation towards outcomes, in the process of programme and budget preparations, due to be discussed. If adopted, it would be possible to monitor and evaluate specific results, in accordance with criteria developed for planning and budget implementation. As it was a new approach, it would

doubtlessly need further refinement, but he thought it was a real step forward in introducing a more effective tool that would not only help in obtaining results but also increase the efficiency of the different parts in carrying out the Programmes. He hoped that the very important separate Executive Summary for Decision Makers referred to in paragraph 6.2.10 (Cg-XIV-Doc. 6.2) would be issued as early as possible so that Members could inform their Governments of the document's contents and explain the basic outlines of the complex work conducted, the intended aims, and the ways of achieving them.

The **DELEGATE OF COSTA RICA** said that the document raised certain general concerns for his country. He wished to express his gratitude for the preparation of the programme and budget but he was concerned that if Option A were chosen for the budget, some programmes, such as monitoring, would be much weakened and could result in important risks for data collection and networks. The alternative, Option B, should be given serious consideration.

In the Financial Advisory Committee (FINAC) he also intended to stress, with regard to tropical cyclones, the need for a Hurricane Committee. If Option B were adopted, there would be support for the RA IV Hurricane Committee; if it were not, the RA IV Hurricane Committee would be greatly weakened. It was important to take that into consideration because the RA IV Tropical Cyclone Committee (TCC) was one of the strongest elements of the TCP and had helped to save lives and property.

The **DELEGATE OF BOTSWANA** expressed her appreciation to the Secretary-General for the work that had gone into the document and for his leadership over the issues involved. Her concern was that at the end of the presentation there had been a mention that a deficit had been experienced during the present financial period. If that were so, Congress was now looking at a budget that would create an even deeper deficit. Also, some of the concerns raised in the reports of the presidents of the regional associations would receive very little attention. Some new issues that had crept in, moreover, were affecting the efficiency of individual NMHSs. She could not see a budget under Option A bringing anything new, and in examining the allocations under the various WMO Programmes, the figures were simply being juggled around, which indicated that the proposed budget was creating problems from the very outset. Her delegation appreciated the good sense contained in the Long-term Plan, but it could not be realized if the results-based budget was going to be deficient from the very outset. She agreed with the delegate of Costa Rica that serious consideration should be given to Option B, or alternatively a mean should be struck between the two options.

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** explained that when the programme and budget proposal had been prepared and submitted in response to the guidance from the fifty-fourth session of the Executive Council, at that stage, given the programmes and activities they had expected to carry out for the financial period 2004–2007, the programme activities in Option A had been costed at SFR 253.8 million. There were also other priority activities which proposed to be accommodated above that figure, thus producing a figure of SFR 258.8 million for Option B. That was the guidance that the Executive Council had given the Secretariat for the programme and budget document, and was what the Secretariat had submitted in Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(1). As a result of recosting in March 2003, the original assumption on inflation cost could now be reduced by about SFR 9 million. As a result, the previous Option A would now cost only SFR 244.8 million and Option B would amount to around SFR 249.8 million. Thus, the various activities contemplated under both options could be carried out for less. It would now be even possible to carry out all the programme activities in Options A and B for less than SFR 253.8 million, including further priority activities costed at SFR 4 million. Even so, the recosted SFR 253.8 million represented a negative growth of 3.7 per cent in real terms as compared with the thirteenth financial period.

The **DELEGATE OF FINLAND** thanked the authors of the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan and expressed his appreciation at the fact that it devoted great attention to the environment and climate change as well as to the use of satellite imaging in meteorology and environmental monitoring. WMO should have a more visible role as an international focal point on climate change issues. Most of the desired outcomes in the Long-term Plan were connected with the United Nations millennium goals by 2015. He had been advised that one of the missing millennium goals was the absence of a statement to the effect that WMO promoted equality between men and women in its activities.

The **DELEGATE OF FRANCE** thanked the Secretary-General for the presentation he had made in the morning, for his account of the Long-term Plan and the programme and budget for the period 2004–2007, as contained in Cg-XIV/Doc. 8(1), and for the presentation on the results-based approach. He could certainly approve the performance indicators proposed therein, and was very aware of the efforts made by the Secretariat to improve management in the Organization. On the WMO budget, his delegation was in favour of zero-real growth. The reason why the French delegation favoured Option A was that WMO had a mission, which it should continue to carry out while keeping to the existing level of programme activity and staffing. That was crucial if WMO was to respond to the vital needs of developing nations. Only such an approach would make it possible to envisage the future of WMO with

relative equanimity. The French delegation was also concerned with the proposed cuts in expenditure in the language, publications and conference services, under both Options A and B. The dissemination of information was a key factor in conducting those activities that the Organization sought to promote. Respect for linguistic diversity was a guarantee that information would be properly and adequately disseminated. For that reason, the French delegation asked Congress to maintain the existing level of funding for language services and publications. In conclusion, his delegation thought that the Secretariat should also be able to ensure respect for systematic cost recovery for support services for programmes financed from voluntary contributions. The French delegation would take up some of the matters again during detailed discussion on the programme and budget.

The **PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY (CAEM)** congratulated the chairperson of the Working Group on Long-term Planning for his excellent and clear-sighted management of the work done on the preparation of the Long-term Plan and on the novel, interactive and incremental approach to the Plan. Congratulations were also due the Secretariat, the President and the Secretary-General for ensuring that the technical commissions all played an active part, primarily through their presidents, in the preparation of the Plan. Given the fundamental importance of the scientific and technical programmes which were overseen by the technical commissions, their active involvement was essential. He looked forward to seeing that reflected in the development of the next Plan during the next few years.

The **DELEGATE OF MAURITIUS** said that his delegation was very pleased with the two papers presented by the Secretary-General, the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan and the programme and budget, which reflected clearly the role that WMO should have already been playing for a long time. He thought that with the new vision projected by WMO, Members would feel very confident about its future. Furthermore, not only was a large sum of money involved, but hard work would be needed as well if results were to be produced. His delegation felt that in order to achieve outcomes that would benefit society, there needed to be more interaction between the Secretariat and Members.

The **DELEGATE OF LEBANON**, speaking on behalf of his Government and the NMS, praised the Secretary-General's report, his presentation on the future prospects of the Organization and his comments on the Long-term Plan. The budget was presently registering negative growth. He asked how programmes featuring in the Long-term Plan could be implemented effectively if they received an insufficient budget allocation. He was also concerned that there might be a direct impact due to budgetary cuts on the Organization's support programmes in the developing countries. Budgetary issues on the

agenda should be discussed objectively and Congress should ensure that the support programmes for capacity-building in developing countries did not suffer unduly and, in particular, did not suffer from changes in budgetary allocations.

The **DELEGATE OF GUINEA** stated that after the second session of the Technical Conference on the Participation of Women in Meteorology and Hydrology, the women in his country had become very aware of the effects of meteorological disasters and climatic events on their lives. They had asked his delegation to convey their concerns, as the most vulnerable members of society who bore the brunt of such disasters and events, to WMO and Congress. The delegate therefore supported the budget proposals and requested that Congress approve the budget so that more lives could be saved in the future.

The **DELEGATE OF BELGIUM** praised the progress made by the Working Group for Long-term Planning. The Group had defined a vision for the future, had provided an assessment of the Organization's fast-changing environment, had defined a set of strategies and objectives, and had given an overview of the various programmes and their objectives. The Working Group had made important progress towards budgeting by objective, and he would support its proposals.

In future, he suggested, the Plan should also identify the weaknesses and trends prevailing within the Organization. It would then become possible to identify objectives and priorities more clearly. From the objectives could be extrapolated the needs of the programmes and how the programmes should be expected to contribute to the achievement of the objectives. The objectives and responsibilities of the Secretariat could then be clearly separated from those of the Organization itself. The costs of realizing each objective could then also be calculated.

Under a system of budgeting by objectives, the Long-term Plan would become a strategic plan, and the budget proposals would become an implementation plan, or an operational plan. Such an approach would enable WMO to realize its vision of becoming the leading organization in the field of meteorology, climatology, hydrology and environmental issues.

The **PRESIDENT** thanked the delegations that had taken the floor. He then described the procedural and working arrangements for discussions that would take place between Working Committees A and B, the Sub-committee on the Programme and Budget and FINAC.

*The meeting rose at 3.45 p.m.*

#### MINUTES OF THE FIFTH PLENARY MEETING 7 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.35 p.m.*

#### 14. Report of the Credentials Committee (agenda item 1.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 1.2(1) and 1.5(1))

Presenting the first report of the Credentials Committee, the **ACTING CHAIRPERSON OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE** reported that the credentials of 145 Members were found to be in order. He reiterated the need for those delegations who had not presented credentials to do so at the earliest convenience.

*The first report of the Credentials Committee, as contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 1.2(1) and 1.5(1), was approved.*

#### 15. Requests for membership of the Organization (agenda item 11.5)

The **PRESIDENT** informed Congress that requests for membership of the Organization had to be considered under the provisions of Articles 3(c), 3(e), 33 and 34 of the Convention. While that item provided the opportunity for considering the requests

for membership, Congress was advised that no such requests had been received. However, the President took the opportunity to inform Congress that two countries, Bhutan and Kiribati, had submitted their instruments of accession to the Government of the United States of America on 11 March 2003 and 24 April 2003, respectively. That would bring the total number of WMO Member States to 181 and of Member Territories to six. He also informed Congress that as of 4 February 2003, the name of Yugoslavia had changed to Serbia and Montenegro.

**H.E. MR BAP KESANG, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BHUTAN WITH THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**, expressed His Majesty the King's greetings, as well as those of the people of Bhutan, to Fourteenth Congress. It was an honour to participate in Congress for the first time as a Member of WMO. WMO's scientific and technical programmes on weather watch, climate, the atmosphere and the environment, hydrology and water resources were of tremendous importance to Members. The survival of some of the ecosystems was under real and

increasing threat from natural disasters as a result of climate change. Therefore, the role of WMO was of growing importance in managing and sustaining natural resources.

From the initial stages of its development process, Bhutan had followed a policy of sustainable development. The natural environment had become an important economic asset to the country, particularly in the field of hydropower and tourism. Protecting the natural environment was of paramount importance for the long-term well-being of Bhutan and the world. For that reason, Bhutan was a party

to all international conventions and treaties relating to the environment. It was the hope of his Government that Bhutan could benefit from the work of WMO, while at the same time, contributing to its growth and strength through active participation in its programmes and activities.

The **PRESIDENT** congratulated the new Members and welcomed them into the greater WMO family.

*The meeting rose at 2.50 p.m.*

#### MINUTES OF THE SIXTH PLENARY MEETING 9 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.*

**16. Statement by Vice-Admiral C.C. Lautenbacher, Jr., Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States**

**VICE ADMIRAL LAUTENBACHER JR** spoke of WMO as a model international organization and referred to the achievements resulting from decade-long partnerships within WMO and its Member countries, most notably the WMO Global Observing System for weather.

He paid special tribute to Mr Zillman and Professor Obasi, noting the President's contributions to WMO Programmes, and the Secretary-General's representation of WMO causes at the governmental and United Nations level. He thanked them on behalf of the United States and NOAA and extended to them his very best wishes for the future.

NOAA was the largest agency in the United States Department of Commerce in budget terms. It had a mission to monitor and understand the oceans, coasts, fisheries and weather, and to develop forecasts and disseminate information for economic and public benefit. The concentration in NOAA of expertise, in the shape of a complete roster of first class scientists, and technology, in the form of observing systems incorporating satellites and an extensive surface network, offered enormous possibilities for addressing the Earth's emerging environmental and resource management issues. He described it as the operational ecosystem science agency of the United States. He had been impressed by NOAA's partnership with WMO, through which the Agency had been able to contribute its internal skills at the vital level of international collaboration.

He wished to focus on the importance, benefits and way ahead for a comprehensive,

integrated and sustained system for observing the Earth. He strongly believed that the time had come for an "Earth Science Renaissance", a new era in which a deeper understanding of the complex systems of planet Earth had to be reached. Understanding began with observations. In terms of weather information, much of the credit for what had been achieved to date was due to WMO. Countries were experiencing strong benefits thanks to its work on observing systems and the free exchange of data.

The future, however, would require existing observing systems to advance to the next level, thus building a system of systems that would make it possible to "take the pulse of the planet." What was at present being done for weather should also be done for climate, water, ecosystem definition and management, for wise use of all earth resources, for sustainable development and for other newly arising environmental challenges.

He would present a limited selection of the imperatives constituting a case for a fully integrated earth information and data management system, falling into three categories.

Describing the social imperative, he said it arose from global population growth, and the shift of populations from rural areas to urban centres, dramatically altering the distribution of goods, services, land use, and increasing potential vulnerability to natural disasters due to the location of many cities in coastal regions. Describing the economic imperative, he cited statistics illustrating the economic losses associated with natural catastrophes, the GDP value of the United States' weather- and climate-sensitive economic sectors — thus reflecting the contribution of national weather, climate and water services to national economies — and indicators of the economic return in the United States on investments in observing systems. A comprehensive earth observation system was

essential to provide the information infrastructure that was the basis for improving the management of natural resources and the environment, and that was necessary for sustainable development. Turning to the scientific imperative he noted that, while boundaries between scientific disciplines would always exist, a collaborative approach was needed to bridge understanding and management at the ecosystem level. Pressing scientific questions and organizational and management issues could be met through an interdisciplinary earth science approach. A collective approach would facilitate planning and obtaining funds for earth science.

The sciences were moving towards a systems focus. It was no longer enough to list the parts and functions of a system, but it was important to enquire how it functioned as a whole. A well-connected global integrated information and data management system was the first step.

The WWW constituted a system enabling nations around the world to receive daily weather analyses and forecasts, and WMO had played a pioneering role in laying down the operational foundations for monitoring the chemical composition of the atmosphere and climate variability. The GOS of the WWW was most useful. Although focused on weather, it was enhanced by relatively new initiatives and planned developments. He was pleased to announce that there was an allocation of US\$ 4 million in NOAA's budget for the year to strengthen the climate observing capabilities of GCOS.

*El Niño* cycles were presently predicted through a combination of in situ and space observing systems, computers and models. Conditions could be forecast three to six months in advance. That had been achieved through intense international cooperation and 20 years of work. The economic and social benefits were immense. It was an example of what future environmental services provided by an integrated earth observing system could achieve, by building on piecemeal information to diagnose mid-term and long-term climate effects.

In addition to enhancing climate prediction, it was necessary to install sensors to unravel other physical, chemical, geological and biological cycles.

NOAA had recently taken steps to review the architecture of its observing system. An inventory of the observing networks had revealed 99 separate observing systems measuring 521 different environmental parameters. The Agency was in the process of identifying duplication, critical gaps, and user requirements.

The most important components of an integrated information system were in the areas of data management and computing capacity. The capacity to exchange, store, and disseminate data and information on a free and open basis was essential. Supercomputers capable of modelling complex ecosystem-based processes were required, and he praised developments such as Japan's Earth Simulator.

He was pleased to announce that the United States would host an Earth Observation Summit on 31 July 2003 in Washington DC, bringing together Ministers of the G-8 and other nations and international organizations, including WMO. The Summit would provide an opportunity to explore what was needed on the political level in order to build a comprehensive, integrated and sustained observing system for the Earth. It was planned that an international working group should meet on the day following the Ministerial Meeting, to begin development of an international 10-year plan for fielding such a system of systems.

**17. Statement by H.E. Honourable A. Ligale, EGH MP, Assistant Minister of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Kenya**

**H.E. HONOURABLE A. LIGALE** expressed great privilege and honour at addressing Fourteenth Congress and extended warm greetings from the President of Kenya, the Government and the people of his country. Kenya had been a Member of WMO for the last 40 years. It had participated actively in its activities and had benefited greatly from its results. WMO's activities and results had been recognized at the recently held WSSD, which had emphasized that economic, social and environmental management — all prerequisites to sustainable development — were connected to weather and climate. A major challenge for the NMHSs of developing countries was the capacity to provide quality services, improve the application of climate information as well as improve their image. That could be done through workshops, publications and conferences as well as by enacting legislation on sound policies for factoring weather and climate into national planning and development strategies.

In most developing countries, including Kenya, 70 per cent of the natural disasters were related to severe weather and extreme climate events, such as strong winds, tropical cyclones, and prolonged droughts and floods, all of which had adverse impacts on the socio-economic activities of countries. Kenya was currently experiencing severe floods which were resulting in loss of lives — including that of one member of Parliament — destroyed homes, crop fields and infrastructure and which caused the displacement of a million people. However, negative impacts could be minimized by factoring weather and climate information into the decision-making process for the proper management of the associated hazards. A way forward in poverty reduction and sustainable development was to improve meteorological services and awareness among rural communities, which would enable them to factor weather and climate in the planning of those activities.

The increased vulnerability of most developing countries to extreme climate events and severe weather had increased the demand and interest in meteorological services. It was therefore

important to increase awareness and improve the value of meteorological products. The meteorological community was called upon to improve the accuracy and timeliness of the forecasts. He urged Members to form partnerships among themselves and with development partners to alleviate the adverse effects of weather- and climate-related disasters and promote sustainable development.

H.E. Honourable Mr A. Ligale praised the work of the Organization and the untiring and dedicated work of Professor Obasi, who was due to retire after 20 years of service. Professor Obasi's contribution to meteorology had started in the late 1960s when he was a Professor and Dean at the Faculty of Science of the University of Nairobi. It would not be an understatement to say that a number of current Directors of NMSs in Africa had been at one time or another his students.

Referring to the appointment of a new Secretary-General, the Government of Kenya had put forward the candidature of Mr E.A. Mukolwe, the current Director-Coordinator of Technical and Scientific Programmes at WMO. Mr Mukolwe had played a major role in the development of meteorology, not only in Kenya, but also internationally. He was a founding member of both the African Meteorological Society and the Kenya Meteorological Society. If appointed Secretary-General, Mr Mukolwe would form a strong linkage and partnership between developed and developing countries for the promotion of meteorology for sustainable development, poverty alleviation and conservation of the environment. In concluding, he wished delegates all the best in their deliberations.

*The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.*

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING  
12 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.40 p.m.*

**18. Statement by H.E. Honourable Mr M.J. Mwandosya, Minister of Communications and Transport of the United Republic of Tanzania**

On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, **H.E. HONOURABLE M.J. MWANDOSYA** thanked the President and the Secretary-General for the opportunity to address Congress. WMO's mission was to understand the forces of nature in order to master the environment and anticipate events, with a view to promoting sustainable development.

The economies of most countries in Africa depended on rain-fed agriculture, so that rainfall variability and forecasting was of major concern to them. In recent years, extreme and variable weather events had caused serious losses, particularly in southern and eastern Africa. Tanzania was experiencing a serious rainfall deficit in the current year. Over time, there had been significant improvements in forecasting as well as in the quality of meteorological information.

It was imperative that countries in the region should find ways to improve weather and climate observing systems, data exchange, and processing and forecasting skills. He was pleased to note that the need for capacity-building featured fairly prominently on the agenda of Congress. Tanzania was interested in exploring with WMO the possibility of upgrading the National Meteorological Training School.

It was now an established fact that global warming was real and was mainly caused by human activity. The world community had responded by establishing the UNFCCC in 1992, the Berlin Mandate in 1995, and the round of negotiations culminating in the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol. Many of the delegates present at Congress had participated in those negotiations, as he had himself, in 1997 in the capacity of Chairperson of the Group of 77 and China. Global warming was strikingly manifested in Tanzania by the melting of the snows on Mount Kilimanjaro. A multilateral response was essential, and all countries should ratify the Protocol, particularly the developed countries of Annex I, which were required by the Protocol to reduce green house gas emissions by 5.2 percent between 1990 and 2010.

