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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **COMMISSION FOR OBSERVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**  **First Session (Third Part)** 12 to 16 April 2021, Virtual Session | **INFCOM-1(III)/Doc. 5.1.2(1)** |
| Submitted by: Secretary-General  18.III.2021  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 5: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS AND OTHER TECHNICAL DECISIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM 5.1: Recommendations from INFCOM Standing Committees and Study Groups**

***AGENDA ITEM 5.1.2: Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT)***

# Mechanism for nomination/evaluation of measurement testbeds/lead centres

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| **Summary** | |
| Reference: | [Resolution 5 (CIMO-XV)](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=8142#.YDkkHehKiUk) - Generic Terms of Reference of CIMO Testbeds and Lead Centres |
| Strategic Objective: | 2.1 |
| Recommended by: | INFCOM/SC-MINT |
| Recommended for: | Adoption without debate  Adoption with debate |
| Financial implications: | Operating Plan 2021, Output 2.1.05 |
| Content: | 2 Resolutions  2 Decisions |
| Related INF(s): | N/A |
| Main changes to previous version: | (*For DRAFT 2, 3, etc. and APPROVED versions only*) |

# DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

## Draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III))

## Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres

THE COMMISSION FOR OBSERVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS,

**Recalling** [Resolution 5 (CIMO-XV)](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=8142#.YDkkHehKiUk) - Generic Terms of Reference of CIMO Testbeds and Lead Centres,

**Having examined** the Terms of Reference and roles of the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO) Testbeds and CIMO Lead Centres in testing, development and standardization of meteorological instruments and systems performance for the benefit of WMO Members,

**Taking note** that the small differences between the Terms of Reference for the CIMO Testbeds and the CIMO Lead Centres is confusing and brings no clear benefits to Members,

**Welcomes** with appreciation, the proposal for a single concept of Terms of Reference for a centre of excellence that will capture the results and provide high-level expertise in the testing of surface-based remote sensing and in situ instruments, and in the standardization of instrument performance, developed by the Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT),

**Decides** to replace the existing concepts of CIMO Testbeds and CIMO Lead Centres by a single concept of Measurement Lead Centres;

**Adopts** the generic Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres as provided in the [annex](#Annex1) to the present resolution;

**Requests** the Members hosting the designated CIMO Testbeds and CIMO Lead Centres to inform the president of INFCOM, with a copy to WMO Secretariat, about their willingness and capabilities to continue in providing their services as the designated Measurement Lead Centres with the terms of references provided in the [annex](#Annex1) to the present resolution, and to adapt their services and activities accordingly, by 1 July 2022;

**Requests** SC-MINT to monitor and provide support to the transition of the designated CIMO Testbeds and CIMO Lead Centres to the designated Measurement Lead Centres, as appropriate;

**Requests further** SC-MINT to work closely with Measurement Lead Centres, particularly on capacity development activities and publication and availability of relevant guidance material based on the achievements and research results of the centres, in the WMO official languages, preferably in English.

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[Annex](#Annex1)

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Note: This resolution replaces [Resolution 5 (CIMO-XV)](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=8142#.YDkkHehKiUk) - Generic Terms of Reference of CIMO Testbeds and Lead Centres, which is no longer in force.

## Annex to draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III))

## Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres[[1]](#footnote-2)

1. The purpose of the Measurement Lead Centre (MLC) shall be to capture and distribute openly, as appropriate, [Australia] the data and [Australia] results and provide high-level expertise in testing of surface-based remote sensing and in situ instruments and in standardization of instrument performance, interoperability and compatibility in support of the Earth system observations [Hong Kong, China].
2. The MLC shall be a “centre of excellence” where latest instrument technology, systems and techniques are applied and explored, towards, among others, providing advice on their potential for operational and cost-effective use by Members.
3. The MLC shall publish and promote, as appropriate, details of its capabilities, expertise, facilities and services offered to Members. The MLC shall publish contact details through which Members can seek expertise and services. [Australia]
4. The MLC shall provide, publish and promote, as appropriate, their achievements and findings, in particular on integration of surface-based remote sensing and in situ measurements, as well as on the development of standard procedures related to instrument use, operation and maintenance.

