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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. 1** |
| Submitted by: WMO President  20.III.2023  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 1: AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION**

# GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

1. The nineteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19) was opened by the WMO President, Professor G. Adrian, on Monday 22 May 2023 at 9 a.m. in the International Conference Centre Geneva. The Secretary-General, Professor P. Taalas, and a representative of the Government of Switzerland addressed the opening. *[… to be completed during the session].*
2. Congress approved the agenda as provided in [Appendix 1](#_Appendix_1_to).
3. Congress established the following committees:

(a) Credentials Committee:

Chair: … (…) *[to be appointed by Congress]*

Members: principal delegates of …, …, … *[6 members]*

(b) Nomination Committee:

Chair: … (…) *[to be elected by the Committee]*

Members: principal delegates of …, …, … *[12 members]*

(c) Coordination Committee:

Chair: President

Members: Vice-Presidents of WMO, Secretary-General or his representative and the chairs of the committees other than the Credentials and Nomination Committees have been invited, when necessary.

(d) WMO Hydrological Assembly (Committee on Hydrology):

Chair: … (…) *[to be elected by the Assembly]*

Vice-Chair: … (…) *[to be elected by the Assembly]*

Members: open

(e) Committee on budget 2024–2027:

Chair: … (…) *[to be appointed by Congress]*

Members: open

1. Congress took the following procedural decisions on the organization of the session:

(a) Agreed on the programme of work of the session and on the working hours of the meetings from 9 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 5 p.m. CEST,

(b) Adopted methods of work reflected in Resolution 1 ([Cg-19/Doc. 1.3](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/English/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2FCg%2D19%2FEnglish%2F1%2E%20DRAFTS%20FOR%20DISCUSSION&FolderCTID=0x012000B201DF88DD6A2A41AD96184E1530A358&View=%7BA5F5A1D9%2DCDFC%2D4E69%2DB3FB%2D35146C93ECAB%7D)),

(c) Noted [General Regulation 95](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=68) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)) concerning session records and minutes.

5. Congress noted the reports of the President of WMO ([Cg-19/INF. 2.1](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx)), the Secretary-General ([Cg-19/INF. 2.2](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx)), presidents of regional associations ([Cg-19/INF. 2.3](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx)), president of technical commissions and the Chair of the Research Board (Cg-19/[INF. 2.4(1)](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx), [Cg-19/2.4(2)](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx), [Cg-19/2.4(3)](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx)) and other reports highlighting progress in the implementation of Congress decisions by the constituent and additional bodies of the Organization and the Secretariat since the last session of Congress. Congress approved the reports of the Credentials Committee and noted the report of the Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the reports of the External Auditor, the WMO Audit and Oversight Committee and the Internal Oversight Office, and other bodies.

1. Congress thanked Dr Sue Barrell, laureate of the sixty-seventh IMO Prize, for her lecture and requested the Secretary-General to arrange for the appropriate publication in the *WMO Bulletin* series.
2. The session adopted *[xx]* resolutions given in Appendix 2.
3. The list of participants is given in Appendix 3. Out of a total of *[xx]* participants, *[xx]* were men, i.e. *[xx]*%, and *[xx]* were women, i.e. *[xx]*%.
4. Congress agreed that the twentieth ordinary session would be held from *[xx]* to *[xx]* 2027.
5. Congress further agreed to hold an extraordinary session from *[xx]* to *[xx]* 2025 as specified in [draft Resolution 9/1 (Cg-19)](https://meetings.wmo.int/CG-19/English/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2FCg%2D19%2FEnglish%2F1%2E%20DRAFTS%20FOR%20DISCUSSION&FolderCTID=0x012000B201DF88DD6A2A41AD96184E1530A358&View=%7BA5F5A1D9%2DCDFC%2D4E69%2DB3FB%2D35146C93ECAB%7D).
6. The nineteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress closed at *[xx]* on Friday, 2 June 2023.

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## Appendix 1 to the General Summary of the Work of the Session

**PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**1. Agenda and organization of the session**

1.1 Opening of the session

The nineteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress will open on Monday 22 May 2023 at 9 a.m. in the International Conference Centre – Geneva (CICG), 17 rue de Varembé, Geneva.

1.2 Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with [General Regulation 111](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=72) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO‑No. 15)), the provisional agenda, prepared by the Executive Council in accordance with [General Regulation 109](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=71), will be submitted to Congress after the opening of the session for approval. The agenda may be amended by Congress at any time during the course of the session.

1.3 Programme and methods of work

Congress will agree upon the working hours of the meetings (from 9 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 5 p.m. CEST) and upon the programme of work for the session (the Tentative Workplan is provided on the [Congress website](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/Lists/SessionCalendar/calendar.aspx?CalendarDate=22/05/2023&CalendarPeriod=week)); it will be adjusted by the Coordination Committee, as necessary, during the session.

