



Report on Outcomes

Changing Landscape of Weather and Climate Data (Online Workshop 1)

24 September 2020 - 14h00 to 16h00 CET

In preparation for the WMO Data Conference, this online workshop asked stakeholders to explain and examine their differing perspectives on WMO Data Policy. Discussions focused on two topics:

1. Data exchange from the 1960s to today: what has changed and what will need to change?
2. WMO data policy: for Members or for their NMHSs?

The meeting was co-chaired by:

- Sue Barrell, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, Chief Scientist (retired); former Vice-President WMO CBS and former Chair of the Inter-commission Coordination Group, WIGOS
- Michel Jean, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Director General; former President WMO CBS

Speakers (in order of appearance):

- Anthony Rea, WMO Infrastructure Department, Director
- Lars Peter Riishojgaard, WMO Infrastructure Department, Deputy Director
- Jean-Noël Thépaut, Copernicus Services, Director, ECMWF
- Agnes Lawrence Kijazi, Tanzania Meteorological Agency, Director General; Third Vice-President of WMO
- Charles Ewen, UK Met Office, Director of Technology and Chief Information Officer

Over 250 stakeholders participated, including stakeholders from:

- Developed and developing Members
- Professionals from meteorology and other related Earth Science disciplines
- NMHSs and other government entities
- Private sector
- Operational weather, water and climate services
- Research community

Summary of Outcomes

Note: speakers are identified by last name, in brackets

- Strong push to integrate WMO data policy under one umbrella (introduction from Co-Chairs, Secretariat).
- Economic analyses have clearly demonstrated the enhanced economic contribution of open data policy (Jean-Noël Thépaut, supported by several speakers).
- Meteorological data, in particular, is identified as "high-value data".
- Very strong message from RA-I regarding the importance of free and unrestricted exchange of data, and the need for support to Members (Agnes Kijazi).
- "We are a global community, so we need to act like one!" (Charles Ewen).
- WMO recommended to develop a clear and technically actionable approach to data policy that will allow the necessary sharing of data (Ewen).
- Res. 40 was a(n albeit partial) solution to a problem, namely the potential collapse of international collaboration in meteorology (Zillman).
- Strong support for unified resolution (Saulo).
- Highlighting the importance of the process toward a unified data policy and the opportunities for engaging in it (Alcoz).
- On the climate issue, "What you do not know, you cannot act on"; this drives the requirements for the WMO data policy (Thorne).
- Res 42 very important for research community (Dogulu).