Note: Achievements and findings can be published as reports and guidance documents in the relevant WMO publications (for example, IOM reports) or scientific journals, and presented at relevant conferences (for example, TECOs).

1. The MLC shall be instrumental in the efforts of INFCOM/Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT) to bridge the gaps between countries by assisting INFCOM/SC-MINT in conducting training and capacity development. Where appropriate, the MLC should develop a special relationship with a companion facility from a developing country.
2. The MLC should collaborate with other MLCs and WMO regional centres with focus areas of common interest, other scientific and development institutions and agencies, and instrument manufacturers.
3. The MLC should implement and maintain a quality management system.
4. The MLC shall provide at least one report every two years to INFCOM/SC-MINT. The MLC’s activity will be regularly evaluated by INFCOM/SC-MINT to ensure they are delivering the expected outcomes.
5. The MLC shall nominate a contact person responsible for communication between the MLC and the INFCOM/SC-MINT. The MLC shall be collaborative with INFCOM/SC-MINT and responsive to their requests, including contribution to the activities of relevant expert team(s), as appropriate.
6. The MLC shall inform the INFCOM/SC-MINT, with a copy to the WMO Secretariat, if they no longer have the capabilities to meet the MLC Terms of Reference.

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## Draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/2 (INFCOM-1(III))

## Designation and performance-monitoring process for Measurement Lead Centres

THE COMMISSION FOR OBSERVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS,

**Recalling** the designation process for establishment of CIMO Testbeds and Lead Centres (adopted by [CIMO-XV](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=8142#.YDkkHehKiUk), Annex to paragraph 11.20 of the General Summary),

**Noting** draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III)),

**Having examined** the proposal for designation and performance-monitoring process for a Measurement Lead Centre developed by the Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT), with the updated evaluation criteria, aligned with the WMO technical commission structure and Terms of Reference for Measurement Lead Centres,

**Adopts** the designation and performance-monitoring process for Measurement Lead Centres with associated evaluation criteria, as provided in the [annex](#Annex2) to the present resolution;

**Requests** SC-MINT to implement the process and apply the evaluation criteria in the evaluation of new applications submitted by Members and the centres’ performance-monitoring;

**Invites** Members to submit their nominations for Measurement Lead Centres, including a description of the infrastructure and instrumentation available, and proposed main activities of the centre, as described in the [annex](#Annex2) to the present resolution.

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[Annex](#Annex2)

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## Annex to draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/2 (INFCOM-1(III))

### Designation and performance-monitoring process of

### Measurement Lead Centres

**1. Introduction**

1.1 Evaluation of applications for, and the regular reports of, the Measurement Lead Centres (MLCs) will be performed by INFCOM/Standing Committee on Measurement, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT) on behalf of INFCOM.

1.2 On behalf of the president of INFCOM, the SC-MINT Chair will establish an evaluation team composed of at least three senior experts to evaluate new proposals, as well as the regular reports of the MLCs.

**2. Application**

2.1 An application for designation of a new MLC shall be submitted from the Permanent Representative of country with WMO to the president of INFCOM, with copies to the SC-MINT Chair and the WMO Secretariat.

2.2 The application shall include, at least:

1. Letter from Permanent Representative (PR) of a WMO Member country offering services of the candidate MLC;
2. Completed MLC Nomination form.

2.3 The WMO Secretariat will ensure that the application is complete.

**3. Evaluation of application**

3.1 The evaluation team will evaluate the application, by applying the evaluation criteria (present in the [appendix](#Appendix1)) to the new proposals for the designation of MLCs.

3.2 Results of the evaluation, together with a recommendation on whether to designate a candidate MLC or not, will be submitted to the SC-MINT Chair for consideration.

3.3 The SC-MINT Chair will consult with SC-MINT and on behalf of SC-MINT will make final recommendations to the president of INFCOM on the proposed designation of the MLC.

**4. Designation**

The president of INFCOM will designate a MLC on behalf of INFCOM, upon positive recommendation from the SC-MINT.