WMO had participated in the Water Dome at the WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002 linking climate and water issues and the political agenda of nations. The Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Action would help NMHSs in their strategic planning.

Data scarcity was a major challenge for weather forecasting in Africa. He thanked WMO for developing a strategy to enable Africa to rehabilitate and strengthen the basic systems, services and infrastructure of NMHSs in the near future. NMHSs needed to remain sustainable, particularly in the developing countries, as well as efficient and cost effective. He suggested that WMO could provide guidance on establishing and harmonizing cost recovery arrangements.

As a result of public sector reforms, several service-providing organizations in Tanzania were becoming semi-autonomous agencies. The Tanzania Meteorological Agency had been officially launched in December 1999 and that had yielded remarkable improvements in terms of quality of service provision, delivery and imaging.

Recent developments had enabled meteorology to contribute in many sectors. NEPAD, which was a tool for sustainable development, offered an opportunity for meteorology to play a part in its programmes. He thanked the European Union for funding the implementation of the PUMA Project in Africa, which would reportedly enhance the application of satellite meteorology for regional development. He requested WMO to assist developing countries to implement the requirements of ISO 9000.

He paid tribute to Mr Zillman's work as President, noting that he had maintained harmony among WMO Members, and congratulated Professor Obasi on having provided exemplary service to WMO and the world scientific community during his long tenure of office, during which WMO had contributed enormously to socio-economic development and the mitigation of natural disasters, owing largely to improvements in WMO Programmes, particularly the WWW.

He thanked all those who had assisted developing countries and Tanzania, in particular, to improve meteorological services, and made special mention of the WMO VCP.

**19. Report of the Credentials Committee**  
(agenda item 1.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 1.5(2))

Presenting the second report of the Credentials Committee, **THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE** reported that the

credentials of nine more Members were found to be in order. That brought the total number of WMO Members with valid credentials to 153. He also noted that more credentials had been received since the second report had been issued and that the Credentials Committee would be meeting to review them.

The **DELEGATE OF MEXICO** requested an explanation on the status of the Territories of Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China.

The Secretariat explained that China and the United Kingdom had submitted a request to Twelfth Congress in 1995 to include Hong Kong, China as a Member Territory of the Organization. Likewise, China and Portugal had submitted a similar request to Thirteenth Congress in 1999 for Macao, China. Both Territories maintained their own Meteorological Service. In both cases, Congress had accepted the request in accordance to Article 3(d) of the Convention.

*The second report of the Credentials Committee, as contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 1.5(2), was approved.*

The **PRESIDENT** explained that at the time of establishing chairpersons for the Working Committees, Messrs T.W. Sutherland (British Caribbean Territories) and A. Diouri (Morocco) had been elected co-chairpersons of Committee A. Mr Diouri had had to be absent for several days and Mr A. Ndiaye (Senegal) had replaced him. He was therefore asking Committee A to formalize Mr Ndiaye's appointment as third co-chairperson.

*It was so agreed.*

*The meeting rose at 3.15 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH PLENARY MEETING

14 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.*

**20. Report of the Credentials Committee**  
(agenda item 1.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 1.5(3))

Introducing the third report of the Credentials Committee, as contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 1.5(3), the **CHAIRPERSON OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE** stated that in addition to the credentials of those Members specified in the Document, the credentials from Congo, Chad, Cameroon, Kuwait and Dominica were also found to be in order. That brought the total to 170 Members with credentials in order.

*The third report of the Credentials Committee, as contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 1.5(3), was approved.*

**21. Questions concerning the Convention**  
(agenda item 11.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(1))

**MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** (co-chairperson of Committee A), in submitting Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(1), noted that in draft Resolution 11.2/1 (Cg-XIV), Decides (2), the date of 12 May 2003 should be changed to read 14 May 2003.

*Draft Resolution 11.2/1 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(1), was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(1), was approved.*

## 22. Revision of the General Regulations (agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(2))

**MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** (co-chairperson of Committee A), in submitting Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(2), noted that in draft Resolution 11.3/2 (Cg-XIV), Decides, the date of 12 May 2003 should be changed to read 14 May 2003.

*Draft Resolution 11.3/2 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(2), was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(2), was approved.*

## 23. Appointment of the Secretary-General (agenda item 12.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 12.3)

The **PRESIDENT** recalled Article 21(a) of the Convention, General Regulation 135(20), governing the appointment of the Secretary-General by Congress, and General Regulations 56-63, 94-108 and 198, which stipulated the electoral procedure. The President explained that he had written to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of all Members on 21 June 2002 inviting those who wished to do so to present candidates for the post of Secretary-General (with effect from 1 January 2004). Three nominations had been received, of which one had since been withdrawn, and had been passed to the chairperson of the Nomination Committee.

The **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** presented Document Cg-XIV/PINK 12.3, in which the names of Messrs J.-P. Beysson (France) and E.A. Mukolwe (Kenya) were submitted as candidates for the post of Secretary-General of WMO for the fourteenth financial period.

The **PRESIDENT**, having ascertained that there were no further nominations from the floor, called for the election to proceed. On his nomination and with the approval of Congress, Messrs A.M. Noorian (Islamic Republic of Iran) and O. Camara (Senegal) acted as tellers and Messrs J. Zielinski (Poland) and M.M. Arafa (Egypt) acted as assistant tellers, assisted by Mr S. Chacowry and Ms I. Rummel-Bulska (representing the Secretariat).

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	160
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	4
Number of valid ballots:	155
Required majority:	104
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr E.A. Mukolwe (Kenya):	85
Mr J.-P. Beysson (France):	70

Recalling General Regulation 198(d), the President submitted to Congress the proposal from the president of Regional Association I that the preferred candidate be declared appointed. Such a proposal should be supported by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast for and against in order to be approved.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	160
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	2
Number of valid ballots:	158
Required majority:	106
Number of votes obtained:	
Yes:	90
No:	68

Since the required majority was not reached, the President recalled General Regulation 198(g) which stipulated that in the event that the proposal described in General Regulation 198(d) was not supported by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast for and against, a further vote should take place.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	160
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	2
Number of valid ballots:	157
Required majority:	105
Number of votes obtained:	
Yes:	88
No:	69

In view of the fact that the required majority was again not reached, the President recalled General Regulation 198(h) which stipulated that, in the event of the further votes described in General Regulations 198(f) and 198(g) being indecisive, Congress should decide whether further voting should take place, whether a new procedure should be followed, or whether its decision should be withheld. The President proposed that the plenary be suspended in order that presidents of regional associations could meet with their regional Members for further consultations.

*It was so agreed.*

*The meeting was suspended at 1.15 p.m. and reconvened at 4.10 p.m.*

The President noted that there was no precedent in terms of suggesting a way to approach the three options specified in Regulation 198(h) and that any procedure should be dealt with in a direct, clear and transparent manner in order to facilitate the process and achieve a widely acceptable outcome. He requested Congress to decide whether further



voting was necessary. In response to a question by the British Caribbean Territories, he explained that any further voting would be on the preferred candidate.

The **DELEGATE OF NAMIBIA** requested that Congress consider the results of the election by simple majority. That proposal was seconded by the **DELEGATES OF GHANA AND KENYA**. They noted that, at that point, Congress had become a master of its own procedures. Perhaps Congress could change its rules of procedure regarding voting by simple majority. That would imply that a yes/no vote would have to be taken by simple majority as to whether the results of the morning's appointment could be accepted by simple majority. Guidance was requested from the WMO Legal Adviser.

The **LEGAL ADVISER** explained that Article 11(b) of the Convention stipulated that, apart from elections, decisions should be by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast for and against.

The **DELEGATES OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES AND UKRAINE** were not in favour of any move to modify the General Regulations of the Convention. The forefathers had shown clear insight when writing the Regulations and the Convention. Any move would be unacceptable to their delegations.

The **PRESIDENT** stated that any new procedures would imply calling for new nominations from the floor and then voting for those candidates. He also explained that, according to Article 21 of the Convention, the Secretary-General was appointed and not elected.

The **DELEGATE OF KAZAKHSTAN** drew attention to the fact that a similar situation had occurred during Second Congress in 1955. He was in favour of new nominations being put forward.

The **DELEGATE OF VENEZUELA** requested that the presidents of regional associations report on the result of the earlier regional consultations. Perhaps that could shed light on the discussion.

The **DELEGATE OF KENYA** did not want a vote on whether a new vote should be taken, but requested a third vote on the preferred candidate.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I** stated that the Members of his Region favoured the proposal of Kenya to a yes/no vote by simple majority on accepting the morning's election by simple majority.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II** reported that the Members of his Region favoured a new procedure, meaning new nominations from the floor.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** reported that the Members of his Region were in favour of voting for new candidates nominated from the floor.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV** reported that the Members of his Region were also in favour of voting for new candidates nominated from

the floor. Only as a last resort, would they consider changing the rules of the Convention.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V** reported that the Members of his Region had two views. Some favoured a new procedure, while others felt that there should be a third round of voting.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI** reported that the Members of his Region were in favour of voting for new candidates nominated from the floor.

The **DELEGATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA** confirmed his delegation's support to Mr Mukolwe from Kenya, regardless of what procedure would be decided.

The **DELEGATIONS OF BOTSWANA, DJIBOUTI AND NAMIBIA** were in favour of Kenya's proposal for a third round of voting on the preferred candidate.

*It was so agreed.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The **PRESIDENT** announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	160
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	2
Number of valid ballots:	158
Required majority:	106
Number of votes obtained:	
Yes:	72
No:	86

In light of the results, the President explained that the next option would be whether a new procedure should be followed and requested proposals from the floor.

The **DELEGATE OF GERMANY** proposed that new candidates be nominated from the floor. That move was supported by the **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**, who added that Regulation 198(a-g) should be implemented after nominations had been put forward from the floor. He also added that nominations could include the previous preferred candidate. That move was seconded by the **DELEGATES OF GHANA AND INDIA**.

The **DELEGATE OF LITHUANIA** nominated Mr M. Jarraud (France and current Deputy Secretary-General) as candidate for the post of Secretary-General. The move was seconded by the **DELEGATE OF SAUDI ARABIA**.

The **DELEGATE OF GHANA** nominated Mr E.A. Mukolwe (Kenya) as candidate for the post of Secretary-General.

The **DELEGATE OF CANADA** nominated Mr J.W. Zillman (Australia) as candidate for the post of Secretary-General.

Messrs Jarraud and Mukolwe accepted the nomination, while Mr Zillman declined the nomination and explained that, although he loved the Organization and would do anything for it, he felt that his time had passed.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The **PRESIDENT** announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	159
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	0
Number of valid ballots:	159
Required majority:	106
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr M. Jarraud (France):	109
Mr E.A. Mukolwe (Kenya):	50

*The President, referring to General Regulation 198(e), declared Mr M. Jarraud appointed Secretary-General for the fourteenth financial period and extended to him the congratulations of the Congress.*

**MR M. JARRAUD** was deeply moved by the confidence shown to him by Congress and expressed his thanks to all those who had supported him. He said that he would assume his new position with humility and determination. With humility, as he had seen by working close to the current Secretary-General. The job included very heavy responsibilities and he was ready and aware of the challenges that lay ahead. With determination, as he had learnt a lot in his current position as Deputy Secretary-General. He was aware of the responsibilities towards Member States as well as the functioning of the Secretariat. That knowledge would help him in facing future difficulties with determination.

Mr Jarraud noted that it was the first time since 1955 that the outgoing Secretary-General was not a candidate. He thanked the current Secretary-General for his high standard of work and felt that it would be difficult to surpass, or even equal, him. Professor Obasi had a passion for the job and would leave a solid house and foundation behind him.

Mr Jarraud thanked the President, who had done an enormous amount for WMO. He would be remembered for a long time. He also stressed that all the different positions in WMO should be important, particularly those of the President and Vice-Presidents. Some of the important issues today were disaster mitigation, water, climate, and the growing gap between developed and developing nations. With the help of all the WMO bodies and Members he would devote all his energy to address those issues.

Mr Jarraud felt it important to mention the work of the Secretariat. It was composed of competent and motivated staff and it had a very important role to play. Its contribution was essential to the success of the Organization. He was looking forward to developing a closer dialogue both internally and externally. Also, efforts should continue to attract the best talents from all Member States.

Mr Jarraud thanked the other candidates for having offered their services to the Organization.

He concluded by assuring Congress that he would do his best not to disappoint it, and that together with all the Member States he would contribute to WMO's increasingly important role in the twenty-first century.

The **PRESIDENT** reaffirmed the congratulations extended by all Members of Congress to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO and thanked Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson for presenting their candidature. He also thanked the tellers and ordered that the ballot papers be destroyed. Since many delegates would want to congratulate the Secretary-General, he suggested that, in accordance with previous practice, the president of each regional association (or acting president) should extend their congratulations verbally, while other representatives should submit them in writing for inclusion in the minutes.

*It was so agreed.*

The **AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE** extended his warmest congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General and to the President for the way he had presided over the election. In a single day, his delegation had gone through different states of emotion, from hesitation and disappointment to excitement and joy. He also thanked Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having been exemplary.

**MR J.-P. BEYSSON** stated his pleasure at seeing a compatriot be appointed Secretary-General, despite his initial sense of disappointment. He extended his congratulations to Mr Jarraud and assured him that he could count on the unreserved support of the French delegation in all future activities.

The **DELEGATE OF KENYA** thanked all those Members who had consistently and persistently voted for Mr Mukolwe, as well as to Mr Mukolwe himself for having offered his services to the Organization. He also thanked the President for having presided in an exemplary manner over the day's grueling process and extended his congratulations to Mr Jarraud; he could count on Kenya's support.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I** thanked all those Members who had voted for Mr Mukolwe. He congratulated Mr Jarraud on his appointment and assured him that all Members of Regional Association I would support him and the Organization in their work.

On behalf of the Government and people of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Members of his Region, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II** extended warm congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment. Mr Jarraud's hard work and energy were well known to the Members of the Organization and spoke for themselves. Some of the Secretary-General's roles were to integrate single-minded scientists from different cultures and nationalities, develop WMO, and maintain its present momentum. His delegation wished Professor Obasi well in his

retirement. He assured Mr Jarraud of his delegation's continued support and thanked Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having offered their services to the Organization.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** congratulated Mr Jarraud on his appointment. It had been an intense day, but well worth it. He assured Mr Jarraud of the continued support from the Members of Regional Association III and extended hearty congratulations from all the Permanent Representatives of his Region.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV** expressed his confidence that Mr Jarraud would guide and lead WMO in the same manner that Professor Obasi had done. The three candidates were very able and competent and he thanked them for having offered their services. He also thanked the President, who had shown patience and wisdom throughout the day. On behalf of Regional Association IV, he extended the Region's congratulations to Mr Jarraud and assured him of the Region's unconditional support.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V** extended both his and the Region's congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his new appointment. Mr Jarraud was a man of integrity and a very competent professional. He would, however, have to deliver more with less resources. He paid special tribute to Professor Obasi for his services to the Organization. He had shaped WMO into what it was today and had provided guidance to both himself and the Region. He thanked him and wished him every success in the future. He also thanked Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having offered their services to the Organization.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI** expressed the Association's satisfaction for having an appointed Secretary-General who came from his Region. He thanked Members for having accepted his proposal, as Mr Jarraud was a brilliant man. The road ahead was difficult but Mr Jarraud could count on his Region's support. He warmly congratulated Mr Jarraud and assured him of his Region's continued support.

The **DELEGATE OF LEBANON**, speaking on behalf of the Government of Lebanon and the Group of Arab countries, congratulated Mr Jarraud on his appointment and wished him full success. The foundation built by Professor Obasi would now constitute new challenges for WMO. He thanked the President for his able and wise leadership and Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having offered their services.

The **DELEGATE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION** thanked Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for a good election and for their willingness to assume such a heavy task. He hoped that the Organization could continue counting on them. He paid special tribute to Professor Obasi for the brilliant manner in which he had developed the Organization's activities. WMO was a leader Organization. He congratulated

Mr Jarraud on his appointment and assured him of the Russian Federation's continued support.

The **DELEGATE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN** stated that in appointing Mr Jarraud, Congress had elected a scientist who was wise enough to perform his responsibilities fully. He congratulated him warmly and expressed his confidence that Mr Jarraud would provide excellent leadership to WMO. He pledged both his and his country's support to the new Secretary-General. He extended sincere thanks to Professor Obasi for his active and devoted work for the good of the Organization. He wished him good health and happiness. He also thanked Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having offered their services, and the President for the patience and wisdom shown during the election process.

The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM** extended his warmest congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General. He wished Mr Jarraud every success in the future as he moved WMO forward in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and tackled the challenges facing the Organizations and its Members.

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** thanked both Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for offering to serve as Secretary-General of WMO and for the spirit of sportsmanship they displayed in the period preceding and during the appointment of the Secretary-General. Although Mr Jarraud was not in the first list of contestants, the Secretary-General noted that Congress, in its wisdom, decided to appoint him to be his successor. He offered his warm congratulations to the Secretary-General elect.

The Secretary-General noted that Mr Jarraud was his able Deputy, a position he had held since 1995. Having worked closely with Mr Jarraud, he was certain that his background, experience and capability corresponded very well to the type of leadership WMO needed at the present time. His current responsibility covered a wide range of areas in WMO and that placed him in a unique position to advance the cause of the Organization, as well as to realize its purposes and goals for the benefit of its Members and their respective societies. He further felt that Mr Jarraud would lead the Organization to new and greater heights and urged each and everyone to unite behind him and join with him in building a more vibrant WMO in the future; one that would continue to be responsive to the needs of Members.

The Secretary-General's position provided many opportunities for service to WMO and its Members. That included helping to realize the purposes and goals of WMO; to advance the science of meteorology, hydrology and related disciplines; to ensure their application for the benefit of society and to enable the fields of interest of WMO to be better appreciated. In the process, there would be a need to continue, even enhance, the collaboration among Members, their NMHSs as well as the broader meteorological and hydrological community.

He noted with a distinct feeling of honour and privilege that the WMO Secretariat provided highly effective and efficient support to the Secretary-General, the Organization, its Members and the wide range of programme activities carried out. The WMO Secretariat was second to none, and enjoyed a very high level of respect within the United Nations system due to the staff's professionalism, integrity, dedication and competence. He assured the incoming Secretary-General that the Secretariat staff would be a very valuable resource for him as he attended to the responsibilities of his office.

He invited Mr Jarraud to the podium. The Secretary-General compared WMO to a bright star that shone like the light from the torch he held in his hand. He gave the torch to the Secretary-General elect and said that its light should never get dimmer; indeed, it should grow brighter. In turn, the Secretary-General-elect, Mr Jarraud, should advise his successor to enhance further the brightness of the bright star and request him/her to keep on enhancing its brightness for generations to come.

*The meeting rose at 7.15 p.m.*

## ANNEX

### CONGRATULATORY STATEMENTS SUBMITTED ON THE OCCASION OF THE ELECTION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO OFFICE FOR THE FOURTEENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD

#### ARGENTINA

The delegation of Argentina congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General and highlights the importance of his experience as Deputy Secretary-General, which will enable a smooth, dynamic transition between the two administrations.

