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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **COMMISSION FOR OBSERVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**  **Second Session** 24 to 28 October 2022, Geneva | **INFCOM-2/Doc. 6.8(5)** |
| Submitted by: President of the Commission  20.IX.2022  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 6: TECHNICAL REGULATIONS AND OTHER TECHNICAL DECISIONS**

**AGENDA ITEM 6.8: Recommendations from other bodies**

# Hydrology Cooperation Panel (HCP) recommendations, including WMO action plan for Hydrology

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| **Summary** |
| **Document presented by:** President of INFCOM  **Strategic objective 2020–2023:** 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3  **Financial and administrative implications:** Within the parameters of the Strategic and Operational Plans 2020–2023, and will be reflected in the Strategic and Operational Plans 2024–2027.  **Key implementers:** INFCOM, in consultation with HCP and RAs  **Time frame:** 2022–2027  **Action expected:** Incorporation of hydrological needs into INFCOM work. |

# DRAFT DECISION

## Draft Decision 6.8(5)/1 (INFCOM-2)

**OUTCOMES OF THE HYDROLOGICAL COORDINATION PANEL**

**The Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems takes** note of the outcomes of and actions proposed by the Hydrological Coordination Panel (HCP) at its fourth meeting in May 2022 and relevant to the INFCOM mandate as included in the annex and **requests** the President of INFCOM to task relevant subsidiary bodies to address them accordingly.

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Decision justification: [Resolution 24 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=98) – Vision, strategy and organizational arrangements for hydrology and water resources in WMO, which established the Hydrological Coordination Panel as the WMO think tank on hydrology to, among other duties, support an integrated delivery of WMO water-related activities.

[Resolution 5 (EC-71)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=10248/#page=16) – Hydrological Coordination Panel, which approved the terms of reference of HCP and its composition, including vice-presidents of technical commissions with a hydrological background and the chairs of hydrology-related standing committees and study groups of technical commissions.

[Final report of the fourth meeting of HCP](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA), held in May 2022 to review the progress of activities under the major hydrological initiatives identified by [Resolution 25 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=103) and [Resolution 4 (Cg-Ext(2021)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11113/#page=36)) and make proposals on their future implementation.

## Annex to draft Decision 6.8(5)/1 (INFCOM-2)

**Outcomes of HCP**

**Recommendation 1** **(**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to review and finalize the recommended practices for the allocation of WSI to hydrological stations described in Annex 5 and as amended further by Members’ feedback.

**Recommendation 2(**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to encourage Members to develop national processes for the assignment of WSIs, involving their Hydrological Advisers, ensuring the implementation of WSI to hydrological stations.

**Recommendation 3 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to revise and adopt the code lists on hydrological variables and methods included in Annex 6 and to recommend to Members to adopt them.

**Recommendation 4 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to continue developing and amending the code list of hydrological variables and methods with the active engagement of the hydrological community.

**Recommendation 5 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to include, in the INFCOM-2 Resolution approving the WMO Hydrological Observing System (WHOS) Operational Plan, a request to Regional Associations to (i) include WHOS implementation in their workplans and (ii) promote WHOS implementation by their Members at national and/or basin level according to the WHOS Operational Plan.

**Recommendation 6 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends INFCOM adopts the Project X Work Plan 2022–2024 and facilitate and foster the collaboration of the Project with the Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability and its relevant Expert Teams, and relevant regional structures for its implementation.

**Recommendation 7 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends that INFCOM, in consultation with SERCOM, consider how the potential contribution of the global hydrological modelling community to the Annual Global State of the Water Report and to the Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) could be facilitated by the WMO hydrological centres in the Global Data-Processing and Forecasting System (GDPFS).

**Recommendation 12 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP requests the presidents and relevant vice-presidents of technical commissions to support the efforts to increase the number of hydrological experts available to contribute to the work of the technical commissions by encouraging Permanent Representatives to endorse/nominate additional hydrological experts suggested by Regional Hydrological Advisers (RHAs) in the WMO Expert Network.

**Recommendation 13 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to the technical commissions to rename existing and planned QMF-H publications according to the table in Annex 9 taking into account relevant pending Congress and EC decisions.

*Note: The approach used in the table was that new editions of current manuals should be renamed as guides when they provide more detailed guidance on practices and procedures of relevance to a specific field of hydrology which Members are invited to follow or implement and complement the Technical Regulations. They should be renamed as guidelines/guidance, when they provide only knowledge, know-how and a state-of-the-art summary on a particular topic. However, it should be noted that EC-75 will consider a proposal to designate technical commissions for approving guides, the current version is available here. In the context of this proposal, formal definitions of guides and guidelines/guidance (Levels 3 and 4 in the proposal document) may be adopted in slightly different terms than the ones above. If this is the case, the table could be easily adapted before submitting the recommendation to the technical commissions.*

**Recommendation 15 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to the technical commissions to consult with RHAs during the preparation of relevant documents for their sessions, to enhance their direct applicability and deliver benefits to operational hydrology in the regions.

**Recommendation 16 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM that Regional Hydrological Advisers are consulted in the development of OpenCDMS (Climate Data Management System).

**Recommendation 17(**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends to INFCOM to explore innovative ways and provide guidance on how to mitigate vandalism of observational infrastructure, paying appropriate attention to hydrological issues.

**Recommendation 20 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** HCP recommends the president of technical commissions (PTCs) to appropriately consider hydrological aspects and inputs in preparation of the Technical Conference (TECO) in October 2022 to attract a wider participation of the hydrological community to technical commission (TCs) sessions and TECO.

**Recommendation 21 (**[**HCP-4**](https://filecloud.wmo.int/share/s/YZMwPWc9Q-qZtH6seVhlCA)**):** Recognizing the benefits of the unified data policy established by [Resolution 1 (Cg-Ext (2021)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11113/#page=9), HCP recommends that INFCOM accelerates the preparation of the mechanism for the identification of core data in hydrology to be submitted to Cg-19, and offers its capacities to support consultations with the hydrological community at Members’ level on this matter.

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