Congress will adopt methods of work to facilitate the remote participation of delegates through videoconference.

1.4 Establishment of committees

Congress will work in plenary throughout the session. The Credentials Committee, Nomination Committee, Coordination Committee will be established in accordance with [General Regulations 22](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=49) to [25](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=50). The WMO Hydrological Assembly will be convened in accordance with [General Regulation 26](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=50) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO‑No. 15)). Congress may establish other committees for in-depth consideration of specific decisions, such as the Committee on budget 2024–2027.

1.5 Records

In accordance with [General Regulation 95](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=68) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO‑No. 15)), decisions adopted by Congress shall be recorded in the final report of the session and published by the Secretariat after the session. Information documents and statements shall also be included in the final report. Summarized minutes of the discussion at plenary meetings shall be prepared by the Secretariat only where there is a specific request from the plenary. Audio recordings of plenary meetings shall be made and retained for record purposes.

**2. Reports**

In accordance with [General Regulation 109](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=71) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO‑No. 15)), Congress will consider the reports of the President of the Organization, the Secretary-General, presidents of regional associations and technical commissions and chairs of other bodies established by Congress. The reports will highlight progress in the implementation of Congress decisions by constituent bodies and other bodies of the Organization and by the Secretariat.

2.1 Report by the President of the Organization

2.2 Report by the Secretary-General

2.3 Reports by presidents of regional associations

2.4 Reports by presidents of technical commissions and Chair of the Research Board

2.5 Report of the Chair of the Financial Advisory Committee

2.6 Report of the Chair of the Hydrological Assembly

2.7 Report by the Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

2.8 Report of the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Panel

These reports will be considered under the respective agenda items as indicated in the Tentative Workplan of the session.

**3. Strategic plan and budget 2024–2027**

3.1 Strategic plan and budget 2024–2027

(1) In accordance with [General Regulation 109 (3)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=71) (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO‑No. 15)), Congress will consider the adoption of the Strategic Plan 2024–2027 recommended by the Executive Council.

(2) In accordance with [Article 23 (a)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=23) of the WMO Convention, [General Regulation 109 (3)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=71) and [Article 3](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=125) of the Financial Regulations (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), Congress will determine the maximum expenditure for the nineteenth financial period (2024–2027) guided by the recommendations of the Executive Council and the Financial Advisory Committee.

3.2 Strategic initiatives

Congress will consider recommendations of the Executive Council concerning strategic initiatives:

(a) UN Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL),

(b) WMO-coordinated Global Greenhouse Gas Monitoring Infrastructure,

(c) Priorities to Address Global and Regional Impacts of Changes in the Cryosphere.

**4. Technical strategies supporting long-term goals**

In accordance with [Article 8 (e)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=16), [(f)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=17) and [(g)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=17) of the WMO Convention (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), Congress will consider the recommendations of the Executive Council, regional associations, technical commissions and other bodies to implement the long-term goals of the Strategic Plan.

Congress will further consider recommendations arising from the WMO Hydrological Assembly under the relevant agenda items or separately as appropriate.

4.1 Services for societal needs

Congress will consider the report of the president of Service Commission, the performance report on LTG-1 2020–2022 and the following draft resolutions recommended by the Services Commission:

(1) [*WMO Strategy for service delivery and its implementation plan*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=16002#.ZAsOonbMKUk)(WMO‑No. 1129),

(2) Proposed amendment to the [*Technical Regulations, Volume I: General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073#.ZAsQkXbMI2w) (WMO-No. 49), and update to the [*Compendium of WMO Competency Frameworks*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=21607#.ZAsQqHbMI2w) (WMO‑No. 1209),

(3) Plan of Action for the Discontinuation of the [*Technical Regulations, Volume II: Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=21806#.ZAsQ03bMI2w), (WMO‑No. 49)

(4) Proposed amendment to the *Technical Regulations, Volume I: General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices* (WMO-No. 49) to include the Common Alerting Protocol as recommended practice,

Congress will further consider the following draft resolutions recommended by the Executive Council based on the recommendations of the Services Commission:

(5) Review of BIP-M and BIP-MT ([Part VI](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10955#page=55) and [Appendix A](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10955#page=64) of Volume I of the *Technical Regulations* (WMO-No. 49)),

(6) Cost Options Investigation.

Congress will consider the following draft resolutions prepared on the basis of recent decisions of the Executive Council based on the recommendations of the Services Commission:

(7) Drought management,

(8) Health services,

(9) Floods and other hydrological services.

