

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)
AND
WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)**

**WRD/TC.42/5.5
8 January 2010**

**Typhoon Committee
Forty-second Session
25-29 January 2010
Chiang Mai, Thailand**

Report of the Advisory Working Group Activities During 2009

(Submitted by AWG)

Agenda Item 5

ACTION REQUIRED:

The Committee is invited to:

Review the progress and accomplishments regarding the activities of the Advisory Working Group during 2009 and consider the proposal by the Advisory Working Group.

APPENDIX:

Report of the Advisory Working Group Activities During 2009

Report of the Advisory Working Group Activities During 2009

1. Introduction.

At the 41st Session of the Typhoon Committee, the Committee reestablished the Advisory Working Group (AWG) with the Terms of Reference (TORs) as identified in Appendix IV of that final Report of the Forty-first Session of the Typhoon Committee, 19-24 January 2009, held in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

2. AWG Meeting 17-18 September 2009

- a. The AWG members met 17-18 September 2009 in conjunction with the *Integrated Workshop “Building Sustainability and Resilience in High Risk Areas of the Typhoon Committee: Assessment and Action”* Cebu, Philippines to consider and act upon the tasks assigned by the Committee and the identified AWG TORs.
- b. The Chairpersons of the three working groups, TRCG, TCS, WMO, and ESCAP delivered their reports concerning their activities in support of the Committee’s Strategic Plan and 2009 Annual Operating Plan.
- c. The AWG thoroughly reviewed the Typhoon Committee’s Annual Operating Plan for 2009 and documented the actions which were completed and those which were not completed (see document WRD/TC.41/8.2). The group was very pleased with the progress made on the Annual Operating Plan and encouraged everyone to continue the hard work necessary to complete the remaining uncompleted actions.
- d. As requested by the 41st Session and because of the success of the 2007, 2008, and 2009 Annual Operating Plans, the AWG developed a proposed draft, result-oriented Integrated Annual Operating Plan for 2010 (see document WRD/TC.41/8.3) Again the AOP has specific objectives, actions, and success indicators which support the Key Results Areas and Strategic Goals of the Typhoon Committee’s Strategic Plan. The AWG reviewed the Action Sheet 2009 prepared by TCS following the 41st Session of the Typhoon Committee. Most of the status of these Action Sheet items are included in the AOP review and the various WG reports.
- e. The AWG members reviewed the 2009 approved budget status, and then developed a proposed budget for 2010 to be funded through the use of the Typhoon Committee Trust Fund (TCTF) for the Committee to consider for the period from 1 January 2010 to 31 December 2010 (see document WRD/TC.41/9.2). The proposed budget is based upon the recommended priority items contained in the AOP. In addition to the proposed budget, there are **two budget related proposals for the Committee’s consideration:**

- 1) The Typhoon Committee is becoming a very active, well-known, important member of the region and in other locations. In the past, the Typhoon Committee has specified that the budget for activities funded by Typhoon Committee Trust Fund (TCTF) were not to be exceeded. However, to continue and sustain these important activities, the budget for 2010 is recommended to be USD \$120,000.
 - 2) As stated at previous Sessions and in line with the Strategic Plan, the AWG again request approval to adjust future budgets approved by the Committee to take advantage of funds not spend on activities which were canceled or postponed or activities which did not cost as much as budgeted. This ability to adjust some of the budgeted funds permits flexibility and the capability to take advantage of opportunities when they arise. This was done very successfully in 2008 and 2009.
- f. The AWG reviewed the Strategic Plan and recommended that a detailed review, update, and analysis of the TC Strategic Plan be conducted in 2010. The AWG developed the final proposed Strategic Plan in 2006, and the Typhoon Committee approved the 2007-2011 Plan at its 39th Session held in Manila, Philippines.
- 3. Small Meeting of Chairs of ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee Working Groups in Macau, China on 16-17 December 2009.**
- a. A small meeting of the WG Chairs with AWG was held in Macau on 16-17 December to follow up on some of the key issues discussed in the IWS and to prepare for the 42nd Session in Singapore. The meeting report as compiled by TCS can be found in **Appendix ??**
 - b. At this meeting, the participants focused on the development of a proposed 2010 budget, a review of the 2009 Annual Operating Plan, a proposed 2010 Annual Operating Plan, and a “*Urban Flood Risk Management*” project. The Chairs of the WGM, WGH and WGDPP, the Chair of the TRCG, and representatives of the TC and WMO Secretariats attended this meeting. (Annex: Agenda and list of participants).
 - c. The main topics discussed at this small meeting were as follows:
 - (i) Presentations made by Mr. Xuan Zengpei and Mr. Yuichi Ono, respectively on the “Concept note and chapter outlines of the Asia-Pacific Disaster Report” and on the “Summary of the First Editorial Committee Meeting - held in Bangkok, 18-19 November 2009”.
 - (ii) Presentation by Mr. Tong Tin Ngai on the “Assessment of impacts of climate change on tropical cyclone frequency and intensity in the Typhoon Committee region”

- (iii) Review of Strategic Plan 2007-2011 – it was recommended to add one or two paragraphs about climate change in the “Introduction” of the Strategic Plan;
- (iv) Current status of Annual Operating Plan-2009 and proposal for Annual Operating Plan-2010.
- (v) Discussion on cross-cutting projects - the “Project proposal on Urban Flood Risk Management (UFRM)” was discussed and were made presentations on “Integrated Pilot Study Project - PAGASA” and “PAGASA-DOST’s Master Plan for Enhanced Metro Manila Flood Warning & Monitoring System”.
- (vi) Presentation by TCS of the following working documents to be discussed at the 42nd TC Session: Memorandum of Understanding between WMO and (TCS WRD/TC.42/8.4); Method and Procedures for ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee Publications (WRD/TC.42/8.5) and Hosting ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee Secretariat in 2011-2014 (WRD/TC.42/9.1).

4. Proposals by AWG for Consideration

- a. Revision of the Strategic Plan 2007-2011 and adding one or two paragraphs about climate change in the “Introduction”;
- b. Discuss the TC Cross Cutting Project Urban Flood Risk Management taking into consideration the following steps: creation of a TC WGs joint Task Force and National Task Force; establishment of criteria for the selection of priority pilot cities; selection of pilot cities based on these criteria; connection and communication with support base, such as ESCAP, WMO, ISDR, WB, ADB, ICHARM, JICA, etc; implementation procedures and roadmap; establishment of a mechanism for financial support.
- c. Discussion of the “Assessment of impacts of climate change on tropical cyclone frequency and intensity in the Typhoon Committee region”.
- d. Discussion on the possibility of publishing, under the auspices of the TC, a regular publication with the title "Tropical cyclone review".
- e. With reference to the discussion in the Small Meeting of Chairs in Macao last December, the following issues, in particular, require further attention and consideration in the 42nd Session: (a) incorporation of climate change component in the “Introduction” to SP, with the next cycle of SP (2012 – 2016) to be brought up for discussion in the next IWS in 2010 and the TC 43rd Session; (b) annual budget ceiling to be raised from USD 100,000 to USD 120,000; and (c) development of a major cross-cutting project based on UFRM and establishment of a project management mechanism.

- f. With respect to the raising of budget ceiling, the justifications are: (a) rising travel and subsistence costs in the past few years; and (b) more project activities and, in the foreseeable future, more cross-cutting initiatives that will inevitably lead to increasing expenses on meetings and workshops. Relevant statistics can be found in [Appendix ?](#).