#### AUSTRALIA

The delegation of Australia extends its warm congratulations to Mr Jarraud and expresses delight at his election to the vitally important post of Secretary-General of WMO. Australia is confident that he will be both a worthy successor to Professor Obasi in building on the great achievements of the outgoing Secretary-General and a strong new force for progress and support for the work of Members, constituent bodies and Officers of the Organization. The delegation also wishes to place on record its respect and admiration for the other candidates to the post, Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe. Both have served WMO with passion and dedication and their contribution and commitment have added greatly to the influence and effectiveness of the Organization.

#### BAHAMAS

The delegation of Bahamas congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General of the Organization. It pledges to give him its fullest support.

#### BELIZE

The delegation of Belize extends its congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment to

the post of Secretary-General of WMO. It is confident that he will provide the Organization with the guidance required to address the new challenges facing the meteorological community. He can be assured of Belize's support during his tenure.

#### BOTSWANA

The delegation of Botswana congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the position of Secretary-General of WMO. He has shown himself to be supportive and concerned with issues of developing countries. The delegation assures him of its full support. It takes this opportunity to express its gratitude to Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson for offering their services to this Organization. It also expresses its gratitude to the President of WMO, Mr Zillman, and the Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, for the guidance and support they have provided to bring this Organization to its current level as a highly competent international organization in meteorology and operational hydrology and related issues.

#### BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES

The delegations of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, the British Caribbean Territories, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago, all of which are also Members of the Caribbean Meteorological Organization, extend their warm and sincere congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. They believe that the future of WMO will be in good hands under his leadership and pledge their continued collaboration for the benefit of all WMO Member States and Territories.

**CHINA**

The delegation of China expresses its highest appreciation to Mr Jarraud and on his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO. It has full confidence that in the coming four years, Mr Jarraud will be able to use all his wisdom and lead the WMO Secretariat to implement all the resolutions adopted by this Congress so that this Organization will be able to achieve a new height. Mr Jarraud has been the Deputy Secretary-General of WMO for more than eight years. He has also played an important role and has had rich experience in the work of this Organization. Mr Jarraud is a qualified meteorologist and a capable administrator. He is the ideal man for the post of Secretary-General of WMO. The Chinese Government will support Mr Jarraud. It is looking forward to further strengthening the cooperation between China and the WMO Secretariat.

We should be aware that there are difficulties as well as opportunities in the future. We have noticed that the gap between the developed and developing countries is being widened. Some of the least developed countries are having difficulties in maintaining basic weather observations, telecommunications, weather forecasting and services. The delegation hopes that Mr Jarraud will be able to face the challenges, overcome the difficulties and take measures to help the capacity-building of developing countries so as to promote the development of the world meteorological service as a whole.

The delegation of China also expresses its appreciation to Professor Obasi, who has been the Secretary-General of WMO for 20 years. He has dedicated all his wisdom to this Organization and the world meteorological service. Under his leadership, the profile of this Organization has been greatly enhanced. Professor Obasi has taken all possible measures to implement the WMO Programmes, strengthen the cooperation between WMO and other international organizations, promote the capacity-building of developing countries, and bridge the gap between developing and developed countries. Professor Obasi's outstanding contribution to this Organization will be remembered by all of us and will be a wealth to this Organization. The delegation wishes Professor Obasi continued success in the remainder period of his term, and hopes that he will continue to support the work of the Organization in the future.

**DJIBOUTI**

On behalf of the Government of Djibouti, its delegation extends warm congratulations to Mr Jarraud upon his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO and wishes him every success in his future tasks.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

The delegation of the Dominican Republic congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO. Mr Jarraud's scientific and technical abilities, honesty and sincerity will certainly prevail during his mandate.

**ECUADOR**

The delegation of Ecuador would like to congratulate Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General of WMO. It is committed to giving him its full support and anticipates his every success.

**GAMBIA**

The delegation of Gambia congratulates Mr Jarraud for his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO. Mr Jarraud's appointment is welcomed by all. He can count on the support of Gambia.

**GUINEA**

The delegation of Guinea expresses its congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO and offers him its support during his mandate. The delegation also thanks Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson for having offered their services to the Organization. It thanks Mr Zillman for the sensible manner in which he has guided this Congress. Lastly, it gives its recognition to Professor Obasi for all that he has done to foster meteorology and hydrology and to develop WMO.

**INDIA**

The delegation of India conveys its hearty congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. His wisdom and vision will take the Organization to new frontiers and meet the challenges of the future. The delegation has great confidence in him and his special awareness of the requirements of developing countries. It takes this opportunity to express its strong and active support to the initiatives taken up by him.

India also conveys appreciation to Professor Obasi for his support and encouragement in the past. India has immensely benefited from his initiatives and contributions towards development of Weather Services and the science of meteorology, including climate change. He has always placed the requirements of developing countries at the forefront.

**ITALY**

On behalf of Italy, its delegation would like to congratulate Mr Jarraud on his brilliant election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. It would like to recall that Mr Jarraud has been an eminent

member of European scientific organizations. As Deputy-Director of the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), he made an important contribution to improving weather forecasting. The delegation pays tribute to the outgoing Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, who has set a very high standard for the objectives of the Organization. It hopes that the newly appointed Secretary-General will continue this legacy with good fortune and success.

#### **JAPAN**

On behalf of the Government of Japan, its delegation is also pleased to extend the warmest congratulations to Mr Jarraud for his election as Secretary-General of the Organization.

In view of recent increasing and expanding demands on our NMHSs and the roles of WMO, the delegation of Japan wishes him every success in conducting the work of the Organization with his active initiative and wise direction to the Secretariat. Mr Jarraud has comprehensive and thorough experience as both a meteorologist and as Deputy Secretary-General of the Organization. The delegation is confident that these are a great advantage for maintaining the office of the Secretary-General of WMO for the next financial period. The delegation assures him of its full support in all of the components of the WMO activities.

Also, the delegation expresses its deep appreciation to Professor Obasi for his outstanding work and devotion during the last 20 years.

#### **JORDAN**

The delegation of Jordan wishes to congratulate Mr Jarraud for being appointed as Secretary-General of WMO. Jordan would also like to thank Professor Obasi and Mr Zillman for their services and wish them all the best in their future plans.

#### **KENYA**

The delegation of Kenya thanks all those who consistently and persistently voted for Mr Mukolwe. It thanks Mr Mukolwe for putting forward his candidature for the post of Secretary-General of WMO. It also thanks the President for presiding over the voting process. It congratulates the new Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, and wishes him well in the administration of the affairs of WMO. He has Kenya's full support in dispensing these challenging duties now upon him.

#### **KUWAIT**

The delegation of Kuwait expresses its sincere congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election as

Secretary-General of WMO, wishing him every success and the highest levels of prosperity for the Organization. Kuwait expresses its support to the Secretary-General-elect and to the continuous fruitful cooperation for the interests of the NMSs of WMO Members.

#### **LESOTHO**

The delegation of Lesotho congratulates Mr Jarraud upon his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. Indeed, this is a very difficult position, at a very difficult time as many countries, particularly in the developing world, face very serious hardships in, among others, declining food security, increased natural disasters and rising vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. The delegation has confidence that in Mr Jarraud, WMO has an outstanding leader, with vision and dedication to carry WMO to even newer heights. The delegation appreciates the warmth and inspirational character of his personality.

The delegation of Lesotho also congratulates both Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson for the energetic manner in which they conducted their campaigns. Hopefully they will not be lost to the meteorological community. Finally, it congratulates the outgoing President of WMO, Mr Zillman, for the dignified and effective manner in which he has conducted Congress.

#### **MALAWI**

The delegation of Malawi joins the other Members in congratulating Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General of the Organization. Malawi looks forward to working with him. Expectations of Members will be high. The delegation of Malawi has the trust and confidence that he will live up to these expectations. Malawi will fully support him during his tenure of office. Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson are commended for offering their candidature and for putting up a gallant fight.

#### **MALDIVES**

On behalf of Maldives, its delegation gives best felt congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. The delegation has every confidence that with his rich experience, expertise and dedication, Mr Jarraud will most ably discharge his duties of office. He is a man of remarkable qualities. While the delegation wishes him good health and every success in his challenges ahead, it assures him of its unqualified support and collaboration at all times.

Maldives thanks Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for making their services available to WMO. The delegation wishes them well in their future roles.

The delegation also pays tribute to the excellent and exemplary leadership of WMO by the outgoing Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, for 20 years.

He has successfully lifted the image and visibility of the Organization throughout the world to impressionable heights. He has championed the cause of meteorology by way of his numerous visits to almost all Members of WMO in the far corners of the world. In short, Professor Obasi is truly phenomenal. The delegation wishes him good health, happiness and success in his future priorities.

Finally, it thanks the President for the remarkable way in which he has presided over several Congresses.

#### **MALI**

On behalf of the Government of Mali, its delegation congratulates Mr Jarraud on his brilliant election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. Mr Jarraud has all the qualities required to carry out his duties successfully, for which he will receive the unfailing support of the delegation and Government of Mali. At the same time, it pays a glowing tribute to the outgoing Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, for the vast services he has given to the Organization and to all Meteorological Services throughout the world.

#### **MALTA**

The delegation of Malta congratulates Mr Jarraud and pledges its support to continue the good work of Professor Obasi and to reform the Organization to accomplish its objectives even better.

#### **MAURITIUS**

The delegation of Mauritius conveys its congratulations and best wishes on the appointment of Mr Jarraud as Secretary-General of WMO. It pledges its support to his ideals and assures him in return of its continued support.

#### **MYANMAR**

The delegation of Myanmar expresses its congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. It is a significant event that the Members of Fourteenth Congress entrust Mr Jarraud with the task of bringing WMO and its Members into the twenty-first century with success and prosperity. At the same time, the delegation of Myanmar honours Professor Obasi for his devoted endeavours with WMO. It also pledges to support WMO to its utmost capacity.

#### **MOROCCO**

The delegation of Morocco expresses its warm congratulations to the Secretary-General-elect for the confidence attributed to him by Members during the historical Fourteenth Congress. It is grateful to Professor Obasi for his outstanding work in an atmosphere of mutual trust and full cooperation. By virtue of his dedicated efforts, WMO has attained

considerable achievements that have led the Organization to be a respectable scientific and technical institution. Mr Jarraud has qualifications and expertise that are well known to all. He certainly will receive the full support of Morocco. Finally, the delegation expresses its sincere greetings to Mr Obasi, wishing him all the best in his future endeavours.

#### **NEPAL**

On behalf of the Government of Nepal, its delegation congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO. Mr Jarraud can rest assured of the support of Nepal. It pays tribute to Professor Obasi. It also appreciates the capability of Mr Zillman, who conducted the plenary and the voting session with unique efficiency.

#### **NETHERLANDS**

The delegation of the Netherlands congratulates Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General of WMO.

#### **NIGER**

On behalf of the Government of Niger, the delegation congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. Moreover, it pays a well-deserved tribute to Professor Obasi. The delegation also thanks Messrs Beysson and Mukolwe for having offered their services to WMO.

#### **NIGERIA**

The delegation of Nigeria joins the other delegations in congratulating the new Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud. It is confident that Mr Jarraud will perfectly step into the shoes of Professor Obasi. The delegation has had the opportunity of working with Mr Jarraud and affirms his enormous strength and his interest in the affairs of both developing and developed countries. It will give him all the support he will require in carrying out this important function.

The delegation extols the excellent leadership qualities of Professor Obasi and the standard he has taken the Organization to. The Government of Nigeria is very proud of his dedication and commitment to the ideals of WMO. The delegation congratulates Messrs Mukolwe and Beysson for offering their services to WMO and admires how they both have accepted the outcome of this long experience and their spirit of sportsmanship.

#### **OMAN**

The delegation of Oman expresses its warm congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the office of Secretary-General of WMO. It is confident in his skill, knowledge and wisdom to fulfil

the obligations of his new post. The delegation looks forward to working and cooperating with him in the spirit and convention of WMO.

#### **PERU**

The delegation of Peru extends its sincere congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO and offers its unconditional support to help him achieve his goals in this very important task.

#### **QATAR**

The delegation of Qatar congratulates Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General of WMO. It emphasizes its cooperation for the advancement of the Organization and its pleasure to work together with him. The delegation also expresses its thanks to Professor Obasi, the outgoing Secretary-General of the Organization, for his dedicated work during past years in the service of WMO.

#### **SEYCHELLES**

The delegation of Seychelles would like to place on record its heartfelt congratulations to Mr Jarraud, appointed as the new Secretary-General of WMO for the next four years. It is convinced that his immense experience, enthusiasm, qualities and devotion as a meteorologist with *Météo-France* and ECMWF and working as Deputy Secretary-General for the past eight years with WMO under the wise and able leadership of Professor Obasi will contribute immensely in facing the new challenges ahead by the Organization and further lead WMO to much greater heights over the next four years.

#### **SLOVAKIA**

The delegation of Slovakia expresses its heartiest congratulations to Mr Jarraud, Deputy Secretary-General of WMO, on the occasion of his appointment as Secretary-General of WMO. It highly appreciates his contribution towards the successful outcome of WMO's endeavours while serving as Deputy Secretary-General. The delegation especially appreciates his friendly, inspirational and effective approach to the NMSs of small countries. It is looking forward to future cooperation.

#### **SPAIN**

The delegation of Spain congratulates warmly Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General of WMO. It is sure that he will run the Organization outstandingly and wishes him every success. It also offers him the full support and collaboration of Spain during his mandate.

#### **SWITZERLAND**

The delegation of Switzerland, the host country of WMO, congratulates Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General. Mr Jarraud can be assured of the support of Switzerland on the execution of his difficult task.

#### **THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

The delegation of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia congratulates Mr Jarraud on his election as Secretary-General. It hopes that the same level of cooperation will exist with its National Hydrometeorological Service.

#### **TUNISIA**

The delegation of Tunisia offers the Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, its sincere congratulations and wishes him every success and a prosperous future.

#### **UGANDA**

The delegation of Uganda expresses its congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as the next Secretary-General of WMO. Mr Jarraud's record in WMO is well known and there is no doubt that he will be equal to the task before him. The delegation will accord him full support and welcomes his promise to reduce the gap between developed and developing countries. In the same vein, it extends its thanks to Professor Obasi and Mr Zillman for the wonderful jobs they have done during their periods of service.

#### **UNITED STATES**

The delegation of the United States congratulates Mr Jarraud on being appointed as the next Secretary-General of WMO. He has a long history of working in the meteorological and hydrological communities, especially during the past eight years as Deputy Secretary-General. He knows the strengths and weaknesses of the Secretariat, WMO programmes and structure, and the issues before our international communities. The delegation knows that he will combine his warmth, experience, knowledge and vision over the next four years to build an open and inclusive Organization. It looks forward to working with him. The delegation takes this opportunity to invite him to visit the United States to learn first-hand how our communities work together successfully to improve services to the United States and the world.

#### **URUGUAY**

The delegation of Uruguay greets the new Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, and congratulates him on his distinction. At the same time, it expresses its every confidence that he will display excellent management skills in his new position, in keeping



with his previous record as a scientist and administrator. He can count on the unfailing and loyal support that Uruguay will give to his administration, which will undoubtedly continue along the path of success and achievements that began years before under his notable predecessor, Professor Obasi.

### ZIMBABWE

The delegation of Zimbabwe would like to extend its profound congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his election to the position of Secretary-General of the Organization. Mr Jarraud is a qualified and experienced scientist and has impeccable credentials. The delegation has worked extremely well with Mr Jarraud during his period as Deputy Secretary-General. The delegation pledges to work cooperatively and will continue to tap on the wisdom of the Organization in confronting the challenges that lie ahead. It wishes Mr Jarraud good health and every success.

### COMMISSION FOR CLIMATOLOGY

On behalf of the presidents of technical commissions and their experts, the president of the Commission for Climatology assures Mr Jarraud of their continued support in any attempt to boost the image of WMO.

### COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY

On behalf of the Commission for Hydrology, its president has great pleasure to congratulate Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. His appointment demonstrates the confidence and trust the Members of WMO have in him. This has been clearly manifested through the eight years of his committed service to the Organization as Deputy Secretary-

General. The Commission regards his appointment not only as his personal achievement but also that of the entire hydrological community. This is in particular regard to the fact that he coordinated the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme and raised it to higher levels of performance. The Commission is firmly convinced that it will continue to benefit from the usual open-minded, friendly and professional attitude that he always carries with him. It looks forward to working closer with him in advancing the work of the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme. The Commission wishes Mr Jarraud good health and great success as he carries out his new responsibilities.

### AGENCY FOR AIR NAVIGATION SAFETY IN AFRICA AND MADAGASCAR (ASECNA)

On behalf of its Director-General and all of the staff present, the delegation of ASECNA offers its hearty congratulations to Mr Jarraud on his appointment to the post of Secretary-General of WMO. ASECNA would like to take this opportunity to express its satisfaction at the dynamic and fruitful cooperation that it has been developing with WMO for several decades. Thanks to Professor Obasi, this cooperation was consolidated with the signing of an agreement in 2001 to replace previously concluded working agreements. ASECNA would like to extend to him its warm thanks for the interest he has always taken in the Agency. ASECNA is convinced that, as the new Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud will widen this cooperation to develop meteorology in general and in the African region in particular. ASECNA renews its willingness to cooperate and contribute further to the implementation of the WWW, particularly in the field of aeronautical meteorology and capacity-building of the NMHSs of Member States.

## MINUTES OF THE NINTH PLENARY MEETING

15 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.*

- 24. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization** (agenda item 12.1) (Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.1(1); (2); (2), REV. 1)

Introducing this agenda item, the **PRESIDENT** cited the relevant Articles of the WMO Convention and WMO General Regulations which governed the election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization.

The **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** presented Document Cg-XIV/PINK12.1(1), submitting the name of Mr A.I. Bedritsky (Russian Federation) for the office of the President.

*There being no other nominations, Mr A.I. Bedritsky was declared President of the Organization for the fourteenth financial period.*

**MR A.I. BEDRITSKY** expressed his deep appreciation to all the participants of Congress for the trust they had placed in him and for bestowing on

him the honour of being elected to the post of President of WMO.

He was proud to belong to the world meteorological community and to have the possibility of working for the benefit of WMO. He was convinced that the activities of WMO were becoming increasingly important for the development of global civilization year by year. Recognition by governments, the private sector and civil society of WMO's role and importance to the world community was increasing. That was occurring not only because of the growing negative impacts of weather and climate on humanity, but also because the global economy was becoming more sensitive to environmental influences. The main factor of WMO's growing importance was the arduous work and dedication to the spirit of cooperation of WMO's founders and many generations of meteorologists and hydrologists, of scientists and experts of NMHSs in all corners of the planet. The activities of NMHSs contributed to development, raised the security and welfare of their countries and were the foundation for successful international cooperation in that field. In essence, WMO provided both a nucleus and a basis for large-scale cooperation between NMHSs on many levels thanks to joint efforts throughout the world. Continual improvement and development of an internationally integrated global information system on the state of the environment based on recent scientific and technical achievements were the result of that cooperation.

Over the last few decades, WMO had become a "beacon" for the world community owing to contributions from the Organization's Members and outstanding leaders. WMO had initiated discussions and the search for a way to solve many global problems, providing coordination for the largest projects.