4.2 Earth system observations and predictions

Congress will consider the report of the president of Infrastructure Commission, the performance report on LTG-2 2020–2022 and the following draft resolutions recommended by the Infrastructure Commission:

(1) High Level Guidance on the evolution of global observing systems during the period 2023–2027 in response to the Vision for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) in 2040,

(2) Initial Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) Composition,

(3) WMO Standard Vocabulary,

(4) Climate Data Management in the WMO Information System 2.0,

(5) [*Manual on the WMO Information System: Annex VII to the WMO Technical Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=9254#.ZAsi5XbMI2w)(WMO-No. 1060) of the WMO Information System 2.0,

(6) WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS),

(7) Amendments to the [*Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System: Annex IV to the WMO Technical Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=12793#.ZAsRbHbMI2w) (WMO-No. 485) in alignment with WMO Unified Data Policy.

Congress will consider the following matters submitted by the Services Commission:

(8) Update of the mechanism for recognition of long-term observing stations, as well as recognition of additional centennial stations.

Congress will further consider the following recommendations of the Executive Council based on the recommendations of the Infrastructure Commission:

(9) Improving Climate Observations,

(10) WMO Position on the World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) Agenda.

4.3 Targeted research

Congress will consider the report of the Chair of the Research Board, the performance report on LTG-3 2020–2022 and the following draft resolutions recommended by the Executive Council based on the recommendations from the Research Board:

(1) Implementation Plan of the World Weather Research Programme for the period 2024–2027,

(2) Science and Implementation Plan of the Global Atmosphere Watch Programme for the period 2024–2027,

(3) Revised Terms of Reference of the Research Board.

Congress with further consider the recommendations of the Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) formulated in the *SAP Science and Technology Vision Paper* and related actions recommended by the Executive Council based on appraisal of the priority and feasibility of the SAP recommendations provided by the Research Board in its Appraisal Report.

The Congress will also receive the report of the Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

4.4 Capacity development

Congress will note the performance report on LTG-4 2020–2022 and will consider the following draft resolutions:

(1) WMO Capacity Development Strategy recommended by the Executive Council and the approach for the development of an implementation plan,

(2) Education and Training, taking into account the increasing demand for training, emanating from new WMO initiatives such as EW4ALL and other strategic initiatives, availability of new data from METEOSAT Third Generation, the new Global Data-processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS) and leadership and management training to enhance effective management of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). It will also discuss how the new concept of Consortium of WMO Education and Training Collaborating Partners (CONECT) could further contribute to enhancing education and training activities,

(3) Other capacity development matters as recommended by the Executive Council.

4.5 Equal, effective and inclusive participation

Congress will review and adopt the updated WMO Gender Action Plan based on the progress of implementation of [Resolution 82 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827#page=262).

Congress will further discuss approaches and means to ensure equal, effective and inclusive participation in WMO bodies and activities. This will include: (a) balanced regional representation of experts in scientific and technical working structures; (b) retention of senior experts and attraction of young experts; and (c) Members’ engagement in sessions and during the intersessional periods.

In this respect Congress will take note of the decision of the Executive Council on principles for the organization of face-to-face and virtual sessions that will be kept under review and further improvements based on experience learnt and in line with operational planning and performance assessment.

In concluding item 4, Congress will also consider the following additional recommendations expected to be provided by the Hydrological Assembly:

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

(2) Increase of hydrological participation in WMO governing bodies, and participation of hydrological advisers in regional technical conferences,

(3) Regional HydroSOS implementation plans for sustainable water resource management and reporting on the state of global water resources, and

(4) Use of term "hydrological services".

**5. Governance reform evaluation and constituent body structures**

Under this item the following matters will be considered by Congress:

(1) Congress will consider the results and of external evaluation of WMO governance reform, note the analysis and actions taken by the Executive Council and decide on those recommended to Congress. In this regard, Congress will direct the Executive Council to oversee the implementation of its decisions.

(2) In accordance with [Article 8](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=16) [(f)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=17) and [(g)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=17) of the WMO Convention (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)) Congress will review the current constituent bodies, as well as additional bodies, established by Congress, decide on the appropriateness of current structures and adjust, as necessary, for the nineteenth financial period.

(3) In accordance with [Article 8 (h)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=16) of the WMO Convention, Congress will consider amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Financial Advisory Committee recommended by the Executive Council.

