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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**  **Seventy-Sixth Session** 27 February to 3 March 2023, Geneva | **EC-76/Doc. 3.2(22)** |
| Submitted by: President of INFCOM  5.I.2023  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF CONGRESS DECISIONS: TECHNICAL MATTERS**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.2: Long-term goal 2: Earth system observations and predictions**

# REGIONAL INSTRUMENT CENTRES (rics)

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| **Summary** |
| **Document presented by:** President of INFCOM  **Strategic objective 2020–2023:** 2.1  **Financial and administrative implications:** within the parameters of the Strategic and Operational Plans 2020–2023, will be reflected in the Strategic and Operational Plans  2024–2027.  **Key implementers:** INFCOM, in collaboration with regional associations and UNESCO/Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)  **Time frame:** 2023–2027  **Action expected:** review the proposed draft Resolution 3.2(22)/1 (EC-76) |

# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Background

1. In view of the WMO reform, there was a need to modify some of the processes for designation and monitoring of WMO centres to account for the new technical commissions structure.

2. It is recognized that further work is needed on the audit processes for those centres to be in line with the standard and recommended practices and procedures described in the [*Technical Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073)(WMO-No. 49), Volume I. Such work is underway.

3. [Resolution 8 (EC-75)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11331#page=33) – Review of previous resolutions and decisions of the Executive Council, emphasized the importance of incorporating text from past resolutions that needed to remain in force in any subsequent resolution adopted on the same subject. Therefore, relevant text from [Resolution 17 (EC-73)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11008/#page=335) – Strengthening Regional Instrument Centres, has been incorporated in the draft resolution on Regional Instrument Centres.

**Expected action**

4. Based on the above, the Executive Council may wish to adopt the resolution provided in this document.

# DRAFT RESOLUTION

## Draft Resolution 3.2(22)/1 (EC-76)

### Regional Instrument Centres (RICs)

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

**Recalling** [Resolution 17 (EC-73)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11008#page=335) – Strengthening Regional Instrument Centres (RICs),

**Recalling** the need to follow a uniform approach for auditing of WMO centres as stated in [*Technical Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/?lvl=notice_display&id=14073#.YEjEW0BFyUl)(WMO-No. 49), Volume I, *[from Resolution 17 (EC-73)]*

**Recognizing** the need to harmonize the processes in use for designation, assessment, and reconfirmation of different types of WMO-designated centres, and the place where these processes are published,

**Having examined** [Recommendation 6.2(3)/2 (INFCOM-2)](https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-2/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-2/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Approved%20documents)/INFCOM-2-d06-2(3)-INSTRUMENT-CENTRES-approved_en.docx&action=default),

**Urges** Members hosting RICs without accreditation according to ISO/IEC 17025 to do their utmost to achieve the accreditation, prior to the next regular Congress, *[adapted from Resolution 17 (EC-73)];*

**Invites** regional associations to conduct, in collaboration with INFCOM, a survey of WMO Members on their needs for RIC services, and on the utilization and satisfaction of the current offered RIC services, prior to the next ordinary Congress;

**Requests** regional associations:

(1) To take appropriate measures to ensure that their existing RICs are fully complaint with the [Terms of Reference](https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/imop/Regional_Instrument_Centres);

(2) To reconfirm their RICs, taking into account the recommendations from INFCOM;

**Requests** INFCOM:

(1) To perform regular technical evaluation of RIC performances and assessment of RIC applications;

(2) To arrange for audits of all non-accredited RICs, prior to the next ordinary Congress;

(3) To explore synergies and possible harmonization of the different types of instrument‑related centres, towards improved services to Members;

**Requests** **further** INFCOM, in collaboration with the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) and the Research Board, to harmonize practices related to designation of WMO Global and Regional Centres, and for the publication of their Terms of Reference;

**Requests** the regional associations, the respective Members and INFCOM to follow the RICs Process for all new nominations of RICs and for the assessment and periodic reconfirmation of existing RICs; *[from Resolution 17 (EC-73)]*

**Requests** INFCOM, in collaboration with the regional associations, to further develop the RICs audit process to be in line with the standard and recommended practices and procedures described in the [*Technical Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073)(WMO-No. 49), Volume I. *[from Resolution 17 (EC-73)]*

**Further requests** INFCOM, in collaboration with the Executive Council Capacity and Development Panel, to further develop training material for the reinforcement of capacities of Members in instrument maintenance, including in the maintenance of automatic weather observing systems (AWOS), in line with the standard and recommended practices and procedures described in the *[Technical Regulations](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14073)* (WMO-No. 49), Volume I *[Konate]*.

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Note: This resolution replaces [Resolution 17 (EC-73)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11008#page=335) – Strengthening Regional Instrument Centres, which is no longer in force.

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