He recalled the words of the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, at Thirteenth Congress, who had referred to WMO as a model of inter-agency cooperation, a pioneer of partnerships with civil society and the original global networker. In addition, he had expressed confidence that he could rely on WMO to take the initiative in anticipating, identifying and addressing the many new challenges that were bound to confront humanity in the twenty-first century. In that connection, the great authority, wisdom and wise leadership of Professor Obasi, which had aided the growth and development of WMO and strengthened and promoted NMHSs during the past 20 years, deserved the highest recognition and gratitude. Priority to WMO's vital interests, support for national Services, high demands on himself and constant concern for increased effectiveness of the work of the Secretariat and WMO had always been Professor Obasi's principles. Those principles must be upheld and continuity provided. The energetic professionalism of Mr Zillman as President of WMO during the past eight years was an outstanding example of

dedication to the Organization. His innovative work, development of partnerships and contribution towards ensuring that States and the world's population derived benefit from NMHS activities deserved the appreciation of all of us. It was impossible to overestimate the role and contribution of the Vice-Presidents of the Organization, the presidents of the technical commissions and, of course, the Secretariat.

WMO's practical achievements, prospects for growth and solutions for the challenges it faced were the subject of serious discussion in meetings, the results of which were embodied in the collective wisdom of the decisions of Fourteenth Congress contained in the 6LTP. He felt that upholding and developing the principles behind WMO's activities and traditions, increasing its resources and the scientific and technical potential to achieve its aims established within the framework of priorities, programmes and projects of the 6LTP, must be of prime importance in the work of the entire WMO structure in the coming years.

Perhaps one of the most important and complex challenges being faced was the maintenance of the current trend of WMO's development through strengthening the potential and capabilities of NMHSs in developing countries and reducing the gap between them and those in developed countries. For the success of WMO in the twenty-first century, it was extremely important to achieve progress in that direction. There must be the utmost support for the TCOP and ETRP using the WMO budget and contributions from other international organizations, as well as funds and specific contributions from donor countries to the VCP.

He felt that a more proactive approach was needed in persuading international financial institutions to offer more flexible conditions for supporting developing countries in strengthening the traditional activities of their NMHSs to improve the safety of life and reduce economic losses.

Further efforts were required to strengthen the authority and recognition of the role and contribution of WMO and its Members in order to solve socio-economic and other current problems of humankind. WMO must broaden its leadership role based on experience, knowledge and cooperation in the field of weather and climate, operational hydrology and water resources through closer cooperation with various international organizations, especially within the United Nations system.

Of course, all the necessary steps must be taken to participate in the implementation of the decisions of the WSSD regarding WMO's mandate, and an appropriate contribution must be made to solving the problem of providing drinking water and the struggle against poverty.

Taking into account the growing trend towards commercialization of certain types of activities in the field of meteorology and operational

hydrology, one of the main tasks of WMO was the comprehensive strengthening and development of the principle of the free and unrestricted international exchange of data and products laid out in Resolution 40 (Cg-XII) and Resolution 25 (Cg-XIII). Together with that, it was necessary to study various forms of effective, balanced partnership at the national level between NMHSs, the scientific community, the media and the private sector, thus obtaining possible assistance in strengthening and supporting WMO's international programmes.

He felt that it was very important to continue taking concrete steps for the benefit of all NMHSs and WMO aimed at fulfilling the implementation plan of the Geneva Declaration of Thirteenth Congress. The increased role and importance of NMHSs and WMO depended primarily on constant, determined efforts to improve the quality of the Services' basic products, namely forecasts and warnings. It was important in that regard to envisage developing a system of WMO quality standards based on existing WMO standards and recommended practices.

At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the world was facing genuine threats to the safe development of civilization. The threat of international terrorism, increasing threats from natural disasters to life and economies, and depletion of natural resources compelled WMO, an important element of global cooperation, to react adequately and make a proper contribution.

In the case of weather-related natural disasters, he thought attention should be given to supporting and defining the concept of "meteorological security", which, along with other types of security, should take its proper place in national plans and programmes for sustainable socio-economic development and reflect the contribution made by NMHSs to protect vital activities from negative influences of the environment, in particular the weather and climate system.

He expressed the hope that delegates would leave Congress with confidence in the future of WMO and faith in the person whom they had selected to guide the Organization's activities during the next four years. He himself valued very highly the personal and professional qualities of the recently elected WMO Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, as well as his enthusiasm and dedication to the Organization. He looked forward to the privilege of close and fruitful collaboration. He was confident that, as always, the active and effective work of the highly professional staff of the Secretariat would guarantee the success of WMO's work. The experience and dedication of staff to WMO and the high-quality work and constant assiduousness in implementing the programmes and projects approved by Congress would support the elected WMO officials.

He felt honoured to work with the elected Vice-Presidents and members of the WMO

Executive Council. He assured participants that he would apply all his efforts, experience and knowledge in providing maximum assistance to the work of the Executive Council and to strengthening its close links with Members in order to ensure support and essential assistance to the regional associations and technical commissions in their work.

He was very much counting on the help and wise advice of the Secretary-General — Professor Obasi — the President — Mr Zillman — the Vice-Presidents — Messrs Beysson and Noorian — as well as other members of the Executive Council, in preserving continuity in leadership in the best traditions of the Organization.

It was very important for him to count on the cooperation of all Members in taking decisions concerning existing important tasks and the realization of current possibilities for WMO to contribute towards improving the life of present and future generations.

In concluding, he expressed his deep gratitude to Fourteenth Congress for the trust it had placed in him and confirmed that using all means at his disposal and the invaluable experience and professional knowledge of his colleagues, he would continue his efforts to consolidate further the authority and role of WMO and support the NMHSs for the sake of the development of all WMO Members.

The **FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT** thanked the President and the Secretary-General for their years of dedicated service. As a member of the Executive Council since 1997, and as participant in meetings of the Bureau, he had admired Mr Zillman's leadership of the debates, sometimes through difficult passages, and his knowledgeable contribution to the groups he had chaired. The Organization was now turning a page of history after a period of eight years, and he was pleased with the election of Mr Bedritsky and wished him luck as his successor. He recalled Mr Bedritsky's very positive presentation of his ideas at Thirteenth Congress, and trusted that the Organization would be as successful in the coming financial period as it had been since that time.

The **SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT** rejoiced at the election of Mr Bedritsky, congratulated him and paid tribute to his substantial contribution to the work of the Executive Council. He assured Mr Bedritsky of the utmost collaboration of the members of the Council and looked forward to working with him in the years ahead.

On behalf of Regional Association I and of his delegation, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I** thanked Mr Bedritsky for his willingness to serve the Organization as President. He had known the President-elect for over 10 years and had collaborated with him on the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on the Framework Convention on Climate Change and later on the UNFCCC, and in WMO. Mr Bedritsky was

leading a strong institution, and many colleagues and scientists in Regional Association I were grateful for his assistance in pursuing their studies at university. As a highly competent professional, Mr Bedritsky would build a strong institution and would have the support of Regional Association I.

Speaking on behalf of the Members of his Association and of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II** welcomed Mr Bedritsky to the important position of WMO President, for which he was the right man. The excellent collaboration prevailing within WMO was a shining example to the rest of the world of that unity which was the underlying principle of the United Nations. The President-elect could count on the support of the Members of the Association, and he hoped that Mr Bedritsky would bear in mind the needs of the developing and least developed countries. He paid tribute to Mr Zillman for his dedicated service, and for his work in implementing WMO Programmes over the years.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** congratulated the President-elect, commenting on his knowledge and skills. His qualities would make the Organization a very important player. He had known Mr Bedritsky for many years in a wide variety of roles within WMO which he had occupied with excellence, and wished him success in his work as President. He paid tribute to Mr Zillman's many years in the office of President and most skillful handling of issues.

On behalf of the Members of Regional Association IV and of his Government, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV** congratulated Mr Bedritsky on his election as President. He thanked Mr Zillman for his excellent and outstanding work, and trusted that he would continue to support and contribute to WMO. He hoped the new President would continue the processes and traditions of a strong and excellent working relationship with the regional presidents. WMO was fortunate to be in the good hands of Messrs Bedritsky and Jarraud, who would guide the Organization in the appropriate direction for the coming four years.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V** warmly congratulated the President-elect. Mr Bedritsky was a meticulous professional manager and his attention to detail and insistence on factual accuracy had been striking, particularly during sessions of the Executive Council. He particularly valued his dedication and passion in serving the Organization and in formulating and developing many of its programmes, and thanked him for his willingness to serve as President. He also thanked Mr Zillman, praising his wisdom, passion and dedication, and for his generous guidance to him personally and others in the role of mentor. He wished that the important post which Mr Zillman was taking up in his own country would prove as

challenging and rewarding as the one he was leaving.

On behalf of the Members of his Association, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI** congratulated Mr Bedritsky on his unopposed selection and election as President, which was a reflection of the esteem in which he was held in the Organization. He was a highly cultured person, a great professional, who treated any proposal to the benefit of WMO most attentively. The Organization's unanimity in electing him suggested that everyone would help him in his task. Mr Bedritsky, who had been head of one of the largest NMHSs, had also promoted the development of other countries' services. It was worth noting that he did not discriminate between countries on the basis of their size, which was important in the WMO context. Mr Bedritsky was a worthy successor to Mr Zillman, and would continue the distinguished work of his predecessor and of Professor Obasi.

On behalf of the presidents of technical commissions, the **PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY** congratulated Mr Bedritsky on his election. He looked forward to working with him during the next four years. He paid special tribute to Mr Zillman's years of service to the Organization and to the field of meteorology, which he had accomplished in an exemplary manner. He also extended his congratulations, as well as those of all the presidents of the technical commissions, to Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General and assured him of their cooperation. He noted the difficult task ahead that Mr Jarraud had in following the footsteps of Professor Obasi.

The **DELEGATE OF LEBANON**, speaking on behalf of the Arab League Committee on Meteorology, which comprised 22 NMSs and NHSs, congratulated warmly Mr Bedritsky and wished him every success in his work, particularly as the Organization moved forward and further in meeting the challenges ahead. Mr Bedritsky was well known as a highly competent professional in the Russian Meteorological Service and was capable of following Mr Zillman's footsteps. He paid tribute to Mr Zillman for his many years of service to the Organization. All the Members stood to benefit and provide better services to mankind.

**MR M. JARRAUD** extended his congratulations to Mr Bedritsky. He had known Mr Bedritsky for the last eight years and appreciated his insight and the significant contribution he had always made in highlighting the importance of the scientific and technical aspects of the work of WMO. Issues such as forecasting should not be forgotten or ignored. He looked forward to working closely with Mr Bedritsky during the next four years. Mr Jarraud also paid special tribute to Mr Zillman, the outgoing President.

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** extended warmest congratulations on behalf of the Secretariat and himself to Mr Bedritsky on the occasion of his

election as President of the Organization. He was sure Messrs Bedritsky and Jarraud would work together as a team to strengthen and generate confidence and cooperation amongst the totality of the Membership of the Organization. He had great confidence in the new generation. The Organization was being placed in good hands.

He paid tribute to the outgoing President, Mr Zillman, and completely agreed with the many words of praise which had been spoken concerning his qualities. Mr Zillman was highly devoted, a hard worker, who remained committed to the ideals of WMO. He had worked very hard and very well for the Organization for 25 years in various capacities, the last eight of those as President. Professor Obasi had met Mr Zillman over 25 years ago, when they were both working in the Commission for Atmospheric Sciences (CAS).

He had known the President-elect Mr Bedritsky for several years. He was an honest, rational, broad-minded, hard working person who had the highest regard for and commitment to WMO. His career in hydrometeorology spanned over 33 years. He had occupied various positions in the Hydrometeorological Service of Uzbekistan, and later in the Russian Federation, and had been actively engaged in the implementation of a large variety of projects associated with scientific and technical development. In 1993, Mr Bedritsky had become a member of the WMO Executive Council and, as host of one of the three World Meteorological Centres (WMCs), had been regularly invited to the Bureau. In that capacity he had contributed substantially to the work of WMO and was one of the originators of the historic Geneva Declaration that had been adopted at Thirteenth Congress. He had also promoted the establishment of the WMO Regional Training Centre in the Russian Federation.

Professor Obasi was sure that, in view of Mr Bedritsky's wide experience and proven leadership capabilities, he would continue to work unceasingly for the promotion of WMO's interests. His knowledge of the sciences of meteorology and hydrology, and his broad experience of WMO's Programmes and the meteorological and hydrological communities, would be most valuable in continuing to strengthen WMO, and in ensuring that it met the challenges of the twenty-first century with confidence.

He was sure that the President-elect and the Vice-Presidents to be elected, to whom Congress was confidently entrusting important responsibilities for the fourteenth financial period, would serve the cause of the Organization most commendably. Mr Bedritsky would bring his commitment and rich experience to the Organization and he was confident that he would work together with the Secretary-General elect, Mr Jarraud, to make the fourteenth financial period a success for WMO and for humanity. He wished Mr Bedritsky success in his

responsibilities, thanked him and congratulated him most heartily.

At the invitation of the President, the **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** presented Document Cg-XIV/PINK12.1(2), submitting the name of Mr A.M. Noorian (Islamic Republic of Iran) for the office of First Vice-President.

*There being no other nominations, Mr A.M. Noorian was declared First Vice-President of the Organization for the fourteenth financial period.*

The **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** presented Document Cg-XIV/PINK12.1(2), submitting the name of Mr T.W. Sutherland (British Caribbean Territories) for office of Second Vice-President.

*There being no other nominations, Mr T.W. Sutherland was declared Second Vice-President of the Organization for the fourteenth financial period.*

The **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** submitted the names of Messrs A. Diouri (Morocco) and M.A. Rabiolo (Argentina) for the office of Third Vice-President, as contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 12.1(2). Having ascertained that there were no further nominations, the President called for the election to proceed. At his invitation, Messrs J.-P. Beysson (First Vice-President) and J. Kelly (United States) acted as tellers and Messrs M.M. Arafa (Egypt) and J. Zielinski (Poland) and Ms M. Couchoud-Gregori (Spain) as assistant tellers.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	143
Number of invalid ballots:	1
Number of blank ballots and abstentions:	1
Number of valid ballots:	141
Simple majority required:	71
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr A. Diouri (Morocco):	68
Mr M.A. Rabiolo (Argentina):	73

*Mr M.A. Rabiolo was declared Third Vice-President of the Organization.*

**MR A.M. NOORIAN** said that it was a great pleasure and privilege to experience once more an unforgettable day in his life, one in which, by his election, he had been extended trust and confidence, as had been the case on his election four years ago. During those four years, he had enjoyed the friendly attitude, close collaboration and excellent partnership which existed in the meteorological community. He believed that the Organization had demonstrated that there were no boundaries between individuals just as there was no boundary in

the atmosphere. In his four years as Second Vice-President he had learned much from the wisdom, devotion and tolerance the President had shown, and also from the President's chairpersonship of the Executive Council and Congress. He expressed great admiration for Professor Obasi, who, with his leadership of WMO over the past two decades, had ensured a promising future for the Organization in the new millennium. He wished to thank the outgoing First Vice-President, Mr Beysson, and his predecessor, Mr Berridge, to whom he wished a speedy recovery from his illness. Declaring that today marked a new beginning for the Organization, he congratulated the President-elect, Mr Bedritsky, and the other newly elected officers, Messrs Sutherland and Rabiolo, as well as the new Secretary-General. All brought a combination of ideals and principles to their posts. He noted that, as the only remaining officer from the previous group, he considered himself a link or a bridge between the past and the present. While it was a great pleasure for him to serve in that capacity, he hoped that not too much pressure would be put on the bridge. He expressed joy at being part of the Organization and wished all every success and hoped for a brilliant future for WMO.

**MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** was very honoured and humbled to be elected and expressed his thanks to all those who had encouraged him to stand, in particular the members of Regional Association IV. He paid tribute to all those who had given him guidance, saying that their guidance and wisdom had steered him during his time on the Executive Council and that he had learned tremendously from all of them in different ways. He had worked for several years with the Secretary-General in the Secretariat and his vision and his approach to WMO inspired him. At a time when the Organization was facing many challenges and opportunities of a global nature, what was required was a strong response from WMO and the NMHSs of its Members. WMO must therefore continue its strong leadership role in the application of science: science of weather and climate, the application of water resources and other related fields, and to ensure that the global community responded adequately to various impacts on and of the environment. He believed that it was necessary to ensure that the role of NMHSs in those matters was effective and well understood by decision and policy makers, academia, the private sector, civil society and the media. In the process, the research components of WMO would need to be fully supported, and efforts to improve the capabilities at the NMHSs of developing countries, while minimizing the technological gap between the developed and developing countries, must be continued. He believed that special consideration should be given to the vulnerable LDCs and SIDS. WMO would need to build on its well established standards to produce a universally acceptable quality assurance system for all its Members, the process of

which was started at Thirteenth Congress. He felt very honoured and privileged to be part of the new team that would assist the newly elected President and the newly appointed Secretary-General in caring for the affairs of the Organization.

**MR M.A. RABIOLO** said that it was a real honour and privilege to have been elected Third Vice-President and wished to express his heartfelt thanks to all of the delegates who had voted for him. He wished to express his gratitude particularly to all those in Regional Association III who had put forward his candidacy, which attested to the professionalism of the entire region. He was grateful and expressed thanks to his own NMS for making his candidature and subsequent election possible. He would do his utmost to work for the good of the Organization. He also thanked all the delegates who had voted for one of the two candidates, saying that both candidates had wanted to do their best for the Organization. In his 26 years of experience in meteorology, he had worked his way up and therefore had much experience with his NMS, and was familiar with the structure of a Meteorological Service. He had concluded that it was important to think rationally and to use common sense, as that made it possible to solve both the small and big problems. He would do his best to work in a serious and responsible manner for the good of the Organization. During the next four years, there would be much work, and he assured all that he would devote his energy so that the Organization could reach its goals.

**MR A.I. BEDRITSKY (PRESIDENT-ELECT)** wished to express his heartfelt congratulations to the First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents, the newly elected officials of the Organization. He wished to congratulate them on having been elected to high leading positions in the Organization and expressed the hope that the upcoming four years — during which he would be working together with them as well as with the appointed Secretary-General — they would work as a single-minded team. They should do their utmost to ensure that the Executive Council implemented the decisions mandated by Congress in the best manner possible, that those became reality, and he hoped that they would succeed. He also wished to express his gratitude to Mr Diouri of Morocco, candidate for Third Vice-President, and thanked him for his activity and for his desire to contribute to the work of the Organization. He believed that desire was useful to WMO, and should be made use of in the future.

The **DELEGATE OF BELIZE** explained that Mr Sutherland was not only the Permanent Representative of the British Caribbean Territories but also the Coordinating Director of the Caribbean Meteorological Organization, which coordinated the activities of the NMHSs of nine Members, including Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, the British Caribbean Territories, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago. On behalf of

those Members, he wished to extend congratulations to Mr Sutherland on being elected Second Vice-President and to thank Fourteenth Congress for its unqualified support. Professor Obasi had called on Congress to ensure that the shining light of the Organization became brighter, and Congress had responded by electing a very capable and energetic team to guide the Organization along that path. Mr Sutherland in particular was very capable of making the light brighter. He assured the newly elected Second Vice-President that he could count on all the members of the Caribbean Meteorological Organization to assist him in carrying out his additional responsibilities.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI** was honoured, on behalf of the Members of the Region, to congratulate the First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents on their election. They were acknowledged leaders in hydrometeorology not only in their countries, but upon their election also as leaders of WMO. Mr Noorian had risen from a rank-and-file member to a leader of WMO, and with deserved authority he had done a great deal to ensure the development of WMO. At the regional level, his country, upon his initiatives, was extending assistance to less developed neighbouring countries to provide for their dynamic development. A considerable contribution to the development of WMO had also been exerted by the other elected Vice-Presidents, and he believed that together with the newly elected President and the newly appointed Secretary-General, they would present a unified team which would implement its mandate and would lead the Organization into the future and successfully meet its challenges. He congratulated all of them and wished them every success in their work.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V**, on behalf of his delegation and the Regional Association, wished to convey congratulations to all the newly elected Vice-Presidents. Mr Noorian had been well known for many years, and the Members of the Region had been particularly pleased with his attendance at the session of the regional association the previous year. He had left a lasting impression of being very pleasant, helpful and respectful. The Members had witnessed his able leadership on many occasions such as during Congress and the Executive Council, and they wished to thank him for his continuing service. He also extended congratulations to Mr Sutherland for his able leadership. His efficiency in conducting business had been evident, especially from the speed and efficiency with which he had completed the tasks of Committee A much ahead of schedule. He had set a very good record with the result that the Members now had very high expectations of his future performance. Referring to Mr Rabiolo, the Members were pleased to see new and younger faces in the Bureau, and hoped that would inject some new ideas and introduce fresh approaches in dealing with issues and problems faced by the Organization.

