

WMO for the 21st Century

Responsive and fit-to-purpose

Members of the World Meteorological Organization have committed the Organization to adapt to the new world environment in order to better respond to their evolving needs. WMO is not alone, all UN organizations are on a similar path. Members want better governance, efficiency gains and improved effectiveness throughout the UN system in order to optimize the use of limited resources – both theirs and that of the Secretariats of the diverse UN organizations.

In 2015, the World Meteorological Congress requested the Executive Council to provide recommendations to its next session (in 2019) on its constituent body constructs, including possible new structures for Technical Commissions, Regional Associations and Executive Council itself. The Congress also requested recommendations on rules, procedures, processes, working mechanisms and duties of constituent bodies, WMO Officers (president, vice-presidents, etc.), and the relationship between them and the Secretariat.

WMO is committed to sustaining its leadership role and remaining fit-for purpose, while becoming more efficient and cost-effective. To do so, it must ensure that its structure is well-aligned with its strategic priorities. WMO recognizes the need to continuously adapt to resource constraints and increased competition while taking advantage of technological advances to maximize its reach by improving Earth System monitoring and multi-hazard early warning systems, enhancing science for services, strengthening cooperation, and informing and addressing global issues such as climate change. The streamlined structure should permit the Organization to enlist leading experts and, notably, the private sector in its activities.

This restructuring of the Organization will provide opportunities to amplify proactive regional engagement. There is a need for wider engagement of Members, especially developing countries, in WMO activities.

Considerations

- Opportunity for all WMO Members to participate in constituent body work
- The enhancement of WMO core business
- Improving delivery and responsiveness of WMO
- Implementation of a seamless Earth System approach
- Alignment of the structure with hydrometeorological value chain for service delivery
- Improve alignment between WMO strategy and its constituent body structures
- Building resilience to weather, climate and water-related hazards worldwide
- Strengthening of partnerships with international, national and regional organizations
- Optimizing resources through better coordination with those outside the WMO community

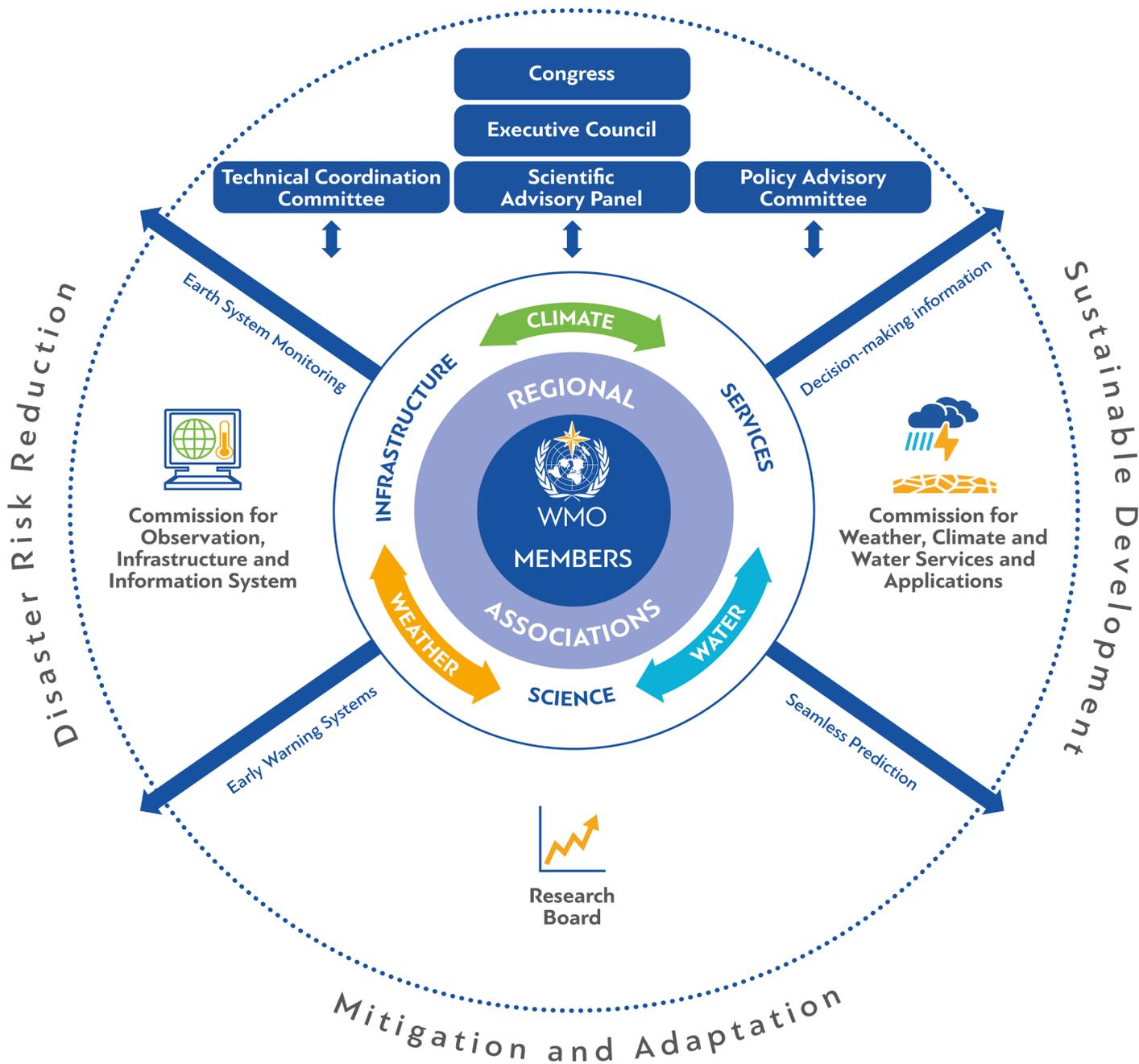
Benefits

- Clear management responsibilities
- Wider participation of Members in core activities
- Better engagement of partners in activities
- Holistic Earth system approach: meteorology, climatology, hydrology, oceanography, seismology, volcanology, air quality, greenhouse gases and space weather
- Multi-hazard and impact based seamless services: weather, climate, water, aviation, marine, agriculture, urban, energy and health, etc.

Proposals

- Wide climate perspective: observations, services, science, adaptation and mitigation
 - Engagement of hydrological services across activities, weather-water synergies
 - Wider support of science communities for WMO activities
 - Organized and managed engagement with private sector
 - Optimal use of Member and Secretariat resources – more support for Regional activities
- World Meteorological Congress – biennial meetings
 - Executive Council – annual meetings
 - Technical Coordination Committee and Policy Advisory Committee will include the Presidents of Technical Commissions and Regional Associations
 - Scientific Advisory Panel – a new entity to coordinate science for services
 - Technical Commissions, a holistic approach to setting standards – biennial meetings:
 - Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems
 - Commission for Weather, Climate and Water Services and Applications

Proposed Structure



Technical Commissions will have working groups and experts. The Regional Associations will be represented in the working groups, taking part in normative work and in strengthening the service value chain. The proposed new structure provides a specific mechanism for engaging expertise from all regions.