

Third Joint Session
Panel on Tropical Cyclones | Typhoon Committee
(42nd Session of PTC and 47th Session of TC)
9- 13 February 2015
ESCAP - UN Conference Center
Bangkok, Thailand

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY
WRD/TC.47/8.1
28 January 2015
ENGLISH ONLY

REPORT BY TYPHOON COMMITTEE CHAIR ON THE NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF THE TC SECRETARY

(Item 8 of Provisional Agenda)
(Submitted by Chair of TC)

ACTION REQUIRED:

The Committee is invited to:

- a) Take note of the Report by TC Chair on the nomination and selection of the Secretary for the period 2015- 2018/early 2019
- b) To endorse Mr. YU Jixin, nominated by Macao SAR of China, as Secretary of Typhoon Committee for 2015-2018/early 2019
- c)

APPENDIX:

Report by Typhoon Committee Chair on the Nomination and Selection of the TC Secretary

APPENDIX

Report by Typhoon Committee Chair on the Nomination and Selection of the TC Secretary

1. Background and Related information

The Typhoon Committee in its 46th Session meeting requested TC Secretary to “*circulate the nomination by Macao, China of Mr. YU Jixin as candidate for TC Secretary to all Members for comments and other alternative nominations, if any, within one month of the letter*”. The decision does not imply the selection of the next secretary, replacing Dr. Olavo Rasquinho. During this process, there was some confusion on the candidacy. Additional candidate, Mr. Leong Kai Hong (Derek) was nominated by the Philippines.

There were some arguments on the above decision, resulting in lengthy exchange among TC's AWG members and TC Secretary. At the end it was accepted that there were no particular rules or procedure on the nomination, qualification and the selection itself.

2. Intervention by the Typhoon Committee Chair

To help solving the deadlock situation, TC Chair sent a letter No.0406/063/2014 (Annex 1) dated 30th April 2014 to TC Secretary to distribute to AWG and the Members asked “*We urge TCS and AWG to seek consultation with Japan, U.S. and the Philippines to find solutions or alternatives for Members to agree upon before proceeding to the nomination*”. After many opinions exchange among TC Secretary, AWG, and concerned Members, there was still no acceptable solution.

TC Chair received an e-mail communication from TC Secretary, Dr. Olavo Rasquinho, dated 15th July 2014 for the Chair's directive on the matter. With the goal for the compromise solution, TC Chair, in his letter No.0406/091/2014 (Annex 2) dated 16th July, proposed to TC Secretary “*to issue a formal request for additional nomination for interim TC Secretary by Members, considering that at the moment the nomination from Macao was the only standing candidate. In principle the term of the interim Secretary would be only two years. He also suggested that TCS and the AWG formulate such procedure for Members to consider next Session. If this or other alternatives could not be found he also recommended TCS call for an extraordinary session and asked to convey his suggestions to all members of the AWG to sort out opinions*”. The opinions on the proposal of TC Chair were exchanged among all members and AWG. Draft letters for the temporary nomination and selection for the coming TC Secretary were prepared. The interim period for the new TC Secretary proposed by the Chair was omitted, but there was a request that the letter should be sent through diplomatic channels. It was agreed that the nomination and selection this time was *temporary nature only for this one-time purpose*.

Another development raised; Dr. Fong Soi Kun (Director of SMG, which agrees to host the TCS office in Macau for another 4 years) informed TC Chair and AWG members on the urgency of the matter.

Final letter was drafted and revised by TC Chair and the AWG. The letter (ref.: TCS/271-2014) was signed by TC Chair, Mr. Worapat Tiewthanom, and sent on 22nd August 2014 to all Permanent Representatives of the TC Members with WMO through diplomatic channels, whose one of the annexes consisted of “*Procedure for nomination and selection of the next TC Secretary*”. It was also requested to complete an attached form for alternative nominations and opinions on the realization of an extraordinary session or voting by correspondence. The form should be sent to TC Secretary by 25 September 2014.