Regional Association V wished to congratulate him and convey their best wishes to him for a very successful term.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION IV**, on behalf of all the Members in the Region, wished to congratulate the First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents on their election. He wished them strength and success in the work associated with their new functions in the years ahead. He wished to congratulate in particular Mr Sutherland, whom he had known for many years. He was a highly capable person with wide experience in international meteorology and he was convinced that he would provide a solid contribution to the further enhancement of the Organization. The Members of Regional Association IV were proud to have him as a Vice-President of WMO. They were also confident that the newly appointed Secretary-General and the President-elect would have an outstanding and loyal ally in Mr Sutherland, and they wished him much success. He assured him that all the Members of Regional Association IV would be there to lend him all the necessary support in his work.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** wished to express congratulations to the new Vice-Presidents, in particular the Third Vice-President, who was a member of Regional Association III. Members in the Region were convinced that the Vice-Presidents were most capable and competent to carry out the tasks before them. To enable them to do that, there would need to be total commitment on the part of the President, the Secretary-General and the Vice-Presidents. It was a strong team. Regional Association III would give its full support to all the work to be carried out by WMO, including all of the WMO Programmes that ought to be developed. He congratulated all of those who had been elected.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II**, on behalf of the Members of his Association and of his Government, wished to congratulate warmly the three Vice-Presidents on their election. There was no doubt that, together with the Secretary-General and President, they would effectively lead the Organization from strength to strength and that as part of the Bureau they would serve the Organization in a commendable manner. He was certain that the Organization would be greatly enhanced in the coming years. With respect to Mr Noorian, his work and energy spoke for themselves and the Members of Regional Association II were proud to see him once again holding a leading position. He wished to take the opportunity to extend his heartfelt congratulations to all the Vice-Presidents and to express gratitude to those outgoing for their commitment to the meteorological community. He also thanked Mr Diouri for offering his service and contribution to WMO.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I**, wishing to be associated with the other presidents, congratulated the First, Second and Third Vice-Presidents on their election on behalf of the

Regional Association and of his delegation. He had known Messrs Noorian and Sutherland for many years through their contact during the Executive Council and other forums, and he had no doubt that Mr Rabiolo was also, like the other two Vice-Presidents, very competent. With their varied experience and great wisdom they were capable of fulfilling the positions they had been elected to. He was confident that they would work with the various Regions. Regional Association I was looking forward to working with them. He assured them that Regional Association I would give them all the support required in carrying out their duties. He wished to thank Mr Diouri for offering his services for the post of Third Vice-President. He also wished to thank the outgoing First Vice-President, Mr Beysson, and Mr Noorian for their past contributions to WMO and the global community and wished them well in their new positions.

On behalf of his Government and his delegation, the **DELEGATE OF JORDAN** wished to express his heartfelt greetings and congratulations to the newly elected team, the President and the three Vice-Presidents. He also congratulated the newly appointed Secretary-General and expressed the hope that the new team would take into account the needs of developing countries. He thanked the outgoing President, the Vice-Presidents and all of those who had worked so hard within the Secretariat and done all that was possible for the Organization to reach the very high level at which it now stood.

The **DELEGATE OF COSTA RICA**, on behalf of his delegation, expressed heartfelt congratulations and thanks to the entire new team. He expressed confidence in the capabilities of Mr Sutherland, whom he had known for a long time and knew how capable he was and how much he had done for Regional Association IV. He also expressed gratitude and appreciation to the outgoing President and Secretary-General for the enormous amount of work that they put in over the years, all for the good of the Organization. All of the outgoing officers had made it possible for the Organization to reach its goals.

**MR M. JARRAUD (SECRETARY-GENERAL-ELECT)** congratulated the three newly elected Vice-Presidents. As Vice-Minister of Roads and Transportation, he would trust Mr Noorian's judgement on bridges. The role of the Vice-Presidents had grown during the years. He had chaired most of the technical commissions and would probably continue to do so. He had known Mr Sutherland for many years, having worked together in the Secretariat. He would be capable of bringing much experience both from the Members' and the Secretariat's perspective. Although had known Mr Rabiolo for less time than the other elected members of the group, he had appreciated his pragmatic approach to problems. He was sure that WMO would benefit tremendously from his experience and expertise. He was pleased that the

newly elected group provided a balance of expertise as well as a good geographical balance. He congratulated Mr Bedritsky on his election as President of WMO and looked forward to working with all the new team.

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** extended warmest congratulations on behalf of the Secretariat and himself to Mr Noorian for his election as First Vice-President, to Mr Sutherland as Second Vice-President, and to Mr Rabiolo as Third Vice-President of WMO. Together with the Secretary-General-elect, Mr Jarraud, they were the new generation of officers who, with the support of the Permanent Representatives of the three WMCs, would constitute a new Bureau.

He paid special tribute to the outgoing First Vice-President, Mr Beysson, who had held the office since 1999. Earlier Mr Beysson had also served briefly as Third Vice-President. Over the years he had shown his commitment and brought his expertise to the challenges facing WMO, especially in the area of free and unrestricted exchange of data and products.

The three Vice-Presidents-elect were all very familiar with the work of WMO and the Secretariat, and the challenges and developmental needs of NMHSs. First Vice-President-elect, Mr Noorian, had previously been Second Vice-President. He was a very hard working individual, who was fully committed to the WMO ideals. Having known Mr Noorian for over 20 years, he considered him to possess rare qualities of gentlemanliness and dignity. Mr Noorian was currently Vice-Minister of Roads and Transportation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and had held many distinguished positions in the private and public sectors in his country. He had been Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran with WMO almost continuously since 1981, a Member of the Executive Council, and WMO Second Vice-President since 1999, in which capacity he had also served in the Bureau. He had also served on two WMO Working Groups, two Selection Committees, and two Advisory Groups. He was thus most fully qualified for his new position.

The Second Vice-President-elect, Mr Sutherland, had worked as a meteorologist in both the Caribbean and Canada, and within WMO as a staff member of the Secretariat, including several years as Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General. Appointed Coordinating Director of the Caribbean Meteorological Organization in 1999, he had been designated Permanent Representative of the British Caribbean Territories with WMO, been elected a Member of the WMO Executive Council, and served in various capacities on two expert groups and a task team.

The Third Vice-President-elect, Mr Rabiolo, was a meteorologist and had held technical and administrative positions in the Argentine Air Force, currently being responsible for the National Meteorological Services of Argentina. He had been



Permanent Representative of Argentina with WMO since 2000. His service to WMO had included the role of Regional Rapporteur on the Global Data-processing Systems, and of Chairperson of the Working Group on Planning and Implementation of the World Weather Watch in Regional Association III.

He was sure that the President-elect and the Vice-Presidents-elect, to whom Congress was confidently entrusting important responsibilities, would serve the cause of the Organization most

commendably. They would bring their commitment and rich experiences to the team headed by the Secretary-General-elect, Mr Jarraud, which he was confident would make the fourteenth financial period successful. He congratulated the new officers most heartily and wished them success in their new responsibilities.

*The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE TENTH PLENARY MEETING  
19 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.*

**25. Report of the Credentials Committee**  
(agenda item 1.5)

In presenting the fourth report, the **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE** stated that the credentials of Kiribati had been found to be in order.

*The fourth report of the Credentials Committee was approved.*

**26. Statement by Mr Tekena Teitiba, Principal Delegate of the Republic of Kiribati**

**MR TEKENA TEITIBA** explained that Kiribati had become an Observer during Thirteenth Congress. It had taken four years to convince his Government to become a Member. It was difficult for Kiribati alone to address the issues of climate, meteorology and especially climate change. It was a great pleasure and honour to be at Fourteenth Congress representing his country. He expressed thanks to his Government for that privilege and to WMO for inviting his country to join that very important international forum. Kiribati was located in the central Pacific Ocean with its scattered low-lying islands straddling the Equator, stretching from the northern to the southern hemisphere. There were three main island groups — the Gilberts in the west and the Phoenix and Line Islands to the east. Kiribati was one of the SIDS according to the United Nations classification system.

The headquarters of the NMS was in Tarawa, the administrative capital of Kiribati. The two main observational programmes were the surface and upper-air programmes. Kiribati relied mainly on RSMC Nadi for the provision of its weather bulletins. However, other advanced meteorological centres such as Honolulu, New Zealand and Australia also assisted at times with the provision of forecasting requirements mainly for the aviation and maritime communities.

Climate change issues had emerged as one of the challenges that the Kiribati Meteorological Service must address to contribute to Kiribati's obligations to the United Nations conventions, in particular to the UNFCCC. Also, the challenges of the Meteorological Service included weather- and climate-related issues, such as the prediction of drought and the issuance of timely advisories or warnings to the public well in advance. The capability of the Kiribati Meteorological Service for the provision of services and information would be strengthened and enhanced by joining WMO.

On behalf of Kiribati, he acknowledged and expressed gratitude and appreciation to those countries, especially New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom, which had, through their Meteorological Services, pioneered the establishment of the meteorological programmes in Kiribati. He also expressed thanks to those countries that had assisted and continued to assist Kiribati in other meteorological and climatological programmes, thus contributing towards its social, economic and sustainable national development.

**27. Statement by Mr E.A. Mukolwe**

**MR E.A. MUKOLWE** expressed his most sincere gratitude to those Members that had supported him in the just concluded process of appointing the fifth Secretary-General of WMO. He commended Mr Beysson for conducting a civil campaign. They would continue working together for the further development of international meteorology. He took the opportunity to congratulate Mr Jarraud for his appointment and assured him of his very full support in his new job. He knew and had worked with Mr Jarraud for many years and was convinced that he would continue to be a great asset to the Organization and its Members. He also praised the President, who had himself contributed much to the Organization and had the respect and affection of all the Members.

**28. Election of members of the Executive Council** (agenda item 12.2) (Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.2(1); ADD. 1)

The **PRESIDENT** pointed out that, after having revised Article 13(c) and General Regulation 85, the number of members of the Executive Council had increased to 37. The Executive Council was the executive body of the Organization responsible to Congress for the coordination of the programme of the Organization between sessions of Congress. He also explained that members of the Executive Council served in their personal capacity. They fell into three groups. The first group included the President and three Vice-presidents of WMO who should normally belong each to a different region. The second group included the presidents of the six regional associations. The third group included an additional 27 Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services. Those were elected by the entire Organization, with the proviso (Article 13(c) of the Convention) that not more than nine and not less than four of the total Executive Council members, comprising the presidents of regional associations and the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization, all come from any one region. Once elected, the 27 would be responsible to the entire Organization for their work as members of the Executive Council. They were elected to serve until the close of Fifteenth Congress.

The President drew attention to the computer-assisted voting system, which had been used for the election of Executive Council members in Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses and at recent sessions of the Executive Council for the International Meteorological Organization (IMO) Prize selection and had proven to be efficient.

The **CHAIRPERSON OF THE NOMINATION COMMITTEE**, introducing document Cg-XIV/PINK 12.2(1) and ADD. 1, reported that, in accordance with the guidance of Ninth Congress, the presidents of regional associations had agreed to the following regional distribution of seats on the Executive Council (including those attributed to the President, Vice-Presidents and presidents of regional associations) up to Fifteenth Congress: Regional Association I — 9; Regional Association II — 6; Regional Association III — 4; Regional Association IV — 5; Regional Association V — 4; Regional Association VI — 9.

**MESSRS O.M.L. BECHIR** (Mauritania), **A.R.W. EL HAJ** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) and **A.H. AL-MULLA** (Qatar) expressed their desire to withdraw from the election.

Confirming that, with the exception of Messrs Bechir, El Haj and Al-Mulla, whose names should be deleted, all other names in document Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.2(1) and ADD. 1 were valid, the President asked whether there were any other nominations from the floor.

*In the absence of other nominations, document Cg-XIV/PINKS 12.2(1) and ADD. 1, as amended, were approved as the final list of candidates for the Executive Council.*

The President explained that the election would be held in two stages. In the first stage, it was required that 14 members be elected up to a maximum of four from each Region in accordance with Article 13(c)(ii) of the Convention and General Regulation 85(a). It was therefore necessary to ensure the correct regional distribution, to fill the eight seats as followed: Region I — 3; Region II — 2; Region III — 2; Region 4 — 2; Region V — 3; Region VI — 2. He called upon the presidents of the regional associations or their representatives to nominate candidates for the vacant seats in their respective regions.

The **PRESIDENT OF RA I** nominated Messrs M.L. Bah (Guinea), B. Kassahun (Ethiopia) and B.T. Sekoli (Lesotho).

The **PRESIDENT OF RA II** nominated Messrs T. Kitade (Japan) and D. Qin (China).

The **PRESIDENT OF RA III** nominated Messrs H.H. Oliva (Chile) and A.C. Vaz de Athayde (Brazil).

The **PRESIDENT OF RA IV** nominated Messrs J.J. Kelly (United States) and M.D. Everell (Canada).

The **PRESIDENT OF RA V** nominated Messrs K.K. Chow (Malaysia), J. Lumsden (New Zealand) and J.W. Zillman (Australia).

The **PRESIDENT OF RA VI** nominated Messrs J.-P. Beysson (France) and U. Gärtner (Germany).

*The President declared those persons elected as members of the Executive Council.*

The **PRESIDENT** proceeded to the election of five candidates for Region I, two in Region II, one in Region IV and five in Region VI. He invited Messrs A.M. Noorian (Second Vice-President) and T.W. Sutherland (Second Vice-President elect) to act as tellers and asked Messrs S. Chacowry, S. Shaddock and W. Tanga (all members of the Secretariat) to assist them.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	146
Number of abstentions and blank ballots:	0
Number of invalid ballots:	4
Number of valid ballots:	142
Required majority:	72
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr S.K. Srivastav (India)	127
Mr M.M. Arafa (Egypt)	126
Mr E. Zarate (Costa Rica)	123
Mr Q. Chaudhry (Pakistan)	122
Mr P. Ewins (United Kingdom)	100
Mr J.R. Mukabana (Kenya)	95
Mr D.K. Keuerleber-Burk (Switzerland)	92

Mr R.D.J. Lengoasa (South Africa)	92
Ms M. Couchoud Gregori (Spain)	72
Mr R. Sorani (Italy)	72

*The President declared the above individuals elected as members of the Executive Council.*

In accordance with General Regulations 85(b), 87 and 89, the President proceeded to the second stage of the election to fill the other five vacant seats — two in Region I and one in Region VI.

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	142
Number of abstentions and blank ballots:	0
Number of invalid ballots:	2
Number of valid ballots:	140
Required majority:	71
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr A. N'Diaye (Senegal)	93
Mr F.P. Mote (Ghana)	82

Mr L.E. Akeh (Nigeria) had received 73 votes but was the third candidate in Region I and therefore was not eligible for election.

*The President declared Messrs A. N'Diaye and F.P. Mote elected as members of the Executive Council.*

*As no candidate from Region VI had received the required majority, the President proceeded to a third round of elections.*

*A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

The President announced the results of the election as followed:

Total number of ballots:	129
Number of abstentions and blank ballots:	4
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	125
Required majority:	63
Number of votes obtained:	
Mr A. Al-Sha'er (Jordan)	67
Mr J. Zielinski (Poland)	58

*The President declared Mr A. Al-Sha'er elected as a member of the Executive Council.*

On behalf of both himself and the staff of the Executive Council, the **SECRETARY-GENERAL** expressed warm congratulations to the newly elected members of the Executive Council and thanked all those who had offered their services to the Organization. Together with the newly appointed Secretary-General and the newly elected President and three Vice-Presidents, the members of the Executive Council would form a new executive team, which would direct and implement the decisions of Fourteenth Congress for the next four years. He was convinced that they would do their utmost to fulfill the tasks entrusted to them by Congress. Their experience and knowledge would be helpful in promoting the activities of the Organization and in facing the new challenges ahead, which would start immediately after the closing of Congress. He wished them success and hoped that the new Executive Council members would support and cooperate with the new Secretary-General.

*The meeting rose at 2.25 p.m.*

## MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH PLENARY MEETING 21 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.50 p.m.*

### 29. Report of the Credentials Committee (agenda item 1.5)

On behalf of the chairperson of the Nomination Committee, the **PRESIDENT** presented the fifth report and indicated that no further credentials had been received since the fourth report.

### 30. Date and place of Fifteenth Congress (agenda item 14) (Cg-XIV/PINK 14)

The **PRESIDENT** submitted Document Cg-XIV/PINK 14.

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 14, was approved.*

### 31. Approval of unamended PINK documents

The **PRESIDENT** introduced the following documents on behalf of the relevant Committee chairpersons, which did not attract any discussion or amendments from Members:

**Report by the President of the Organization**  
(agenda item 2.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 2.1)

**Report by the Secretary-General** (agenda item 2.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 2.2)

**Consolidated report on amendments to the Technical Regulations** (agenda item 2.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 2.4)

**World Weather Watch Programme — WWW basic systems and support functions; the**

**report of the president of CBS** (agenda item 3.1.0) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.0)

**Global Observing System** (agenda item 3.1.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.1)

**WWW information system and services, including the Global Telecommunication System and data management** (agenda item 3.1.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.2)

**Global Data-processing System; including emergency response activities** (agenda item 3.1.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.3)

**WWW system support activities, including the operational information services** (agenda item 3.1.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.4)

**Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme; the report of the president of CIMO** (agenda item 3.1.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.5)

**WMO satellite activities** (agenda item 3.1.6) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.6)

**Tropical Cyclone Programme** (agenda item 3.1.7) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.7)

**World Climate Data and Monitoring Programme** (agenda item 3.2.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.4)

**World Climate Applications and Services Programme, including CLIPS** (agenda item 3.2.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.5)

**World Climate Impact Assessment and Response Strategies Programme** (agenda item 3.2.6) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.6)

**World Climate Research Programme** (agenda item 3.2.7) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.7)

**Agricultural Meteorology Programme; the report of the president of CAgM** (agenda item 3.4.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.2)

**Hydrology and Water Resources Programme** (agenda item 3.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.5)

**Education and Training Programme** (agenda item 3.6) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.6)

**Reports of the presidents of regional associations** (agenda item 3.8.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.8)

**Conferences** (agenda item 4.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 4.1)

**Report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Fifth WMO Long-term Plan** (agenda item 6.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 6.1)

**Sixth WMO Long-term Plan (2004–2011)** (agenda item 6.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 6.2)

**Cooperation with other disciplines and programmes** (agenda item 7.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 7.3)

**Cooperation with the United Nations and other organizations** (agenda item 9.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(1))

**Cooperation with the United Nations and other organizations** (agenda item 9.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(2))

**Cooperation with the United Nations and other organizations** (agenda item 9.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(3))

**Financial matters** (agenda item 10.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.1(1))

**Financial matters** (agenda item 10.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.1(2))

**Staff matters** (agenda item 10.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.3(1))

**Secretary-General's contract** (agenda item 10.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.4)

**IMO and WMO Prizes** (agenda item 11.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.1)

**Questions concerning the Convention** (agenda item 11.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(3))

**Revision of the General Regulations** (agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(1))

**Revision of the General Regulations** (agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(3))

**Revision of the General Regulations** (agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(4))

**Revision of the General Regulations** (agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(5))

**Requests for Membership of the Organization** (agenda item 11.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.5)

**Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization** (agenda item 12.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 12.1(3), REV.1)

*The draft resolutions, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were adopted.*

*The draft texts for inclusion in the general summary, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were approved.*

By way of general comments, the **DELEGATE OF GERMANY**, referring to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.5, stated that a resolution containing over four pages was too long and wished that to be considered in the future. Without specifically wishing to change the wording of Draft Resolution 3.5/2 (Cg-XIV) contained in Document Cg-XIV/PINK 3.5, the **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES** stated that his understanding of that Resolution was that it did not actually establish such a Panel but requested the Secretary-General to develop a proposal for a Panel of Experts for approval by the Executive Council; that the purpose of such a Panel would be to provide data and scientific analysis to support global efforts on water and not to coordinate water-related activities outside of WMO or review government policies; and that such a Panel might include non-governmental experts and would not therefore be limited to an intergovernmental process.

