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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **REGIONAL ASSOCIATION II (ASIA)**  **Eighteenth Session (Phase I)** 22 to 25 April 2025, Virtual Session | **RA II-18(I)/Doc. 4.5** |
| Submitted by: Secretary-General  16.IV.2025  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 4: REGIONAL PRIORITIES**

**AGENDA ITEM 4.5:** **Enhanced Services, including collaboration with the Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM)**

# Enhanced Services

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| **Summary** |
| **Document presented by:** Secretary-General  **Strategic objective 2024–2027:** 1  **Financial and administrative implications:** Within the parameters of the WMO Strategic and Operating Plans 2024–2027  **Key implementers:** World Meteorological Centres (WMCs), Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs), Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), Regional Training Centres (RTCs), Regional Association (RA) II Working Groups (WGs), RA II Coordination Panel on Hydrology and Water Resources (CP Hydrology) [Working Group on Hydrology], RA II Members, Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM)  **Time frame:** 2025–2027  **Action expected:** Consider and adopt the proposed draft decisions |

# DRAFT DECISIONS

## Draft Decision 4.5/1 (RA II-18(I))

**Climate Services**

## Regional Association II (Asia) decides to request the RA II Working Group on Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (WG Services) to:

(1) Collaborate with the technical commissions and Research Board (RB) on the establishment of a regular/continuous update of the process for the publication of the State of the Climate in Asia report, on an annual basis, in line with the approach taken in the annual WMO State of the Global Climate report and avail itself of:

(a) Scientific and technical guidance of the Standing Committee on Climate Services (SC-CLI) of the Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM);

(b) Regional expertise, existing material, data and analyses provided by Members, Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), Regional Climate (Outlook) Forums (RC(O)Fs) and other regional and global centres;

(c) Partnership and collaboration with the regional entities of the United Nations System organizations and other relevant organizations, particularly on high-impact events data and input regarding the climate impacts on socioeconomic sectors, and on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation policies and practices;

(2) Advise on mechanisms for capacity development in the Region with regards to the development and release of national State of the Climate reports that are consistent with the purpose and structure of regional State of the Climate reports;

(3) Ensure the continuous nomination of National Focal Points for the Climate Services Information System (CSIS) and for health, energy and disaster risk reduction, and develop their capacities;

(4) Seek opportunities from RA II Members for capacity development and scaling-up activities based on the tools developed through SERCOM and Members in RA II and other Regions;

(5) Contribute to the timely production of the State of the Climate in Asia reports, preferably by January each year, noting with appreciation the improved collaboration with various international and regional climate institutes providing essential climate data and analyses and the fruitful collaboration with the United Nations and other partners on socioeconomic data in the context of climate-related and/or compound impacts and policies;

(6) Assist RA II Members in the production of national annual State of the Climate reports, aware that early released national reports would provide valuable input for the State of the Climate in Asia reports;

(7) Contribute to the review and further development of the draft Implementation Plan (IP) for National Drought Early Warning Systems (NDEWSs), recognizing the importance of NDEWSs as a component of the EW4All initiative and that this draft IP will provide input and be coordinated with the existing WMO activities and initiatives, especially on multi-hazard early warning systems and including, for example, the Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS), WMO Coordination Mechanism to support humanitarian activities (WCM), Cataloguing of Hazardous Events (CHE) and Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS);

(8) Consider dedicated working structures on energy and health.

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Note: This decision replaces [Decision 4 (RA II-17)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/?offset=1#page=43&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=), which is no longer in force.

Decision justification:

(1) The outcomes of the [International Workshop on Modernizing the State of the Climate Reports (Offenbach, Germany, 9 to 11 July 2024)](https://wmoomm.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/Services/Eji_YZRWJmBBv-wS2DHUlL4B21wT6xeZRl1pfziftjYnvA?e=0NAjLi) regarding the process, review and alignment of various reports and cost effectiveness;

(2) The significant progress made in delivering annual State of the Global Climate reports since 1993, with evolving policy-relevant information and submission of the Provisional State of the Global Climate report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties annually, since 2016, and the successful annual publishing of regional State of the Climate reports for Asia since 2020;

(3) The [Introductory Forum for National Climate Services Information System (CSIS) Focal Points for the WMO Regional Association II](https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/climate/meetings/introductory-forum-national-climate-services-information-system-focal-points-wmo-regional-association-ii) (11 October 2023), which raised awareness on climate services implementation at the national level, including the relevant interactions with WMO bodies and other entities;

(4) [Resolution 5 (EC-78)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69109/?offset=1#page=58&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Implementation Plan on National Drought Early Warning Systems (NDEWSs);

(5) [Resolution 9 (EC-78)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69109/?offset=1#page=68&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Road Map for the State of the Climate at Global and Regional Scales;

(6) [Resolution 12 (EC-78)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69109/?offset=1#page=105&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Support Actions to Implementing Mechanisms for Health Science and Services.

