WMO Unified Data Policy
CgExt(2021) Regional Consultations

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Introduction

- Genesis of unified data policy (the ‘why’)
  - WIGOS, NWP, CBS-led Review of Emerging Data Issues, Cg-18
- Approach to developing the new policy (the ‘how’)
  - Consult, engage, discuss...
- Expected impact of the unified data policy resolution (the ‘what’)

WMO OMM
Why review the WMO data policy?

1. **Evolution of NWP and observations since 1995 (Res 40)**
   - Evolution in NWP skill with advances in satellite data, science, data assimilation and high performance computing
   - Global NWP requires continuous, timely access to observations across entire global domain

![Projected growth of daily real-time data produced](image)
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2. WIGOS implementation
   – ‘I’ is for integrated → multi-domain and partnerships
   – Shortfalls in observational data exchange → caused by mix of data policy, technical capabilities, and funding
   – Address on multiple fronts – data policy, GBON, SOFF
   – WIGOS Data Quality Monitoring exposes scale of problem
Why review the WMO data policy?

3. CBS-Led Review of Emerging Data Issues

- Triggered by Cg17 to “provide clarity and guidance for Members in navigating the rapidly changing world of data and data technologies, especially to provide insight regarding trends and emerging challenges in data & their use”

- Review examined challenges and opportunities faced by Members in managing and capitalising on increasing diversity, volume, potential availability of data and a growing mix of data and service providers

- Reflected on potential to deliver higher-value products and services through global NWP and through filling WIGOS-exposed data gaps

→ Cg 18 decision to review WMO data policies to better fit our needs, now and in the future
How have we approached the review?

**Focus on participation, representation, engagement, consultation**

- INFCOM Study Group on Data Issues & Policies (SG-DIP) led review
  - Includes all RAs; EC/PRs; all WMO Earth system disciplines & domains; public, private & academia; data, research & service partners
  - Strong support from secretariat and WMO leadership
- WMO Data Conference & nine preparatory/stakeholder workshops
- EC-72 agreed → a single new overarching draft Congress resolution on data policy should be developed, building on Res. 40, 25 and 60
- Bilateral discussions – Members, regions, stakeholders (eg CGMS)
- Progress report, consultation at every TCC, PAC, EC, INFCOM; at RB, SERCOM, HCP; also JCB, EC-PHORS, OCP
- INFCOM-1/Pt 3 – first intergovernmental exposure of draft resolution
- Endorsed by EC-73, for submission to CgExt(2021)
  - Further regional consultation, outreach materials
What is the expected impact for Members?

- WMO Data policy that is **fit-for-purpose for the overall enterprise** of weather, climate, water & related data and services
  - Clear on expectations for all stakeholders (public, private, academic)
  - Embraces all WMO domains/disciplines in one unified policy
  - Timely global (two-way) access to data and NWP
- Designed via structure & process to **adapt to future needs** – service priorities, research outcomes, emerging data types
- Reflects close reliance on/engagement with **public research**
- Aligns with increasing recognition of the **economic value** returned through free and open data sharing
- Encourages greater **partnership, collaboration and transparency** across domains and sectors, nationally, trans-nationally and globally
- Implementation supported by related data initiatives of GBON and SOFF

**Bottom line:** ‘Data’ is our fuel, it powers our value chain. Its true value lies in how effectively it is used to meet societal needs, esp to keep people safe.