**32. Disaster reduction activities** (agenda item 7.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 7.4)

The **DELEGATE OF JAPAN**, referring to paragraph 7.4.8, second line, requested that the title

of the conference be amended to read "World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction".

*Draft Resolution 7.4/1 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.4, was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.4, as amended, was approved.*

**33. Proportional contributions of Members**  
(agenda item 10.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.2(1))

The **DELEGATE OF JAPAN** queried the wording of paragraphs 10.2.3 and 10.2.5, particularly the inclusion of the text "sixty-first session" and "2006". On behalf of the Secretariat, **Ms K. CHARLES** noted that no change to the 2006 figure had been discussed in Working Committee A, that it was not applicable to 2007, but that it was still appropriate to keep the wording. The **DELEGATE OF GERMANY** proposed that in draft Resolution 10.2/1 (Cg-XIV), **AUTHORIZES** the Executive Council (1), third line, the year "2006" be deleted from the text. Referring to

that same draft resolution, the **DELEGATE OF NEW ZEALAND** proposed that the words "and sixty-first session" be deleted from **DECIDES** (1), fourth line. The **DELEGATE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO** suggested that, in line with the above discussion, the word "years" should be replaced by "year" in **AUTHORIZES** the Executive Council (1). The **PRESIDENT** noted that the text for inclusion in the general summary would be amended to reflect those changes.

*It was so agreed.*

*Draft Resolutions 10.2/1 and 10.2/2 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendices B and D to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 10.2(1), were adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 10.2(1), as amended, was approved.*

*The meeting rose at 4.20 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH PLENARY MEETING  
22 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.*

**34. Report of the Credentials Committee**  
(agenda item 1.5)

On behalf of the chairperson of the Nomination Committee, the **PRESIDENT** presented the sixth report and indicated that no further credentials had been received since the fifth report.

**35. Approval of unamended PINK documents**

The **PRESIDENT** introduced the following documents on behalf of the relevant Committee chairpersons, which did not attract any discussion or amendments from Members:

**Report by the chairperson of the Financial Advisory Committee** (agenda item 2.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 2.3)

**WMO Antarctic activities** (agenda item 3.1.8) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.1.8)

**World Climate Programme; the report of the president of CCI** (agenda item 3.2.0) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.0(1))

**Support to climate-change related activities including IPCC and the Conventions on Climate Change, on Biodiversity and on Desertification** (agenda item 3.2.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.2)

**Global Climate Observing System** (agenda item 3.2.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.3)

**Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme** (agenda items 3.3.1 to 3.3.5) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.3(2))

**Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme** (agenda item 3.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.3(3))

**Aeronautical Meteorology Programme; the report of the president of CAeM** (agenda item 3.4.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.3)

**Marine Meteorology and Associated Oceanographic Activities Programme; the report of the co-president of JCOMM** (agenda item 3.4.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.4(1))

**Marine Meteorology and Associated Oceanographic Activities Programme; the report of the co-president of JCOMM** (agenda item 3.4.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.4(2))

**Office automation and information technology support** (agenda item 4.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 4.4)

**Preparation of the Seventh WMO Long-term Plan** (agenda item 6.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 6.3)

**Staff matters** (agenda item 10.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 10.3(2))

**Appointment of the Secretary-General** (agenda item 12.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 12.3(2)) (Cg-XIV/PINK 12.1(3), REV.1)

*The draft resolutions, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were adopted.*

*The draft texts for inclusion in the general summary, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were approved.*

**36. Coordination activities within the Climate Agenda** (agenda item 3.2.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.1)

The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES**, referring to paragraph 3.2.1.11, proposed that the end of the sentence should read: "the Executive Council consider re-establishing its Advisory Group on Climate and Environment to facilitate coordination on climate and environment matters within WMO." He also proposed that paragraph 3.2.1.13 should be amended to read: "Congress felt that given the disparity of Members' views on the subject of WCC-3, it requested the Executive Council to keep the matter under consideration."

*It was so agreed.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 3.2.1, as amended, was approved.*

**37. Public Weather Services Programme** (agenda item 3.4.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.1)

The **DELEGATE OF HONG KONG, CHINA**, explained that since the discussion held in Working Committee B, two new countries — Bulgaria and Pakistan — had provided climatological information. He thus proposed that paragraph 3.4.1.13, fifth line, be amended to read: "879 cities from 152 Members. Phase II was launched in December 2002, currently with forecasts from 81 Members covering 777 cities worldwide."

*It was so agreed.*

*Draft Resolution 3.4.1/1 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.1, was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 3.4.1, as amended, was approved.*

*The meeting rose at 10.30 a.m.*

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH PLENARY MEETING  
23 May 2003 at 9.30 a.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 11.40 a.m.*

**38. Approval of unamended PINK documents**

The **PRESIDENT** introduced the following documents on behalf of the relevant Committee chairpersons, which did not attract any discussion or amendments from Members:

**Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme; the report of the president of CAS** (agenda item 3.3.0) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.3(1))

**Technical Cooperation Programme** (agenda items 3.7.1 and 3.7.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 3.7)

**Publications** (agenda item 4.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 4.3)

**WMO structure** (agenda item 6.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 6.4, REV. 1)

**International exchange of data and products** (agenda item 7.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 7.1)

**World Summit on Sustainable Development** (agenda item 9.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 9.2)

**Questions concerning the Convention** (agenda item 11.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.2(2))

**Appointment of the Secretary-General** (agenda item 12.3(3)) (Cg-XIV/PINK 12.3(3))

*The draft resolutions, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were adopted.*

*The draft texts for inclusion in the general summary, contained in the appendices to the above documents, were approved.*

**39. Organization of the session** (agenda item 1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 1)

The **DELEGATE OF TANZANIA**, referring to paragraph 1.1.22, line 1, requested that the word "Mr" be replaced by "Professor", thus to read: "H.E. Honourable Professor M.J. Mwandosya".

*It was so agreed.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 1, as amended, was approved.*

**40. Cooperation with the United Nations and other organizations** (agenda item 9.1) (Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(4), REV. 1)

The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES** proposed that in paragraph 9.1.x.3, third line, the expression "lifestyles of indigenous peoples" be amended to read "lifestyles of indigenous communities". Also, in paragraph 9.1.x.5, third line, he proposed that the words " , where possible, " be deleted.

*It was so agreed.*

*Draft Resolution 9.1/3/1 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(4), REV. 1, was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 9.1(4), REV. 1, as amended, was approved.*

**41. Revision of the General Regulations**  
(agenda item 11.3) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(6))

In submitting Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(6), **MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** (co-chairperson of Committee A) explained that during the discussions held both at the Sub-committee on Matters Concerning the Convention and at Working Committee A, some delegations expressed concern regarding the use of regular budgetary resources for using Portuguese for interpretation at sessions of Congress and Regional Associations I and III. He thus proposed that in draft Resolution 11.3/6 (Cg-XIV), **DECIDES** (1), the text be amended to read:

“That Portuguese shall be used for interpretation at sessions of Regional Associations I and III using available resources and of Congress subject to availability of extrabudgetary resources;”

*It was so agreed.*

*Draft Resolution 11.3/6 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(6), as amended, was adopted.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.3(6), was approved.*

The **DELEGATE OF PORTUGAL** thanked the Secretariat and all the Members for the assistance provided during the discussions on the use of Portuguese. He regretted that some Members had changed their initial positions and thanked all those that had supported Portugal in its position and who had participated in the discussions.

*The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.*

MINUTES OF THE FOURTEENTH PLENARY MEETING  
23 May 2003 at 2.30 p.m.

*The meeting was called to order at 2.35 p.m.*

**42. Statement by Mr Lucio Adame, Representative of the International Astronautical Federation (IAF)**

On behalf of the president of IAF, Mr Marcio Nogueira Barbosa, the **REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASTRONAUTICAL FEDERATION** expressed his appreciation for the opportunity for IAF to participate in Congress as a non-governmental organization and extended congratulations to all the participants on its success. He noted that IAF had followed closely the work carried out by WMO because of its importance and transcendence, since such work involved the security and assets of human life, and that that fact was shown by the content of the Agenda, which reflected the hard work and dedication of the Organization.

He highlighted other outstanding points in the Agenda, including the scientific and technical programmes and the ETRP which IAF had included, with different approaches, in the International Astronautical Congresses that were held each year, of which the next was to be held in Bremen, Germany, from 29 September to 3 October 2003 with the participation of the International Astronautical Academy, the International Institute of Space Law, the scientific and academic communities and the space and telecommunications industries. The International Astronautical Congress was to cover, under the topic [new.opportunities@space](mailto:new.opportunities@space),

the issues of earth observation, space and international disaster reduction, satellite communications and space and education, all issues considered to be of interest to both WMO and IAF. He concluded by expressing his desire for a continued relationship and close communication with WMO, congratulating Mr Jarraud on his appointment as Secretary-General and wishing him all success in the future.

**43. Languages** (agenda item 4.2)  
(Cg-XIV/PINK 4.2)

**MR NDIAYE** (co-chairperson of Committee A) submitted document Cg-XIV/PINK 4.2. Referring to the tenth line of paragraph 4.2.2 in the English version, the **DELEGATE OF CHINA** requested that the Chinese translation of the sentence beginning “Having noticed that translation...” be aligned with the English version.

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in the appendix to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 4.2, as amended in the Chinese version, was approved.*

**44. Information and Public Affairs Programme** (agenda item 5)  
(Cg-XIV/PINK 5)

**MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** (co-chairperson of Committee A) submitted document Cg-XIV/PINK 5.

*Draft Resolutions 5.1 (Cg-XIV) and 5.2 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendices B and C to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 5, respectively, were approved.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 5, was approved.*

**45. Role and operation of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services**  
(agenda item 7.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(1))

**MR T.W. SUTHERLAND** (co-chairperson of Committee A) submitted document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(1).

The **DELEGATE OF MAURITIUS**, remarking that the term "water resources" was used in several instances, referred to **RECOGNIZING** in the draft resolution in Appendix B as an example. He questioned the need for "resources" in that particular instance, in view of the fact that Congress had adopted the motto 'weather, climate and water'. The **PRESIDENT** replied that water resources was an established term that many might want to retain, but there was no difficulty in deleting it in that instance.

*It was so agreed.*

*Draft Resolution 7.2/1 (Cg-XIV), contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(1), as amended, was approved.*

The First Vice-President having pointed out that the contents of paragraph 7.2.5 (b) had been the subject of lengthy discussions and that the first sentence contained a contradiction in the French version, the **PRESIDENT** gave assurances that the text would be aligned with the English version. The **PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY**, concurring with the First Vice-President, suggested that the English version should be changed also to avoid ambiguity and proposed the following: "For more than 60% of NMSs, aviation was the most important national economic application sector served." The **DELEGATE OF CHINA** suggested that "more than 60%" be changed to "about 60%". The Secretariat having confirmed that the figure was 63%, it was agreed, at the President's proposal, to use "about 65%" in the modified sentence.

To reflect his intervention during the Committee meeting, the **PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY** requested that the second line of paragraph 7.2.41 be amended from "complementary work should be" to read "similar work was being".

*It was so agreed.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(1), as amended, was approved.*

**46. Scientific lectures and discussions**  
(agenda item 13) (Cg-XIV/PINK 13)

The **PRESIDENT** introduced document Cg-XIV/PINK 13.

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in the appendix to document Cg-XIV/PINK 13, was approved.*

**47. Role and operation of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services**  
(agenda item 7.2) (Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(2))

The **PRESIDENT** introduced document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(2), recapitulating the changes that had been agreed at the Working Paper stage earlier in the day. Turning to the draft resolution in Appendix B, he noted the following changes: under **DECIDES** (1), "technical" had been added after "WMO"; under **DECIDES** (2), "including quality control" had been added after "system(s)"; and under **AGREES ALSO**, "technical" had been added after "pertinent".

*Draft Resolution 7.2/2 (Cg-XIV), as contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(2), as amended, was approved.*

Next turning to the draft text in Appendix A, the **PRESIDENT** read out the agreed changes. In paragraph 7.2.5, "standards" had been changed to "systems" in the second line; in the penultimate line, "with the relevant standards" had been changed to "to the management system". With respect to paragraph 7.2.7 (a), "technical" had been added after "WMO", and in paragraph 7.2.7 (b), "including quality control" had been added after "system(s)". In paragraph 7.2.9, (c), "of the quality management system" had been added after "component", and in the last sentence of that paragraph, "management" had been added before "standards". In the last line of paragraph 7.2.10, "3.4.3.1" had been changed to "3.4.3.12". In the fifth line of paragraph 7.2.13, "a" had been added before "quality", and in the seventh line, "supporting" had been added after "into". In addition, the **DELEGATE OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES** pointed out that the paragraph numbering would have to be changed in line with 7.2(1), which was agreed.

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in the appendix to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 7.2(2), as amended, was approved.*

**48. Consolidated programme and budget 2004–2007** (agenda item 8) (Cg-XIV/PINK 8)

Having submitted Cg-XIV/PINK 8, **MR T.W. SUTHERLAND**, the co-chairperson of Committee A, wished to commend the Subcommittee on Programme and Budget for the spirit of collaboration in preparing the difficult submission. The President, noting also the valuable contribution of Mr Gartner, the chairperson of the sub-committee,



requested that the appreciation be recorded in the minutes.

Noting that any editorial amendments would be inserted by the Secretariat, the **PRESIDENT** turned to the draft resolution in Appendix B, indicating the changes that had been agreed at the Working Paper stage earlier in the day. Under **FURTHER AUTHORIZES** (3), "activities" had been added after "which" in the last line. In Annex 1 to the draft resolution, the figures in the first and third columns had been changed to "11 887.1" and 12 108.1", respectively, under part 3.5 and to "44 176.7" and "44 795.2", respectively, under part 4.

To align Draft Resolution 8/1(Cg-XIV) with the draft text in Appendix A following the intervention of the **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES**, it was agreed to change "starting point" to "reference base" in the third line of **AUTHORIZES** (1).

*Draft Resolution 8/1(Cg-XIV), and the annexes thereto, as contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 8, as amended, was approved.*

*Draft Resolution 8/2 (Cg-XIV), and the annexes thereto, as contained in Appendix C to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 8, was approved.*

Turning to the draft text in Appendix A, the **PRESIDENT** indicated that "activities" had been added after "which" in the fifth line of paragraph 8.6 at the Working Paper stage earlier in the day. With respect to the last sentence in paragraph 8.6, the **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES** suggested that "starting point" be amended to "reference point". The chairperson of the sub-committee having raised no objection, the **FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT** agreed with the proposal, but questioned the meaning in English, as in French "base de référence" was more accurate. The **DELEGATE OF THE UNITED STATES** concurred, as did the **DELEGATE OF MAURITIUS**, who had questioned the meaning of "référence de base" and "reference base" in French and English, and it was agreed that "starting point" be amended to "reference base".

With respect to paragraph 8.7, the **DELEGATE OF NEW ZEALAND**, noting the concerns that his delegation had expressed during the Committee stage, explained that the New Zealand delegation recognized that the financial management of the Secretariat needed to be strengthened in accordance with the recommendation of the External Auditor and that, to address that issue, Congress agreed that an additional amount of SFR 1 million be allocated for the financial management in the Secretariat within the assessed contributions level of SFR 249.8 million. His delegation fully supported the need to address the issues raised by the External Auditor and was also aware that the document was the result of a long and detailed discussion and represented the results of a compromise. His delegation was therefore not proposing to change

the text; however, New Zealand wished to place on record that it did not wish to see any resulting significant reduction in the proposed expenditures on the scientific and technical programmes of the Organization, which it deemed as having the highest priority, as given in Annex 1 to Draft Resolution 8/1 (Cg-XIV).

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in Appendix A to document Cg-XIV/PINK 8, as amended, was approved.*

#### **49. Review of previous resolutions of Congress** (agenda item 11.4) (Cg-XIV/PINK 11.4)

**MR W. GAMARRA**, Rapporteur on Previous Resolutions, submitted document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.4. At the suggestion of the **DELEGATE OF GERMANY**, who noted that Congress had adopted a new resolution with respect to the use of the Portuguese language, it was agreed to delete Resolution 20 (Cg-XIII) from **DECIDES** (1) in the draft resolution in Appendix B.

*Draft Resolution 11.4/1 (Cg-XIV), as contained in Appendix B to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.4, as amended, was approved.*

*The draft text for inclusion in the general summary, as contained in Appendix A to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 11.4, was approved.*

#### **50. Approval of the minutes** (agenda item 1.6) (Cg-XIV/MIN.1, Cg-XIV/MIN.3, Cg-XIV/MIN.4 and Cg-XIV/MIN.5)

Congress having agreed to waive the 48-hour rule for the approval of minutes 3, 4 and 5, the **PRESIDENT** invited comments on Documents Cg-XIV/MIN.1, Cg-XIV/MIN.3, Cg-XIV/MIN.4 and Cg-XIV/MIN.5. The **DELEGATES OF BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, GERMANY, JAMAICA and UGANDA** stated that their names should be added to the list of participants at the first plenary meeting. The **DELEGATES OF COSTA RICA, GUINEA, ITALY, LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA, MALDIVES, MEXICO, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, PORTUGAL, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, UGANDA, VIET NAM and ZIMBABWE** stated that their names should be added to the list of participants at the third plenary meeting. The **DELEGATES OF MAURITANIA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, UGANDA and ZIMBABWE** stated that their names should be added to the list of participants at the fourth plenary meeting. The **DELEGATES OF ITALY, MALDIVES, MALI, NEPAL, NIGER, PAKISTAN, PARAGUAY AND UGANDA** stated that their names should be added to the list of participants at the fifth plenary meeting. The **DELEGATE OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES** also would provide the names of any Caribbean countries missing from the list of participants at all the plenary meetings to the Secretariat. The **PRESIDENT**, stating that the

Secretariat would make the necessary amendments to the final list of participants, declared that any outstanding minutes would be approved by correspondence.