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## Draft Decision 4.5/2 (RA II-18(I))

### Cryosphere and High-mountain Services

**Regional Association II (Asia) decides**, mindful that the Third Pole Region with its fragile ecosystem and critical transboundary impacts is an ideal “test bed” for WMO priority areas such as the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative and addressing global and regional impacts of changes in the cryosphere as approved by the Nineteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19), to request the RA II Working Group on Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (WG Services), in close cooperation with the RA II WG on Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (WG Infrastructure), to:

(1) Work closely with the Executive Council (EC) Panel of Experts on Polar and High-mountain Observations, Research and Services (PHORS), and relevant substructures under the WMO Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) and the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM), to support the implementation of polar and high-mountain Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Networks and Regional Climate (Outlook) Forums in the Arctic and the Third Pole with relevant partners, monitor the advancement of the Third Pole RCC (TPRCC)-Network operations and regular conduct of the Third Pole Climate Forums (TPCFs), with a focus on addressing the emerging requirements for cryospheric and high-mountain products and services and respective needs for capacity development and regional cooperation;

(2) Propose actions to participate in global campaigns such as the “Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions” and the United Nations International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation (IYGP);

(3) Explore, based on the experience of TPRCC-Network, within the framework of the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS), the potential to include new types of Regional Specialized Meteorological Centres (RSMCs) to deliver region- and domain-specific products across all timescales, for example mountain monitoring and warning centres, liaising with SERCOM to define user requirements and with INFCOM as the ultimate custodian of the WIPPS process as per [Decision 20 (INFCOM-3)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/68923/?offset=1#page=346&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=);

(4) Continue and strengthen collaboration with partner organizations, such as the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the Third Pole Environment (TPE) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

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Note: This decision replaces [Resolution 9 (RA II-17)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/?offset=1#page=35&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=), which is no longer in force.

Decision justification:

(1) Reports of the [Fifteenth Meeting of the RA II Working Group on Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (WG Infrastructure)](https://community.wmo.int/en/meetings/ra-ii-working-group-infrastructure-meeting) in Changsha, China (21 to 23 May 2024), the RA II Workshop on Research Activity in Beijing, China (15 to 17 July 2024), the [Scoping Workshop on the Establishment of the Third Pole Climate Forum (TCPF)](https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/climate/meetings/scoping-workshop-establishment-third-pole-climate-forum) in Bangkok, Thailand (7 to 9 November 2023) and the [first two Third Pole Climate Forums (TPCFs)](http://www.rccra2.org/tp-rcc/home/channel/channel_id/9) in Lijiang, China (4 to 6 June 2024) and online (28 and 29 November 2024);

(2) United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) proclamation of the period 2023–2027 as “Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions” (UNGA Resolution 77/172), UNGA Resolution 77/443 proclaiming 2025 as the United Nations International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation (IYGP25) and UNGA Resolution 78/321 proclaiming the period 2025–2034 as the Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences;

(3) [Resolution 6 (Cg-19)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flibrary.wmo.int%2Fviewer%2F67177%2F%3Foffset%3D1%23page%3D80%26viewer%3Dpicture%26o%3Dbookmark%26n%3D0%26q%3D&data=05%7C02%7CJLuther%40wmo.int%7C51c790132b9747b2552e08dd76aa7474%7Ceaa6be54468740c49827c044bd8e8d3c%7C0%7C0%7C638797196652149790%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9EfZmeqTDhBc5aFnbJL4JUAhOfBth86ok9mi%2FKTLuHA%3D&reserved=0) – Priorities to Address Global and Regional Impacts of Changes in the Cryosphere;

(4) [Resolution 4 (EC-78)](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flibrary.wmo.int%2Fviewer%2F69109%2F%3Foffset%3D1%23page%3D54%26viewer%3Dpicture%26o%3Dbookmark%26n%3D0%26q%3D&data=05%7C02%7CJLuther%40wmo.int%7C51c790132b9747b2552e08dd76aa7474%7Ceaa6be54468740c49827c044bd8e8d3c%7C0%7C0%7C638797196652389894%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VYy%2Br36O1WWf%2FzyS8M0cqHXPX815wNTvSN9NxvDMtBY%3D&reserved=0) – Cryosphere high-level ambitions;

(5) [Decision 6 (EC-78)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/69109/?offset=1#page=549&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Follow-up to the WMO contribution to the United Nations IYGP25 and the related recommendation of the EC Panel on High-Mountain Observations, Research and Services (EC-PHORS);

(6) [Resolution 9 (RA II-17)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/?offset=1#page=35&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Observations and Data exchange in support of polar and high-mountain activities, in which it was decided to accelerate the development and provision of climate information in the framework of the Third Pole Regional Climate Centre (TPRCC)-Network by concerned Members, as defined in the IP ([RA II-17(II)/INF. 6.3](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/download?file=Part_II_ProgressActivity_report_1.pdf&type=pdf&navigator=1#page=237));

(7) [Decision 5 (RA II-17)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/?offset=1#page=44&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Coordination through RCCs and Regional Climate Forums (RCFs) to support improved climate prediction for applications in climate sensitive sectors;

(8) [Decision 9 (RA II-17)](https://library.wmo.int/viewer/57816/?offset=1#page=48&viewer=picture&o=bookmark&n=0&q=) – Operationalization of Objective Sub-Seasonal and Seasonal Forecasts in Asia Region;

(9) Reports of the Antarctic RCC-Network (AntRCC-Network) [Implementation Planning Meeting](https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/climate/meetings/antarctic-regional-climate-centre-antrcc-network-implementation-planning-meeting) (12 to 14 December 2022, Melbourne, Australia), and of the [Scoping Workshop](https://community.wmo.int/en/activity-areas/climate-services/meetings/scoping-workshop-antcf) on the Establishment of the Antarctic Climate Forum (25 to 27 November, 2024, Bologna, Italy).

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