TC Secretary in his letter ref.: TCS/374-2014 (Annex 3) dated 6th October 2014 stated “*As you know, despite Macao SAR Government has informed in the referred letter that will not accept the candidate proposed by the Philippines as candidate nominated for the next TC Secretary*” and

requested the necessary instructions from the TC Chair to resolved the situation. On behalf of TC Chair, Dr.SongkranAgsorn, in a letter No.0406/132/2014 (Annex 4) dated 7 October2014, after consideration to accommodate as far as possible all the opinions of TC Members asked TC Secretary to proceed with voting by correspondence with two valid candidates. Two candidates were eligible based on the “Procedure for nomination and selection of the next TC Secretary”. The itemon the opinion or position of TCS host on acceptability of a candidate on administrative basis was interpreted as “*to have such position of the TCS host to be available for TC Members before making decision on a candidate*”, **but not to disqualify such candidate.**”

Further works on voting by correspondence were conductedbytheTyphoon CommitteeSecretariat. TC Chair requested AWG Chair to present atthe voting declaration if he was available.*Mr. YU Jixin* nominated by Macao, China was selected by majority votes. According to the term of “Procedure for nomination and selection of the next TC Secretary”, *the final official approval for the new TC Secretary will be done at the 47th Session of Typhoon Committee.*

No. 0406/063 /2014



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30 April 2014

Dear Mr. Olavo Rasquinho,

Kindly refer to your letter ref.: TCS/080-2014 dated 15 April 2014, regarding the nomination of candidate for Secretary of Typhoon Committee by Macao, China.

Thailand as the Chair of 46th Session of Typhoon Committee would like to take an opportunity to voice an opinion concerning the nomination of the next Typhoon Committee Secretary, replacing Mr. Olavo Rasquinho. Regarding the opinion of Japan and U.S on the issue, we would like TCS and AWG to seek consensus of Members in resolving the issue concerned. In understanding that Typhoon Committee is an international body based on cooperation among Members, a compromised option to accommodate the agreement of Members would be beneficial. We urge Typhoon Committee Secretariat (TCS) and Advisory Working Group (AWG) to seek consultation with Japan, U.S, and the Philippines to find solutions or alternatives for Members to agree upon before proceeding to the nomination.

We hope that our suggestion would be helpful to maintain the works of Typhoon Committee and revive a good spirit in helping each other.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Songkran Aksom)
Deputy Director-General
for Director-General

and Permanent Representative of Thailand with WMO

To: Mr. Olavo Rasquinho
Secretary of the Typhoon Committee
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info@typhooncommittee.org

Cc: Mr. Edwin S.T. LAI
Chairperson of Advisory Working Group (AWG)
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PRs with WMO of TC Members

No. 0406/ 091 /2014



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16 July 2014

Dear Mr. Olavo Rasquinho,

Kindly refer to your e-mail dated 15 July 2014 and email of Chair of Advisory Working Group (AWG) dated 14 July 2014 regarding the nomination and selection of the next Typhoon Committee (TC) Secretary. In capacity of the Chair of Typhoon Committee (TC), we would like to propose the following : -

- 1). Due to urgency of needs for continuity of the TC Secretary and unavailability of the clear procedure in nomination and selection, we request Typhoon Committee Secretariat (TCS) to issue the formal request for additional nomination for the interim TC Secretary by members within 2 week time. Currently, nomination from SMG, Macao is the only standing candidate.
- 2). The interim selection procedure for the TC Secretary will be counted on majority votes.
- 3). The selected TC Secretary will be termed only for two years (two TC sessions).
- 4). In view of opinions of some members regarding the transparency and clearly stated nomination and selection procedure of the TC secretary, we suggest that TCS and AWG formulate such procedure for members to consider in the next TC session.
- 5). If the above suggestions or other alternatives cannot be found, we suggest the TCS calls for the extraordinary session to be held.