*The provisional minutes of the first, third, fourth and fifth plenary meetings, contained in Documents Cg-XIV/MIN.1, Cg-XIV/MIN.3, Cg-XIV/MIN.4 and Cg-XIV/MIN.5, respectively, as amended, were approved.*

**51. Closure of the session** (agenda item 15)  
(Cg-XIV/PINK 15)

*Subject to the insertion of the time of closure of the session, the text for inclusion in the general summary, contained in the appendix to Document Cg-XIV/PINK 15, was approved.*

The **FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT** explained that, in 1995, he had been given the personal mission of achieving an agreement on the limitation of the term of office of the Secretary-General. He had succeeded in fulfilling that mandate, gaining unanimous agreement on that proposal at Thirteenth Congress in 1999, when he had been elected First Vice-President, and he extended his appreciation and thanks for all the support he had received. Although Fourteenth Congress had been less fruitful than previous Congresses for him personally, he hoped that was not the case for other participants and the Organization, and wished the incoming Bureau great success. He thanked the Executive Council for their trust, allowing him to chair the Advisory Group on the Exchange of Meteorological and Related Data and Products in 1995. He felt that he had been able to contribute his enthusiasm and determination to innovate, although that could have been considered both a quality and a flaw; he felt that he had given his best in all that he had done, never giving up on an issue until all opportunities for convincing all concerned had been exhausted and a balanced compromise achieved. That had been a rewarding, enriching experience for him personally and, he hoped, for the Organization as well. He assured all that they could rely on his future devotion and participation as a member of the Executive Council.

The **SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT** revealed that he was both pleased and saddened to make his closing remarks. He was pleased that after three weeks of intensive efforts Congress had successfully finished its work. During the past four years, he had learned a great deal as a member of the Bureau, in particular from the President, Secretary-General and First Vice-President, and had appreciated working with Messrs Beysson, Sonzini and Salahu. He also referred to the unforgettable work he carried out with the Deputy Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General. He appreciated the efficient support of all the Secretariat staff, including the Directors, the Chiefs of Divisions, the Scientific

Officers and, in particular, the support staff. He expressed sadness to leave those who were attending their last Congress. Although he would miss both the President and the Secretary-General, he would forever have good memories of them. However, he saw a bright light for the future in the newly appointed Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, who was well-known for his kindness, knowledge, hard work and modesty. He thought himself fortunate and looked forward to working with the new Bureau and assured Congress that the Bureau would try its best to be worthy of Congress' confidence. He wished everyone a safe trip home.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION I**, on behalf of the delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania, the members of Regional Association I and his own, joined his colleagues in paying tribute to the Secretary-General and the President for their service to the Organization. He congratulated Professor Obasi on his outstanding performance during his 20 years of office as Secretary-General and 35 years in WMO in various capacities, stating that he would be remembered for his great contributions and achievements in the development of meteorology, operational hydrology and related sciences in the world at large. His relentless efforts had resulted in raising the profile of WMO and NMHSs by promoting improved management and ensuring that the NMHSs contributed effectively to various sectors of the economy by improving weather forecasts, seasonal predictions, mitigation of natural disasters, including fires, droughts and tropical cyclones. He also remarked that Professor Obasi had given his unflinching support to human social development, capacity-building and modernization of NMHSs, particularly in developing countries, to regional cooperation and the establishment of centres of excellence, such as ACMAD and the Drought Monitoring Centres of Nairobi and Harare. He noted that prior to joining WMO in the 1970s, Professor Obasi had made a remarkable contribution as an academic, having taught a good number of meteorologists in the Training Centre in Nairobi, stating that for him and many of his colleagues Professor Obasi would always be a teacher and that even those who had not been taught by him had gained greatly from his charismatic and quality leadership. As an academic, Professor Obasi had received several honorary degrees from various universities and as an administrator and leader he had been honoured by many cities and countries. He further mentioned the many scientific articles that Professor Obasi had written, and that his initiatives had succeeded in drawing world attention to a number of global issues such as climate change, desertification, depletion of the ozone layer and environmental degradation. All the above demonstrated that the Secretary-General had been an able and exemplary leader, and he wished him well for the future.

He also thanked and congratulated the President on the excellent manner in which he conducted the business of the Organization, expressing his pleasure and that of those around him at being able to benefit from his experience by reading his articles, especially those on the role and operation of NMHSs and alternative services delivery and economic benefits for meteorological services. He expressed his admiration at the President's patience and ability to solve deadlocks, noting that his wisdom and experience had enabled him to create harmony among Members even when there were divergent views on an issue. He stated that that would be dearly missed and expressed his pleasure that the President was to continue as a Member of the Executive Council and that WMO would be able to continue to draw on the President's experience and wisdom in those meetings.

He congratulated Mr Beysson on his contribution and wished him well in the future and expressed sincere thanks to the WMO Secretariat for the provision of excellent facilities for Congress, and the delegates for their hard work. He looked forward to seeing the implementation of the resolutions made during Congress and to working with the new Secretary-General and the Bureau. He wished all a safe journey.

The **ACTING PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II**, on behalf of the Members of Regional Association II and his own, paid tribute to all the Regional Association II colleagues who had been elected to the Executive Council. He expressed his gratitude and thanks to Professor Obasi, Messrs Zillman, Beysson and Noorian, who had maintained respect and cooperation. He also paid a special tribute to all the outgoing Members of the Executive Council for their outstanding contributions. He congratulated the new Secretary-General designate, the incoming President and Vice-Presidents and the newly elected Members of the Executive Council from the other regions. He conveyed his thanks to the staff of the Secretariat and all others working behind the scenes, without which the work of Congress would not have been completed in time. He wished all the Members great success in their future endeavours and wished all a bon voyage.

The **ACTING PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION III** expressed his satisfaction at the agreements and achievements of Congress, where respect and the in-depth nature of the debates facilitated the work. On behalf of Regional Association III, he congratulated the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General and all who had worked on the preparation of the items discussed, and also congratulated the President, Mr Zillman, and the First Vice-President, Mr Beysson, on the conclusion of their mandates. He expressed his recognition of Professor Obasi and his 20 years of office as Secretary-General, warmly recognizing his achievements. He congratulated Mr Jarraud on his

appointment as Secretary-General, who with his experience would direct wisely the future of WMO, and wished him well for the future. The new Bureau would work harmoniously with the President and Secretary-General and he wished them success in their new functions and delegates a safe return home.

On behalf of the delegation of Singapore and the Members of Regional Association V, the **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION V** expressed thanks to the President, Vice-Presidents and the chairpersons of all the Committees and Subcommittees for the success achieved during Congress. He expressed his appreciation for the able leadership of the President, Mr Zillman. He conveyed his appreciation to the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General and all the staff in the Secretariat for the efficient organization and management of the session. Congress had brought to light the new challenges and opportunities that WMO faced, as well as new demands and higher expectations from both governments and the public, and the importance of working in partnership with others. He expressed his confidence in the new Bureau and the new Executive Council to handle the new challenges effectively and efficiently, and looked forward to working with them.

The **PRESIDENT OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATION VI**, on behalf of the Members of Regional Association VI and his own, congratulated Professor Obasi and the WMO Secretariat on the preparation of Congress and the preparation of the many important documents. He also congratulated Mr Zillman on his leadership that enabled Congress to adopt documents and pave the way for future work. It had been a good Congress, and had shown that the community of meteorologists and hydrologists was one where acceptable solutions to difficult problems could be found. He congratulated Mr Jarraud, the Secretary-General designate, and Mr Bedritsky, the President elect, as well as Mr Sutherland, on their new posts, and wished them success and expressed the desire that they would continue the high standard of work of Mr Zillman and Professor Obasi. He wished all success.

On behalf of all the delegations of the English-speaking Caribbean countries, namely Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Caribbean Territories, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago, the **DELEGATE OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES** thanked the President and the Secretary-General for their truly outstanding contribution over a long period of time. It was especially difficult for him to bid them goodbye, as their association dated back many years. On behalf of all his colleagues, he wished them good health and all the best in their future endeavours. Congress had elected a new leadership to build upon the past and present, and he looked forward to working with the new Secretary-General, President,

Vice-Presidents and Executive Council to carry out the wishes of the Members. He thanked all delegates for keeping up the WMO spirit of friendship and collaboration, which resulted in quality work. He expressed his thanks to all the Secretariat staff, in particular to those who had worked with him. He wished all the delegates a pleasant journey and good return to their countries.

The **DELEGATE OF ALGERIA** wished to express the gratitude of the Algerian delegation to Congress for all of the words of comfort and sympathy expressed after the natural disaster in Algeria. He very warmly congratulated all the newly elected Executive Council members, the new President, Mr Bedritsky, and the Secretary-General designate, Mr Jarraud, providing his assurances that the NMS of Algeria would, more than ever, multiply its effort at national, regional and subregional levels to contribute to the implementation of the resolutions adopted and programmes approved by Congress.

The **DELEGATE OF SOUTH AFRICA** complimented the President and the Vice-Presidents for their leadership during Congress. On behalf of all first-time attendees of Congress, he commended WMO and expressed his sincere gratitude to all Members of Congress for their valuable advice. He expressed his admiration of, and appreciation to, WMO for the depth of leadership, the foresight, the measured and deliberate applications and respect for agreed principles, not least the principle of consensus. He thanked Mr Zillman, Professor Obasi and the newly appointed Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, for their visionary leadership, nobility, accessibility and dedication to WMO. He cited them as examples truly worthy of emulation. He thanked each Member of WMO who had encouraged him to stand for, and the confidence placed in him at having elected him to, the Executive Council. He was committed to do his utmost to contribute to the continued growth and advancement of WMO, and he was certain that the other new Executive Council members shared that view. Lastly, he wished all the Members of Congress the very best.

The **DELEGATE OF BOTSWANA** evoked her 20 years as head of the Botswana Meteorological Services, the first ever female Director of the Botswana Service and the first Permanent Representative of Botswana with WMO. She spoke of her attendance at Ninth Congress in 1983 – her first – where she had felt inexperienced compared with the other participants who were of a very high calibre and set a high standard. The Botswana Meteorological Service had worked very hard to reach an acceptable standard, which had been made possible only through the assistance of, and advice given by, the experienced NMS Directors and Permanent Representatives. She reiterated the challenges facing WMO, especially that of developing and least developed NMSs, such as that of Botswana, a country which was prone to drought, and where so many problems were unresolved.

She stated that the role of WMO under the leadership of Professor Obasi had been extremely significant in the development of meteorology in Botswana and expressed her recognition and appreciation of the important role of WMO Members, including, among others, United Kingdom, United States, Sweden and Canada, in helping Botswana develop through bilateral arrangements. Without the support of the WMO Secretariat and the Secretary-General himself, who was responsible for the training of meteorological staff, especially at the RMTC in Nairobi, the Botswana Meteorological Service would not have evolved as well as it had. She hoped that her small contribution had been worthy and, as a woman, wished to see more women in posts of responsibility, especially as NMS Directors, and had been pleased to see Congress adopt a resolution encouraging the participation of women in meteorology and hydrology, which WMO itself had promoted and supported.

She expressed her personal and sincere gratitude to the Secretary-General for his assistance and advice, expressed her appreciation of both him and the President, Mr Zillman, and welcomed the new Bureau and Secretary-General designate. She congratulated the newly elected Executive Council, hoping that they would surpass their predecessors. She expressed her anticipation of continued support from WMO and anticipation to see the concerns raised in Congress come to fruition, especially capacity-building and development of the NMSs of developing countries, so as to improve their visibility and bring meteorology and hydrology to the fore. In closing, she reiterated her farewells to the President and Secretary-General, extending her best wishes. She hailed Professor Obasi as “the father of meteorology in Africa” and looked forward to his continued support, advice and assistance. She bid bon voyage to all.

On behalf of the delegation of the Maldives, the **DELEGATE OF THE MALDIVES** stated that Fourteenth Congress was a memorable one. He was a survivor of four previous Congresses, and the latest was special as Congress had concurred and prevailed throughout all of the difficulties encountered. He noted that WMO was at the crossroads of its work, but was confident that the Organization would rise to meet the challenges. He congratulated the newly appointed Secretary-General and the newly elected President, Vice-Presidents and Executive Council members. He expressed his appreciation to the President for his excellent leadership. He stated that the performance of the Secretary-General had been exemplary and he was indeed a “meteorological phenomenon”. Lastly, he wished the outgoing President, Secretary-General, Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Council good health, success and happiness in their future activities, as well as bon voyage to all.

The **DELEGATE OF CHINA**, on behalf of his delegation and his own, expressed his great respect and congratulations to Mr Zillman on his successful conduct of Fourteenth Congress and his great contribution to the Organization during his terms of office as President. He also expressed his gratitude to the Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, for his wisdom and energy over the last 20 years and his appreciation of the three Vice-Presidents for their efforts and contributions, joining with the delegate of Botswana in expressing his desire to see Mr Zillman and Professor Obasi continue to contribute their wisdom and experience to WMO, despite their departure from office. He noted that there were challenges and difficulties ahead for WMO, with the rapid development in science and technology, and problems of globalization, population increase, environmental degradation, desertification, natural disasters and extreme weather events. Those were challenges that WMO should take up, by putting in more effort to expand meteorological and hydrological activities. He congratulated the incoming President, Secretary-General and Bureau, and stated his belief that, under their leadership, the Organization would seize the opportunity to take up those challenges and move towards further progress. He noted that another challenge facing WMO was the widening gap between the developed and developing countries and expressed his hope that, under the new Secretary-General and President, WMO would take measures to promote the development of NMSs in both developed and developing countries. He expressed his appreciation of the trust placed in him by Congress in appointing him to the Executive Council and promised to work together with the other Executive Council members to contribute to the healthy development of WMO. In conclusion, he promised the continued support of his Government to WMO activities, the Secretariat, the Secretary-General designate and President elect and thanked the WMO Secretariat for its successful preparation and conduct of Congress.

On behalf of the Ghanaian delegation, the **DELEGATE OF GHANA** congratulated all the delegations, the Secretariat and the Bureau for a successful and momentous Congress. He was confident that the resolutions, decisions and conclusions reached at Congress would advance WMO in weather and climate as well as hydrology and water resources. He expressed mixed feelings for the present and future because he saw the departure of two great and remarkable personalities, Mr Zillman and Professor Obasi, who had provided leadership to WMO over the past years. Their joint steering of the affairs of the Organization placed it on a sound footing for the future and to adapt to emerging trends. The delegation of Ghana saluted them and wished them well in future. As the competent and qualified Messrs Bedritsky and Jarraud stepped into their shoes, he was confident that WMO, under their leadership, would grow from

strength to strength and meet the challenges of the future. He called on the WMO Secretariat to extend them the same fruitful cooperation and dedicated service that had become the hallmark of the Organization. Lastly, he declared that his delegation pledged its full support to WMO.

The **DELEGATE OF VENEZUELA** wished to be associated with the other delegates who had congratulated the incoming and outgoing Presidents and Secretary-Generals. As Fourteenth Congress was to be his last, he wished to seize the opportunity to point out to Congress that it was a historical moment — Fourteenth Congress was the first of the new century and the new millennium and the newly appointed Secretary-General and the newly elected President, Vice-Presidents, and Executive Council members would be first of the century and the new millennium. Having been a member of the Executive Council, he expressed his appreciation for having learned enormously from those with more experience in the Organization. As he was attending his last Congress, he expressed his thanks to Congress for the considerable amount he had been able to learn from the experience of the other participants, and suggested that they commemorate the first Congress of the century and the millennium.

The **DELEGATE OF MAURITIUS**, on behalf of his delegation, expressed his appreciation for the work carried out and contributions made in support of the global meteorological community by the outgoing Secretary-General and President. He was proud of having been one of Professor Obasi's first students in Nairobi. He joined with the delegate of Venezuela in stating his pleasure at being at the first Congress of the new century and at being able to start the new century with a new team. He expressed the hope that WMO would reach greater heights and that the new team would prove WMO to be an agency of excellence within the United Nations system, adding that Mauritius was pleased to play its part with the new team. He concluded by expressing his anticipation at seeing Madagascar represented at his side at Fifteenth Congress.

The **DELEGATE OF NIGERIA** joined the other delegates in expressing the satisfaction of the Nigerian delegation with the manner in which Congress had been conducted, both in time management as well as in the preparation of documents. He thanked the Secretariat for the excellent performance under the able leadership of Professor Obasi. Nigeria was proud of Professor Obasi for his 35 years of service to WMO, and declared him a worthy ambassador. His delegation was delighted to have heard all of the kind words of praise expressed by the various delegations with respect to the Secretary-General, Professor Obasi, and the delegation of Nigeria wished to thank them. He also congratulated the President and the Vice-Presidents for their service to the Organization. He wished the new Secretary-General and his team all the best for future and a safe journey to all.

The **DELEGATE OF JAPAN** wished to be associated with the previous speakers who had expressed their appreciation to the outgoing President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary-General. He thanked them for their deep devotion not only during Congress but also throughout their terms of office and extended his congratulations to the incoming Bureau. He was pleased to announce, especially to the Members in the region concerned, that, on 22 May, the Japan Meteorological Agency had successfully completed the switchover of the GMS-5 satellite to the GOES-9 satellite, at 155°E, for uninterrupted space meteorological observations to serve all those in the region of the western Pacific and eastern Asia, which would enable all Members to access hourly observations. The GMS-5 had been operating for eight years beyond its life span, and he extended his appreciation to NOAA for its close collaboration to continue provision of observations in the area. His delegation was proud to have made that contribution to enhance WMO activities. In thanking the outgoing Secretary-General, President and Bureau for accomplishing the work of Fourteenth Congress, he wished them all the best and welcomed the incumbents.

On behalf of the Commission for Hydrology and the hydrological community and his fellow presidents of all the technical commissions, the **PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY** wished to add his voice to those who had congratulated the President for his exemplary leadership. He expressed his sincere gratitude to Professor Obasi for his exceptional leadership and his great efforts in furthering the work of WMO and thanked him for his advice on hydrological matters. He also extended his sincere appreciation to Mr Jarraud for, among other things, his good leadership of the HWRP. He wished both great success in their new undertakings. He congratulated the Secretary-General designate, Mr Jarraud, on his appointment and looked forward to his leadership on all hydrological matters. Lastly, he expressed his congratulations to the new President, Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Council and looked forward to working with them to advance the cause of meteorology, hydrology and other related sciences.

The **DELEGATE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION** noted the great step forward made by WMO at Fourteenth Congress, not only in the increase in the number of Member countries, but also in the new concepts and strategies in the Long-term Plan, perspectives, the adoption of disaster reduction and space programmes and the important decisions taken on performance indicators and the assessment of results. He had no doubt that the international community was paying due attention to WMO initiatives including the Third International Polar Year, the proposal to establish a Panel of Experts on Freshwater and support for higher quality of NMHS and WMO products. He thanked Congress for the

trust and honour shown by his election as WMO President and reassured Congress that he would work with the Secretary-General designate to strengthen the role of WMO in the world arena and fulfil the decisions of Fourteenth Congress. He congratulated the newly elected Vice-Presidents and the members of the Executive Council and expressed his hope that the resolutions of Fourteenth Congress would be successfully implemented.