**6. General, legal, policy, regulatory, financial and administrative matters**

6.1 Amendments to the General, Financial and Staff Regulations *(*[*Basic Documents No. 1*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14206)(WMO-No. 15)); and the Technical Regulations, *(*[*Technical Regulations Volume I: General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073)(WMO-No. 49))

Congress will consider recommendations of the Executive Council on the following matters:

1. Amendments to:
2. Technical Regulations(*Technical Regulations, Volume I: General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices* (WMO-No. 49)),
3. General, Financial and Staff Regulations *(*[*Basic Documents No. 1*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14206)(WMO-No. 15)),

granting to the technical commissions the authority to approve non-regulatory publications (Guides and other guidance materials), and to introduce the required amendments,

(2) Amendments to the [Financial Regulations](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=123) *(Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), with respect to the terms of the External Auditor,

(3) Amendments to the [Staff Regulations](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=113) *(Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)) introducing several provisions including:

(a) New Staff Regulation 10.2 – Unsatisfactory conduct, Investigations and the Disciplinary Process,

(b) Introduction of Term Limit for the Director of the Internal Oversight Office,

(c) Amendments to the Staff Regulations 1.1 – Status of staff, 1.2 – Basic rights and obligations of staff, and 1.3 – Performance of staff approved by the Executive Council though [Resolution 16 (EC-72)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10504#page=82) subject to approval by Congress.

Congress will hear from the president of the Staff Association regarding the views of the Staff Association on condition of service of staff.

Specific amendments to the *Technical Regulations* will be considered under agenda item 4.

* 1. General matters

Under this item, Congress will consider:

(1) The list of WMO mandatory publications for the nineteenth financial period, including regulatory and non-regulatory publications recommended by technical commissions, and

(2) The tentative programme of sessions of constituent bodies (regional associations and technical commissions) for the nineteenth financial period, including Member’s hosting proposals. In this respect, Members are invited to consider hosting sessions and indicate their intentions to the Secretariat ahead of the Congress.

6.3 Financial matters

Under this item, Congress will consider the following financial matters:

(1) Use of cash surplus arising from the eighteenth Financial Period,

(2) Scale of Assessment for the nineteenth Financial Period,

(3) Working Capital Fund.

6.4 Legal and administrative matters

Congress will consider the following recommendations of the Executive Council:

1. Legislative framework to implement JIU/REP/2020/1 Recommendation 7, including the contract of the Secretary-General and related directives to the Executive Council (amendments to the [*Rules of Procedure for the Executive Council*](https://library.wmo.int/?lvl=notice_display&id=21829#.ZAsjrHbMI2x) (WMO‑No. 1256), establishment of the Disciplinary Committee and amendments to the terms of reference of the Audit and Oversight Committee),

(2) Endorsement of Statute Change of the International Civil Service Commission,

(3) Salaries of ungraded officials.

6.5 Oversight

Congress will receive reports and consider recommendations of oversight bodies:

(1) External Auditor,

(2) Audit and Oversight Committee,

(3) Internal Oversight Office,

(4) Joint Inspection Unit.

**7. Elections and appointments**

In accordance with [General Regulation 109 (8)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=72), [(9) and (10)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=72) *(Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), Congress will hold the following elections and appointments:

7.1 Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization

7.2 Election of members of the Executive Council

7.3 Appointment of the Secretary-General

The method and process of voting at elections and appointments is described in [Cg‑19/Doc. 1.3](https://meetings.wmo.int/CG-19/English/Forms/AllItems.aspx?RootFolder=%2FCg%2D19%2FEnglish%2F1%2E%20DRAFTS%20FOR%20DISCUSSION&FolderCTID=0x012000B201DF88DD6A2A41AD96184E1530A358&View=%7BA5F5A1D9%2DCDFC%2D4E69%2DB3FB%2D35146C93ECAB%7D) – Methods of work of the session (including voting procedure) and further detailed in [Cg-19/INF. 7](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Forms/AllItems.aspx), with due respect to recommendations of the Executive Council regarding the method of voting in elections and appointments of key WMO leadership positions to ensure the highest levels of integrity, transparency, security and accountability.

**8. Review of previous resolutions of Congress**

In accordance with [General Regulation 109 (11)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11187#page=72) *(Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), Congress will consider the recommendation of the Executive Council on the review of previous resolutions of Congress, including with a view to: (a) streamlining WMO scientific and technical programmes as per Strategic Objective 5.2 of the [*Strategic Plan 2020–2023*](https://library.wmo.int/?lvl=notice_display&id=21525#.ZAsjxXbMI2x) (WMO-No. 1225) and [Resolution 11 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827#page=63) – WMO reform – next phase; and (b) declaring the resolutions and recommendations of the past commission structure no longer in force as fully implemented and incorporated into the activities of the current technical commissions and additional bodies.

**9. Date and place of the next Congress**

Congress will consider holding an extraordinary session of Congress in 2025 (Cg-Ext(2025)) to review progress and provide further directions on Early Warning for All and other strategic initiatives and provide directions to the Executive Council regarding the organization of session in accordance with [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827#page=295) - Extraordinary session of Congress in 2021.

Congress will further decide on the date and place of next ordinary session of Congress.

**10. Closure of the session**

The nineteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress is expected to close on Friday, 2 June 2023 at 5 p.m.

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