Please convey this message to all members and AWG to sort out the opinions on the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Songkran Aksom)
 Deputy Director-General

For Director-General and PR of Thailand with WMO
 Chair of Typhoon Committee

Mr. Olavo Rasquinho
 Secretary of the Typhoon Committee
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Typhoon Committee Secretariat

Dr. Songkran Agsorn,
Deputy Director-General,
On behalf Typhoon Committee Chair,
Thai Meteorological Department,
Bangkok 10260,
THAILAND

Your reference

Your letter of

Our reference
TCS/374-2014

Date
6 October 2014

Subject: Nomination and selection of the Typhoon Committee Secretary for 2015-2018 - Voting by correspondence

Dear Dr. Songkran Agsorn,

Following the letter from Dr. Fong Soi Kun, Director of the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) and representative of the host Member Government of the TC Secretariat, with the reference DDR06-01/1037 dated 30 September 2014, and the letter TCS/371-2014, dated 02 October 2014, to the Permanent Representatives of TC Members with WMO, I would like to ask you in your capacity as representative of the TC chairperson Mr Worapat Tiewthanom, to kindly give TCS the necessary instructions on how to proceed regarding the eventuality of an extraordinary Session of the TC in connexion with the 9th Integrated Workshop to be held in Bangkok on 20-24 October 2015 or, alternatively, requesting to proceed to voting by correspondence.

As you know, despite Macao SAR Government has informed in the referred letter that will not accept the candidate proposed by the Philippines as candidate nominated for the next TC Secretary you, on behalf of the TC Chairperson, kindly replied to a question asked by the TC Secretary, through email message, expressing the opinion that we would rather go with the option of voting through correspondence due to limited time remained.

Taking into consideration the Paragraph 6 of the Terms of Reference of Chairperson of the Typhoon Committee (Decide on behalf of the Typhoon Committee, after consultation with the Vice Chairperson, TCS and concerned parties, in accordance with the Statute of the Typhoon Committee and Rules of Procedure of the Typhoon Committee, on any recommendations, when the Chairperson considers that such actions, in the interest of the Committee, cannot be deferred until the next session of the Typhoon Committee), I would kindly request you to formally communicate your recommendation to the TC Secretary proceed to the process of voting by correspondence or, alternatively take any other action that you consider advisable.

Yours sincerely,

Olavo Rasquinho
(Secretary of ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee)

Cc: Mr. Alui Bahari, Vice-Chairperson of TC
AWG members of TC
Dr. Fong Soi Kun, Director of SMG

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๙ October 2014

Ref. : (1). TCS letter : TCS/374 dated 6 October 2014
(2). TCS letter : TCS/371 dated 02 October 2014
(3). TCS letter : TCS/271 dated 22 August 2014

Dear Mr. Olavo Rasquinho,

Kindly refer to the above TCS letters. On behalf of TC Chair, I would like to convey opinion and directive towards the selection of TC secretary in order to avoid prolonging and complicating problems as the following.

1). The notice of DPR Korea to support the extraordinary session (ES) is not acceptable due to the formal deadline as indicated in the paragraph 1) of the Attachment III (Procedure for nomination and selection of the next TC Secretary) of the TCS letter (Ref. (3))

2). As the extraordinary session (ES) cannot be held, we reiterate that voting by correspondence to the TCS is to be held in accordance to the paragraph 6) of the Attachment III of TCS letter (Ref. (3))

3). To benefit of TC as the whole, TC Chair has strong opinion to call for voting by correspondence with two candidates, Mr. Yu Jixin and Mr. Leong Kai Hong who are equally qualified under the paragraph 1) and 6) of the Attachment III of TCS letter (Ref. (3))

4). Members should note the reservation of Macau Government, as the host country of Typhoon Committee Secretariat (TCS), on Mr. Leong Kai Hong stated in the Macao Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG)'s letter ref: DDR 06-01/1037 dated 30 September 2014 and in accordance with paragraph 6) of the Attachment III of TCS letter (Ref. (3))

According to paragraph 6 of TOR of Chairperson of the Typhoon Committee, and if there is no other objection, I would like to request that official voting by correspondence through TCS be held as soon as possible.

With best regards.

Yours Sincerely,

(Dr. Songkran Agsorn)
Deputy Director-General

For Director-General and PR of Thailand with WMO
Chair of Typhoon Committee

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