He stressed the importance of the roles of the presidents of regional associations and technical commissions and all NMHSs, stating that that unique system should be strengthened and maintained. He promised to make great efforts to maintain the level of activity set by his predecessor, Mr Zillman, whose talent and ability for leading meetings was exemplified in the success of Fourteenth Congress. He expressed his particular thanks to Professor Obasi, an outstanding meteorologist, for his work in strengthening the work and authority of WMO and for his support of the work of all NMHSs, especially in developing countries, which was an important contribution to WMO. He thanked the WMO Secretariat for its professionalism and effectiveness in carrying out the broad range of duties, and particularly for their work during Congress. In closing, he presented Mr Zillman, the outgoing President, with a WMO poster signed by all the delegates as a sign of their appreciation.

The **DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL** reiterated his thanks to Congress for the honour and confidence bestowed on him in appointing him as the new Secretary-General and for the kind words of encouragement from all. Wishing to be associated with those who had remarked on the exceptional contribution of Professor Obasi to WMO, he had had the good fortune and honour of working with him as the Deputy Secretary-General, and expressed his appreciation for the confidence the Secretary-General had placed in him. The experience which he had acquired working with Professor Obasi over the past eight years would undoubtedly serve him well in his future function. He congratulated Professor Obasi on the title of Secretary-General Emeritus which Congress had bestowed on him, which was so well-deserved for his unflinching dedication to WMO over the years, and he was certain that Professor Obasi would continue to follow the progress of the Organization after his departure.

The Deputy Secretary-General joined with others in expressing appreciation to the President, Mr Zillman, for his tremendous contribution to WMO and constant hard work towards strengthening the services of NMHSs. The President had provided excellent leadership for both Thirteenth and Fourteenth Congress and handled the most sensitive issues in a very effective manner, and as a member of the Executive Council his contribution to strengthening the objectives of the Organization would continue. He thanked Messrs Beysson and

Noorian for the energy and passion they had shown as Vice-Presidents; their example and actions had confirmed the importance of that role for the smooth functioning of WMO.

The Deputy Secretary-General said that in its 53 years of existence, WMO had become a highly respected United Nations agency, alerting the international community of important subjects such as climate change, ozone depletion and water resources. Its strength was its highly specialized scientific and technical mandate, and the support from NMHSs of its Members, but above all its spirit of cooperation. WMO's mission had been greatly expanded and the development of its many applications and services attested to its considerable progress, such as the more precise early warning systems that contributed to lessening the impact of natural disasters, saving lives and minimizing their socio-economic impact. The legacy of the previous Secretary-Generals, in particular Professor Obasi, allowed WMO to face the future with optimism. Among the many challenges were the ever-increasing human and socio-economic costs related to natural disasters that were a major obstacle to sustainable development; the increasing competition for access to dwindling water resources; the growing gap between developed and developing countries, especially in the availability and use of newer technologies; the consequences of climate change; environmental degradation; and the decrease in the availability of resources for NMHSs to carry out even their most basic functions. Those challenges had affected most of the WMO Members to varying degrees, but were most critical to developing and least developing countries. WMO must, and would, confront those challenges and opportunities.

Congress had taken a number of important decisions which were of particular importance to strengthening NMHSs and to meeting the challenges of sustainable development, including: the strengthening of observation networks, taking into account the changes in technologies, including the increasing role of satellites; ensuring that WMO stayed at the forefront for the prevention of natural disasters; strengthening of capacity-building activities, in particular education, training and technical cooperation; promoting the role of science; encouraging the development of services and applications, taking advantage of scientific progress, with particular emphasis on contributing against poverty and ensuring food security and sustainable development. Increasing the visibility and appreciation of the relevance and usefulness of WMO and NMHSs was crucial, in particular through stronger links with the media and through putting more effort into encouraging studies of the socio-economic benefits of WMO and NMHS activities; developing new partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and the private sector; encouraging the further development of cooperation among NMHSs and other relevant

institutions at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in multiple domains and across various disciplines; consolidating the network of regional and subregional offices of WMO in order to realize the full benefit of the proximity to Members; and ensuring that WMO's contribution to the relevant Conventions, such as those on protection of the ozone layer, climate change, the combat against desertification, and biodiversity. Those challenges had to be met with constant creativity and innovation. In that connection, Fourteenth Congress had identified many pathways and had indicated the way forward through the Long-term Plan and the detailed programme activities for next financial period, taking into account the evolving role of WMO in its planning process, the implementation and evaluation of programmes, resource mobilization, improved use of information technology as well as a review of the fundamental charter, structure and mode of operation of WMO. A number of new major initiatives had been approved, among others, with respect to natural disasters, LDCs, creation of a space programme as well as new projects such as the Observing System Research and Predictability Experiment (THORPEX).

The Secretariat would have a crucial role to play. The very high standard of the Secretariat and its highly dedicated and competent staff had to be maintained and strengthened; its multicultural aspect, reflecting the diversity of WMO Members, was an asset that should be harnessed. It was also important to strengthen the role of the Secretariat for Members in an increasing range of domains and to reinforce the dialogue, communication and team spirit across various programmes. Much progress had been made and he sought the support of all to enhance that progress. Finally, Congress showed that the Organization had a vision, and had identified tasks and ways to address them. WMO could be instrumental in changing the world for the better.

He heartily congratulated the newly elected officers, Messrs Bedritsky, Noorian, Sutherland and Rabiolo, and he looked forward to working closely with them in the next financial period, as well as with the presidents of regional associations and technical commissions and to benefiting from their individual and collective wisdom. There was the great will to succeed. Congress had given guidance and resources and he pledged once again to work with all, individually and collectively, and to build with their support the synergy that would enable WMO to realize its goals, objectives and vision and to ensure its leadership in the areas of its mandate.

The **SECRETARY-GENERAL** expressed his satisfaction at the close of another Congress, expressing his appreciation to the President, Mr Zillman, for the manner in which he had conducted the affairs of Congress, especially the plenary meetings. He observed that, as in the past, the work of Congress was carried out in a spirit of cooperation – the hallmark of WMO, and a legacy from its

predecessor, the International Meteorological Organization, founded in 1873 – with highly professional, policy-related and collegial discussions leading to timely conclusions of deliberations in which, over the past three weeks, over 800 delegates from 171 Member countries and 36 international organizations had worked very hard to reach important decisions on the way forward. He expressed his confidence in the Members that the decisions would be implemented effectively.

It had been a privilege for Congress to have as distinguished guests the Prime Minister of Tonga and Ministers and high-level governmental officials, whose addresses on diverse issues had been embodied in Congress decisions, and the Secretary-General extended his thanks to them for their attendance. He also expressed his thanks to the various observers who had participated, stating that WMO looked forward to their continued collaboration in areas of common interest.

He observed that, as in the past, Congress had reaffirmed the Member Countries' commitment to the ideals of WMO with the adoption of the Sixth WMO Long-term Plan and the agreement on the programme and budget for the next financial period, confirming the determination of Congress to pursue, in a forward-looking manner, activities relevant to the sustainable socio-economic development of all countries of the world. Congress had also provided guidance on scientific and technical programmes and agreed on new strategic programmes related to Space, LDCs and disaster mitigation as well as on a number of issues that would strengthen the capacity of NMHSs as well as their visibility and the recognition of their role in support of sustainable development, giving high priority, in particular, to training and capacity-building especially for NMHSs in developing countries. He expressed his pleasure that consensus had been reached on even the most complex issues, reiterating that the cooperative spirit was the hallmark and overriding strength of WMO, and thanked all those who had served in various capacities for their hard work which had contributed to the success of Congress. He congratulated the new President, Mr Bedritsky, and the new Secretary-General, Mr Jarraud, expressing his anticipation at working closely with them to ensure a smooth transition. He believed that the President elect and Secretary-General designate had shown their qualities over the years and that, without a doubt, Fifteenth Congress would affirm their many good qualities.

The Secretary-General expressed his thanks to Congress for having been accorded the honorary title of Secretary-General Emeritus. He warmly congratulated and thanked the new Vice-Presidents, Messrs Noorian, Sutherland and Rabiolo, whom he was certain would serve in a commendable manner, and the elected members of the Executive Council for offering their services. He was convinced that all members of the Executive Council elected in their

personal capacity would work together to ensure that the Organization met with the ever-increasing and new challenges in a highly effective and successful manner. He would be remiss if he did not thank all the dedicated people around the world who quietly supported WMO as they fulfilled their responsibilities every day all year round, regardless of weather, climate and hydrological conditions. He thanked the Swiss and Geneva authorities for their continued support in providing Congress with excellent facilities and the suitable conditions for building the new WMO Headquarters. He also thanked the interpreters and support staff who had ensured the success of Congress. He noted that Fourteenth Congress was a bridge between the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, and that the "torch had been passed on" to the new generation of leaders whose challenge it was to keep it burning brightly.

Having had the rare privilege of serving WMO for more than two decades, the time had come to say goodbye to Congress and he thanked the Members for their cooperation and expressed his fulfilment and gratitude at having been able to work with everyone and at having been warmly received on his visits. He observed that all clouds were both bright and dark and that his career had not been different; however, the diligence and energy with which the Member countries had committed themselves to WMO had meant that there had been more bright spots. He reiterated the humility he had expressed at the time of his first appointment as Secretary-General in 1983, for the trust, confidence and responsibility with which he had been entrusted and once again thanked everyone for their support, cooperation and dedication, and requested that the same support be extended to his successor in the future.

He expressed his appreciation to all those who had advised and assisted him over the years and was particularly thankful to the successive presidents of the Organization, Messrs Kintanar of the Philippines, Zou Jingmeng of China and Zillman of Australia, with whom he had worked closely, and who had provided their collective wisdom when the Organization needed to respond to numerous challenges. He thanked all the Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Council, and the presidents of the regional associations and technical commissions, who had worked ceaselessly for the success of the Organization.

He wished to express his indebtedness to his close collaborators. First, he paid tribute to the Second Secretary-General of WMO, the late Sir Arthur Davies, whom he had highly valued and who had been responsible for laying a solid foundation for all the achievements from which WMO now benefited. He further expressed his appreciation to Messrs List (Canada), Smith (Canada), Bruce (Canada), Axford (United Kingdom) and Jarraud (France) for their assistance and loyalty as Deputy Secretary-Generals, the successive Assistant



Secretary-Generals, Messrs Czelnai (Hungary), Zaitsev (Russian Federation) and Yan Hong (China), his other colleagues and the staff of the WMO Secretariat, men and women who were of great value to humanity and who had made WMO what it was and would enable it to continue to grow unabated in the future. WMO was a vibrant Organization capable of facing diverse issues and, despite their diversity, its Members were able to find harmony and unity and had come to a realization of their shared, but differentiated, responsibility with respect to the Organization.

The Secretary-General was confident that WMO would continue to grow and further develop in the future under the new, able leadership and become more appreciated as an international scientific and technical organization, contributing greatly to present and future generations. He would always cherish his experience with WMO and reiterated the promise he had made in 1983 to continue to promote WMO in whatever capacity he would have in the future. In closing, he thanked his wife and his children for their unqualified support over the years.

The **PRESIDENT** thanked Professor Obasi for his eloquent and noble final address. In reiterating the numerous comments of appreciation that had been expressed, the President concluded that it had been a harmonious, constructive and successful Congress due to the tremendous contributions of all the delegates, and he wished to add his sincere thanks to the Vice-Presidents Messrs Beysson and Noorian for their support and loyalty throughout Congress and over the last four years, all the members of the outgoing Executive Council, the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General, whom he congratulated for a job well done at his first Congress in that role. He also thanked the committee secretaries and all the other staff who had supported the various meetings, from the Directors to the support staff. He thanked the 64 interpreters and the 90 translators, typists, proofreaders and print shop staff who often worked overnight as well as some 16 staff working to provide supporting conference services. The success of Congress was due also to the tremendous support behind the scenes, and he invited the delegates to express their appreciation to the Secretariat staff who had made it possible. He also expressed his appreciation for the kind and generous words spoken about him personally and was touched by the lovely gesture of the poster and signatures presented to him earlier at the plenary. His final words as President of WMO would be simple, brief and somewhat personal.

Having first come to WMO 30 years previously, he reminisced about his first Congress in 1975, during which he visited the mountains with some of the great figures of the formative years of WMO, who were bound closely together in friendship by their common love of meteorology and their belief

in the power of international cooperation to do good in the world, and he quickly learned from them that WMO was really one great tightly-knit global family. Just as he was captivated by the clarity of the mountains, his eyes were opened to the enormous potential of international cooperation to enhance the quality and value of meteorological and hydrological services, and he began to see more clearly how the structure that the founding fathers had built could serve as a foundation for even greater contributions to a better world.

That inherited sense of vision, and the friendship and support of all those too numerous to mention who had shared and strengthened it over the nearly three decades of his involvement with WMO, had sustained his belief that the meteorological community was the most privileged, most united and most effective international community in the world. On the first weekend of Fourteenth Congress, he went once more to the mountains as he had 28 years earlier, and as the day wore on the more distant peaks faded from view. So it was with science and with life. He did not see as clearly as he once thought he did the detail of the vast panorama of opportunities ahead but he took great satisfaction in the knowledge that there were many others at Congress who did, and who would. In his closing remarks at Thirteenth Congress and at the annual sessions of the Executive Council, he had tried to take stock of how deliberations during the sessions had changed the course of WMO and to present a new vision for the challenges ahead. He was pleased that that responsibility and privilege had now been passed to the new President and Secretary-General and their team. His best wishes were with them and he would do his utmost to support them in the realization of their vision for the future of WMO.

To the Secretary-General Emeritus and all those who were attending a Congress for the last time, he extended the thanks of the entire global meteorological and hydrological community for the individual and collective wisdom that they would be leaving behind as inspiration for those to whom the torch had been passed, and whose great challenges would be to ensure that that torch shined ever more brightly to light up the way ahead. His own overwhelming emotion was one of gratitude for the trust and support of so many in the WMO family over the last eight years. His admiration and affection for the magnificent people in the Secretariat knew no bounds and he would be very sad to leave the community. He would have liked to find ways to stay longer, but he hoped that his judgement was still good enough to know when it was the right time to leave, and he did so in the knowledge that he had been part of an extremely exciting and enjoyable period in the development of meteorology. He was deeply grateful to all in the WMO community for their companionship and friendship along the tortuous path of progress over

the past 30 years. He had reached the end of his personal journey with a sense of satisfaction knowing that WMO had survived through some extraordinarily difficult times and he had a profoundly positive view of what the Organization would achieve in the 21st century.

In summary, as WMO's custodianship passed to another generation, he considered meteorology to be one of the most exciting, challenging and practically useful fields of natural science with a future that promised both steady progress and occasional giant leaps forward as spectacular as any that had been achieved in the past in any field. It was a profession that was as noble, inspiring and all-consuming as any there was and one that could give to those who were fortunate enough to stumble on it in their youth a lifetime of satisfaction that few, if any, in retirement

would have foregone for all the material rewards in the world. It was a global family and its ties of trust and friendship would continue to bind tightly across the barriers of race, religion, culture and social and economic conditions to contribute in a small but significant way to the highest ideals and aspirations that every generation held for the future of humanity.

Before closing Fourteenth Congress, he wished to once again thank Congress as well as his colleagues on the podium, the Secretariat and the interpreters, and endorsed the thanks and good wishes extended to all by Messrs Bedritsky and Jarraud and Professor Obasi.

*The President declared the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress closed at 5.56 p.m.*

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABEDA	Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa
ACMAD	African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development
AgMP	Agricultural Meteorology Programme
AGRHYMET	Regional Training Centre for Agrometeorology and Operational Hydrology and their Applications
ALADIN	Atmospheric Laser Doppler Instrument
AMDAR	Aircraft Meteorological Delay Relay
AMESD	African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development
AMP	Applications of Meteorology Programme
AOC-HYCOS	West and Central Africa Hydrological Cycle Observing System
AREP	Atmospheric Research and Environment Programme
ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
ASECNA	Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar
ASMC	ASEAN Specialized Meteorological Centre
AWS	Automatic Weather Station
BSH	(Programme on) Basic Systems in Hydrology
BOOS	Baltic Ocean Observing System
CAeM	Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology
CAGM	Commission for Agricultural Meteorology
CAS	Commission for Atmospheric Sciences
CBH	(Programme on) Capacity Building in Hydrology
CCI	Commission for Climatology
CILSS	Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CIMO	Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation
CLICOM	Climate Computing
CLIPS	Climate Information and Prediction Services
EAMAC	African School of Meteorology and Civil Aviation
EC	Executive Council
ECMWF	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDMS	Electronic Document Management System
ERA	Emergency Response Activities
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ETRP	Education and Training Programme
EUMETSAT	European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
FAH	(Programme on) Forecasting and Application in Hydrology
FINAC	Financial Advisory Committee
FWIS	Future WMO Information System
GAW	Global Atmosphere Watch
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GDPS	Global Data-processing System
GIS	Geographical Information System
GOES	Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites
GOOS	Global Ocean Observing System
GOS	Global Observing System
GTS	Global Telecommunication System

HOMS	Hydrological Operational Multipurpose System
HWRP	Hydrology and Water Resources Programme
HYDRONIGER	Hydrological Forecasting System in the River Niger Basin
IABM	International Association of Broadcast Meteorology
IAF	International Astronautical Federation
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICRISAT	International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-arid Tropics
ICSU	International Council for Science
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IGOS	Integrated Global Observing Strategy
IMO	International Meteorological Organization
IMOP	Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IOGOOS	Indian Ocean GOOS
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
JCOMM	Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology
JCOMMOPS	JCOMM In Situ Observing Platform Support Centre
LDC	Least Developed Country
MMAOAP	Marine Meteorology and Associated Oceanographic Activities Programme
NBA	Niger Basin Authority
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NHS	National Hydrological Service
NIMET	Nigerian Meteorological Agency
NMC	National Meteorological Centre
NMHS	National Meteorological and Hydrological Service
NMS	National Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWP	Numerical Weather Prediction
PACIFIC-HYCOS	Pacific Hydrological Observing System
PCCWMR	(Programme on) Physics and Chemistry of Clouds and Weather
PIREM	Platform for Regional Institutions for the Environment and Meteorology
PUMA	Preparation for the Use of Meteosat Second Generation in Africa
PWSP	Public Weather Services Programme
RA	Regional Association
RANET	Radio and Internet
RBB	Results-based Budgeting
RBSN	Regional Basic Synoptic Network
RCC	Regional Climate Centre
RETIM	Réseau européen de transmission d'information météorologique (par satellite)
RMDCN	Regional Meteorological Data Communication Network
RMTC	Regional Meteorological Training Centre
RMTN	Regional Meteorological Telecommunication Network
RSMC	Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre
6LTP	Sixth WMO Long-term Plan
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDTL	Staff Development, Training and Learning
SDW	(Programme on) Sustainable Development of Water Resources
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TCC	Tropical Cyclone Committee
TCOP	Technical Cooperation Programme
TCP	Tropical Cyclone Programme
THORPEX	The Observing System Research and Predictability Experiment
TMRP	Tropical Meteorology Research Programme
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VCP	Voluntary Cooperation Programme
WAFS	World Area Forecast System
WCASP	World Climate Applications and Services Programme
WCDMP	World Climate Data and Monitoring Programme
WCIRP	World Climate Impact Assessment and Response Strategies Programme
WCP	World Climate Programme
WCRP	World Climate Research Programme
WHYCOS	World Hydrological Cycle Observing System
WMC	World Meteorological Centre
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WWRP	World Weather Research Programme
WWW	World Weather Watch
WWWDMP	World Weather Watch Data Management Programme