**5. Performance-monitoring and assessment**

5.1 The evaluation team will evaluate regular reports of the MLCs for their compliance with the Terms of Reference and develop recommendations on possible improvements, for SC‑MINT consideration.

5.2 SC-MINT will communicate any recommendations to the MLCs, encouraging them to implement the recommendations at their earliest convenience, for the benefits of Members.

5.3 Should a MLC fail to meet the recommendations of SC-MINT, over at least two consecutive reporting cycles, the SC-MINT Chair shall propose to INFCOM to change the status of MLC from compliant to non-compliant and to perform a re-evaluation of their designation.

**6. Appendix: The evaluation criteria for Measurement Lead Centres:**

1. Formal written proposal from the Permanent Representatives of country with WMO;
2. The title of the Measurement Lead Centre that reflects the focus area;
3. Statement of Scope (Focus area); [Australia]
4. Compliance with the Measurement Lead Centre ToRs;
5. Facilities – technical and infrastructure;
6. Sufficient staffing to support activities;
7. Adequate resources – capability and capacity to run the Measurement Lead Centre;
8. Statement on quality management system;
9. Potential for capacity development;
10. Four-year plan with focus areas of activities;
11. Long-term commitment, for at least eight years.

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# DRAFT DECISIONS

## Draft Decision 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III))

### Designation of the WMO Testbed for Ground-based Integrated Meteorological Observation, Changsha (China)

**The Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems** **decides** to designate a WMO Testbed for Ground-based Integrated Meteorological Observation, Changsha (China), having acknowledged the proposal of the Permanent Representative of China with WMO and following the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Measurement, Instrumentation and Traceability;

The commission further requests the testbed to inform the president of INFCOM, with a copy to the WMO Secretariat, about their willingness and capabilities to provide their services as a designated Measurement Lead Centre with the terms of references provided in the [annex](#Annex1) to draft Resolution 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III)), and to adapt their services and activities accordingly, by 1 July 2022.

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Decision justification: The Permanent Representative of China with WMO has kindly offered the existing facilities at Changsha (China) to serve as a testbed for ground-based integrated meteorological observation. The proposal was evaluated by an ad-hoc Task Team on Testbeds and Lead Centres. The task team found that the proposal met the criteria for a testbed and recommended that the high-quality facilities of Changsha centre are recognized as a testbed. The task team advised that further improvement could be made by implementing an appropriate quality management system and by developing a twinning activity / special relationship with a companion facility from a developing country.

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## Draft Decision 5.1.2(1)/2 (INFCOM-1(III))

### Designation of the WMO Lead Centre on Marine Meteorological Science Experiment Base, Bohe (China)

**The Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems** **decides** to designate a WMO Lead Centre on Marine Meteorological Science Experiment Base, Bohe (China), having acknowledged the proposal of the Permanent Representative of China with WMO and following the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Measurement, Instrumentation and Traceability.

The commission further requests the lead centre to the president of INFCOM, with a copy to the WMO Secretariat, about their willingness and capabilities to provide their services as a designated Measurement Lead Centre with the terms of references provided in the [annex](#Annex1) to the Resolution 5.1.2(1)/1 (INFCOM-1(III)), and to adapt their services and activities accordingly, by 1 July 2022.

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Decision justification: The Permanent Representative of China with WMO has kindly offered the existing facilities at Bohe (China) to serve as a lead centre on Marine Meteorological Science Experiment Base. The proposal was evaluated by ad-hoc Task Team on Testbeds and Lead Centres. The task team found that the proposal met the criteria for a lead centre and recommended that these high-quality facilities of Bohe centre are recognized as a lead centre. The task team advised that further improvement could be made by implementing an appropriate quality management system and by developing a twinning activity / special relationship with a companion facility from a developing country. The findings of the task team were also endorsed by the president of the CIMO and the co-president of the Joint WMO-IOC Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology.

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1. The MLC is established by INFCOM, based on the positive assessment of the Member’s proposal by INFCOM/SC-MINT. Specific thematic focus area(s) will be defined in collaboration with the MLC, based on their proposal. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)