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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS**  **Nineteenth Session** 22 May to 2 June 2023, Geneva | **Cg-19/Doc. 4.2(3)** |
| Submitted by: Chair of the Plenary  24.V.2023  **APPROVED** |

**AGENDA ITEM 4: TECHNICAL STRATEGIES SUPPORTING LONG-TERM GOALS**

**AGENDA ITEM 4.2: Earth system observations and predictions**

*[All changes in the document have been requested by the president of INFCOM]*

# wmo sTANDARD VOCABULARY



# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Standardized terminology is key for efficient and effective international cooperation, and the exchange and standardization of technical information used by WMO.

2. WMO recognized this need from its early stages by developing and publishing documents such as the [*International Meteorological Vocabulary*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=220#.YzvwuXZBw2x) (WMO-No. 182), the [*International Glossary of Hydrology*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=7394#.YzvxTHZBw2w) (WMO-No. 385), and the [*WIGOS Metadata Standard*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=19925#.YzvxcHZBw2w) (WMO-No. 1192).

3. Currently, definitions of terms are scattered across different kinds of WMO publications. As a result, it is difficult for communities inside and outside WMO to identify which publications should be looked for when seeking an ‘authoritative definition’.

4. Though most terms were integrated in the United Nations Terminology Database (UNTERM), this system does not enable to identify an “authoritative source” nor provides a clearly identified body in charge of updates.

5. It is proposed to develop an online tool providing access to unambiguous and authoritative definitions of terminology in use in all WMO publications. This development will have to respect and refer to the internationally recognized vocabularies with generally accepted and authorized definitions.

6. WMO and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have agreed to establish a joint expert group to review and update, as necessary, the definitions included in the *International Glossary of Hydrology* (WMO-No. 385) that is a joint publication of WMO and UNESCO.

7. In draft Resolution 4.2(3)/1 (Cg-19), a new paragraph “**Having been further informed…”** was included to reflect the recommendation from HCP-5. This paragraph was not in the original recommendation from INFCOM-2. Similarly, a new paragraph “**Further requests** INFCOM…” was included to assign the responsibility to INFCOM to coordinate this development.

# DRAFT RESOLUTION

## Draft Resolution 4.2(3)/1 (Cg-19)

## WMO Standard Vocabulary

THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS,

**Recalling:**

(1) [Articles 2 (a), 2 (c) – (f)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187" \l "page=12), and [8 (d)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=16) of the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-NO. 15)),

(2) [Resolution 19 (EC-69)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3645/#page=161) - WMO Quality Policy Statement,

(3) [Resolution 9 (EC-73)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11008/#page=34) - Plan for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System Initial Operational Phase (2020–2023),

(4) [Resolution 1 (Cg-Ext(2021))](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11113/#page=9) - WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data,

(5) [Resolution 4 (Cg-Ext(2021))](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11113/#page=36) - WMO Vision and Strategy for Hydrology and its associated Plan of Action,

**Noting:**

(1) The importance of standardized terminology for engaging WMO Members and WMO partners in WMO activities,

(2) The importance of standard terminology to be used in respect to the implementation of [Resolution 1 (Cg-Ext(2021))](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11113/#page=9) - WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data,

(3) The need for a tool providing access to unambiguous and authoritative definitions of terminology in use in all WMO publications, in particular in the [*Technical Regulations, Volume I: General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073) (WMO-No. 49) and their annexes,

**Having examined** the Concept Note [[INFCOM-2/INF. 6.2(1)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11566)],

**Having considered** [Recommendation 11 (INFCOM-2)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11575#page=821),

**Having been informed** of the support expressed by the president of the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) to the development of the WMO Standard Vocabulary,

**Having been further informed** by the Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) that the definitions contained in the International Glossary for Hydrology have been agreed jointly by WMO and UNESCO International Hydrology Programme, (included by Secretariat to account for the recommendation of HCP-5),

**Decides** that a WMO Standard Vocabulary be developed as a joint activity of both Technical Commissions, the Research Board, and the WMO Secretariat;

**Requests** the Secretary-General:

(1) To provide the necessary technical assistance and Secretariat support for the development and maintenance of the WMO Standard Vocabulary;

(2) To consider allocating resources from the regular budget for the development and maintenance of the WMO Standard Vocabulary, including technical tools;

(3) To initiate long-term planning, including the necessary allocation of resources, for the development and maintenance of the WMO Standard Vocabulary tools in all official WMO languages, for the operational sustainability of these tools, and for the regular review and update of the WMO Standard Vocabulary;

**Requests** the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM), the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) and the Research Board to provide sufficient resources with the appropriate expertise, and to include the development of the WMO Standard Vocabulary into their workplans for the next financial period;

**Further requests** INFCOM to take the lead and coordinate the development of the WMO Standard Vocabulary, in cooperation with SERCOM, RB and HCP;

**Invites** the WMO international partner organizations to contribute to this activity.

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