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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization****COMMISSION FOR WEATHER, CLIMATE, WATER AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND APPLICATIONS****Second Session**17 to 21 October 2022, Geneva | **SERCOM-2/Doc. 5.5(4)** |
| Submitted by:Chair 20.X.2022**APPROVED** |

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

**AGENDA ITEM 5.5: Climate services**

### FOURTH EDITION OF THE GUIDE TO CLIMATOLOGICAL PRACTICES (WMO-NO. 100)

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# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Introduction

1. The Expert Team on Capacity Development for Climate Services and Communications (ET-CDC) in the composition of the Standing Committee on Climate Services (SC-CLI) has supervised the finalization of internal and external reviews of the [*Guide to Climatological Practices*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=5668) (WMO-No. 100), hereinafter called the Guide, in a timely manner.

2. The fourth edition of the Guide describes essential basic principles and modern practices in the development and implementation of all climate services, and outlines current best practices in climatology with a focus on climate services and communication. It also takes into account the WMO reform affecting technical commissions as well as technical updates, methodologies and the concept of a quality management system affecting the provision of climate services.

3. The draft fourth edition of the Guide includes five chapters and one annex, is available [here](https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/climate/draft-fourth-edition-guide-climatological-practices-wmo-no-100).

4. The Guide plays a de facto technical standard at the national level in many countries. Since the release of the third edition, a process has been established for publishing interim updates of individual sections, as and when required, between full scale updates of the Guide.

5. The third edition of the Guide was published in 2011, following approval by the sixteenth session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-XVI) and it was partially updated in 2018 following the implementation of an oversight mechanism for its regular updates.

6. The Guide is the only mandatory publication of WMO under the SERCOM and provides a holistic approach to a full range of climate activities. It is used as an operational and training reference that facilitates capacity development in National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). The translation of the Guide into all official languages of WMO will broaden the outreach among user communities.

7. The third edition of the Guide was adopted by Cg-XVI, and had requested setting up an updated schedule to keep the publication current.

8. The Guide contributes to fostering capacity development, knowledge and know-how sharing, and quality management for climate services; as well as all components of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

9. The Guide has been widely referenced in learning materials and has served as a successful example for capacity development and outreach in climatology, the Commission supports the translation of the Guide into all UN languages.

10. A group of selected experts within the Commission continue monitoring the content of the publication for regular updates in the nineteenth intersessional period.

11. SERCOM placed on records its gratitude to the coordinating author, all contributors and reviewers.

### Summary of changes from the third edition

1. Chapter 1 now reflects the new WMO organization and emphasizes the climate services approach. The history of climatology has been updated to include international activities for the last decade. The information in the annex of the third edition has been modified and integrated into Chapter 1 of the fourth edition. Text is now included about climate indicators, indexes and applications to adaptation planning. The Global, Regional and National sections now reflect the goals and policies of GFCS and National Frameworks for Climate Services (NFCS).

2. Chapter 2 merges Chapters 2 and 3 of the third edition. The information has been updated and made more concise. It emphasizes goals and processes rather than detailed instructions.

3. Chapter 3 merges Chapters 4 and 5 of the third edition. The emphasis is on concepts and analytical considerations rather than detailed methodologies.

4. Chapter 4 has been restructured and made current.

5. Chapter 5 contains mostly new information.

6. The Annex of Acronyms is new.

7. All references now reflect the work of WMO and the climatology community over the last decade. Older or inappropriate references have been deleted. Internet links to references have been added and checked; they are working as of August 2022.

# DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

## Draft Recommendation 5.5(4)/1 (SERCOM-2)

### Endorsing the approval of the draft fourth edition of the Guide to Climatological Practices (WMO-No. 100)

THE COMMISSION FOR WEATHER, CLIMATE, WATER AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND APPLICATIONS,

**Having examined** the draft text provided to the Commission through the [online link](https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/climate/draft-fourth-edition-guide-climatological-practices-wmo-no-100),

**Having considered** that the draft fourth edition was presented to the SC-CLI meetings in 2022 and was endorsed by this body,

**Recommends** to the Executive Council the adoption of the draft Recommendation 5.5(4)/1 (SERCOM-2) throughthe draft resolution provided in the [annex](#Annex_to_draft_Recommendation) to the present recommendation.

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[Annex: 1](#Annex_to_draft_Recommendation)

## Annex to draft Recommendation 5.5(4)/1 (SERCOM-2)

**Draft Resolution ##/1 (EC-76)**

**Fourth edition of the Guide to Climatological Practices (WMO-No. 100)**

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

**Having considered** Recommendation 5.5(4)/1 (SERCOM-2), Endorsing the approval of the draft fourth edition of the [*Guide to Climatological Practices*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=5668) (WMO-No. 100);

**Having examined** the proposed [new edition](https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/climate/draft-fourth-edition-guide-climatological-practices-wmo-no-100) of WMO-No. 100,

**Requests** the Secretary-General:

(1) To arrange for the expeditious publication of the *Guide to Climatological Practices* (WMO‑No. 100);

(2) To arrange for the updating of any current WMO publication of the *Guide to Climatological Practices* (WMO-No. 100);

**Requests** the Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) to continue to ensure that the *Guide to Climatological Practices* (WMO-No. 100) is periodically reviewed and updated as necessary in accordance with established procedures.

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