

FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

HONG KONG, CHINA

29 JANUARY – 1 FEBRUARY 2013

AGENDA ITEM 14

Original: ENGLISH

**2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum at 8<sup>th</sup> Integrated Workshop (IWS)**

*(submitted by TRCG Chair)*

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Summary and Purpose of Document:

This document presents the proposals and resources required for organizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum as a major conference at 8<sup>th</sup> IWS with a cross-cutting theme of regional significance.

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**Action Proposed**

The Committee is invited to:

- (a) note the proposals as summarized in the APPENDIX; and
- (b) endorse special funding from TCTF at the amount of USD 55,000 as requested in Section 4.2 of the APPENDIX to support the planning and organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum.

APPENDIX: Proposal for 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum at 8<sup>th</sup> IWS

**PROPOSAL FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> TRCG FORUM  
AT 8<sup>TH</sup> INTEGRATED WORKSHOP**

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**1. Introduction**

1.1 TRCG normally meets every four years to review and update its work plan. The first such planning meeting was held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, in May 2009. With the first 4-year (2010 – 2013) cycle work plan entering its final stages, the next planning meeting is scheduled for 2013.

1.2 TRCG in its first planning meeting also made use of the opportunity to organize a small-scale forum with technical presentations on training and research topics of interest. During the *ad hoc* AWG meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in May 2012, it was noted that technical seminars/conferences were also organized in association with the Typhoon Committee Sessions and the IWS (where WGM, WGH and WGDRR met annually to review and draft their AOPs). To streamline and rationalize such technical activities, and also with a view to shortening the duration of the Session meetings, it was agreed that: (a) technical seminars be held in the main in conjunction with IWS rather than at the annual Sessions; and (b) TRCG Forum to serve as the technical seminar for IWS on a 4-yearly basis, starting with the one in 2013 at 8<sup>th</sup> IWS (and as such TRCG also to meet every 4 years at IWS to review and update its work plan).

1.3 At the Seoul meeting, it was also proposed that the 4-yearly TRCG Forum be organized as a major regional event for the purpose of enhancing Typhoon Committee's profile and visibility in the region, and with a cross-cutting theme to further promote the application and coordination of knowledge and technology among the three components of meteorology, hydrology and DRR.

**2. 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum – Proposed Outline**

2.1 Macao, China has tentatively indicated her willingness to host the 8<sup>th</sup> IWS/2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum.

2.2 Proposed dates are early or mid October 2013.

2.3 Both venue and date are to be further discussed and confirmed at TC45.

2.4 Assuming a 5-day IWS, it is likely that the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum will be a 3-day event. The remaining two days will be for AWG, WGM, WGH, WGDRR and TRCG to conduct their business and discuss work plans/AOPs.

2.5 The main theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum is proposed to be: “Forecasting, warning and DRR strategies in the mitigation of coastal hazards caused by tropical cyclones”. This and other sub-themes will be further discussed and confirmed at TC45.

2.6 TRCG, under the guidance of AWG, will take the lead to organize the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum, with support from WGM, WGH and WGDRR on the respective sub-themes.

### **3. Rationale and Justifications**

3.1 While there are many seminars and conferences on tropical cyclone-related themes, a signature event in the Typhoon Committee region is conspicuously lacking, considering the vulnerability of the Asia-Pacific basin to the impact of tropical cyclones and the extent of damage suffered on a perennial basis.

3.2 Typhoon Committee’s unique approach in synergizing effort in meteorology, hydrology and DRR deserves a regular platform to promote the objectives behind such a well-merited approach for wider adoption and to share the experience gained in the process for advancing the cause.

3.3 A major technical forum organized by the Typhoon Committee on a 4-yearly basis with specific application-oriented themes can serve as a bridge in meaningfully linking up research development with operational implementation, including the possibility of taking advantage of outcomes from other key events such as the International Workshop on Tropical Cyclones which is also held every four years.

3.4 A purposely-designed cross-cutting theme for the forum can offer development focus and attract resource as well as technical support for key initiatives of the Typhoon Committee, including current projects such as UFRM and SSOP.

### **4. TCTF Funding**

4.1 For the purposes as discussed in Section 3, the Forum is likely to be organized in themed sessions with technical presentations followed by panel discussion on how ideas and relevant technology can be followed up and effectively coordinated for implementation among Typhoon Committee Members. It is anticipated that the inclusion of keynote speeches or talks in the Forum will be by invitation through a selection process of relevant papers. WGM, WGH and WGDRR will supplement with their own list of speakers on their respective sub-themes with funding support drawn from their own allocated resources.

4.2 As such, in addition to the regular TCTF funding support for the annual IWS, **special TCTF funding** for the following items in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRCG Forum in 2013 at the 8<sup>th</sup> IWS is required:

- (a) ~ 10 keynote speakers for the Forum (for 4 nights) USD 20,000

(b) 14 TRCG members (for 6 nights) USD 35,000

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Total: USD 55,000

*(assuming air passage of USD 1,000 per person and DSA of USD 250 per person per night)*

## 5. **Alternatives**

5.1 An alternative is to organize the Forum through an open call for papers, with conference fees to be charged. While this will minimize or reduce the expenditure for supporting the attendance of invited speakers, there is less control on the topics to be covered by the presentations, especially on topics of special interest to Typhoon Committee Members. It also requires more time and effort in reviewing the abstracts/papers submitted.

5.2 The other alternative is to organize the Forum on a similar scale and format as the technical seminar normally associated with IWS. In this case, extra budget is only required for the attendance of TRCG members (i.e. USD 35,000 under item (b) in Section 4.2). If no special TCTF funding is provided, consideration then has to be given as to how this expenditure can be absorbed within the regular TCTF annual budget.