CREWS Chair and Secretariat Activity Report

(in chronological order)

- The Secretariat prepared an article published in the WMO Bulletin vol. 66 entitled “Strengthening the Early Warning Capacity of NMHSs in Low-Income Countries” and an article for THE SIDS Times Magazine, December 2017 edition, entitled “Strengthening Early Warning Capacity in SIDS”.

- The chair of the Steering Committee, Ms Collet organized and hosted a CREWS High Level Meeting at COP23 on 15 November 2017, chaired by the French Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition.

- On behalf of the French Minister for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition and the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, letters were sent prior to the One Planet Summit to Contributing Members, Observers and several other stakeholders, asking them to continue supporting or to make initial contributions to CREWS.

- Ms Collet held a bilateral meeting with Ambassador Agustin Lopez, Director of the Mexican Agency for International Development (AMEXCID) and presented CREWS at two side events during the One Planet Summit, Paris, France, on 12 December 2017.

- Following the statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs from Japan, referring to a contribution to CREWS, meetings were held with the Japanese Permanent Mission in Geneva to discuss the scope of cooperation and Ms Collet met with interlocutors in Japan in February 2018 to discuss the CREWS initiative. Further meetings were held between the Chair and interlocutors in South Korea.

- A special session was organized at UNESCO, Paris, France on 13 February 2018 on Lessons Learnt from the 2017 Hurricane Seasons in the Caribbean and People Centered Early Warnings, with the participation of the Chair.

- A two pager on country “good practices” presenting CREWS projects was submitted in the context of the preparations for the 2018 G20 meeting in Argentina, part of the follow-up of the Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth.

- French embassies where informed in countries where CREWS project exists and were requested to highlight CREWS with their usual interlocutors.

- A briefing targeting Permanent Missions in Geneva for Caribbean States and CREWS partners took place on 20 March 2018 on the review of early warning system for the 2017 Caribbean hurricane season.

- The Secretariat contribute to the Second Development Partners Conference, WMO Geneva, Switzerland 21-22 March 2018, including bilateral meetings with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other partners.

• The 2017 CREWS Annual Report was published in English and French at the end of March 2018. It highlights first results from CREWS country projects. Dissemination to CREWS partners was done by the Secretariat and the Chair.

• A draft Investment Case for CREWS was developed. The document has been laid out and upon approval by the Steering Committee, at its 6th Meeting, of the country investment pipelines will be finalized and shared for distribution.

• Discussions were held with UK’s Department for International Development (DFID), the UK Meteorological Office, the EU Commission (DevCo), ACP Secretariat, Nordic Development Fund (NDF), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland, Finish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs The Netherlands, The Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute (KNMI) and the Swedish development cooperation (SIDA).

• A new Impacts page was developed for the CREWS website including information on the (i) the effectiveness of CREWS investments and (ii) the effectiveness of early warning systems.

• CREWS Secretariat made an intervention on early warning and CREWS at the Suva Expert Dialogue, 2-3 May 2018, Bonn, Germany. The Suva Expert Dialogue is a new mechanism for exchanges on what are available approaches to address climate change loss and damage. Discussion were also held with German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the InsuResilence Secretariat.

• CREWS Secretariat with WMO, the Caribbean Meteorology and Hydrology Institute (CIMH) and the World Bank and GFDRR carried out a Technical Visit, Mexico City, Mexico 9 May 2018.

• The CREWS Secretariat contributed to sessions on early warning, impacts based forecasting and Forecast Based Financing with the UK Met Office, IFRCan GFDRR at the Understanding Risks, Mexico City, Mexico 14-18 May 2018

• Briefing on CREWS to Permanent Missions at the Science 2018 Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, New York, USA 6 June 2018