ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee WRD/TC.42/8.3 FORTY-THIRD SESSION Jeju, Republic of Korea AGENDA ITEM 8

17 - 22 JANUARY 2011

DATES FOR THE TYPHOON COMMITTEE INTEGRATED WORKSHOPS

Original: ENGLISH

(Item 8 of Provisional Agenda - Programme for 2011 and beyond)

Submitted by Typhoon Committee Secretariat

Summary and Purpose of Document:

Proposal for holding the Integrated Workshops in November instead September

Action Proposed

The Committee is invited to:

- (a) Consider the pros and cons of postponing the integrated workshops from September to November;
- (b) To take a decision on the postponement

Background Information

Since 2006 the Typhoon Committee has been regularly holding workshops every year, in September. The practice has shown that the representatives of some Members have had difficulties in participating due to the fact that at this time of the year many Members are still affected by typhoons. For this reason, and also considering that the TC Sessions had recently been established to be held preferably in January, some participants at the AWG meeting held on September 10, 2010, in Macao, China, recommended that the Integrated Workshops should be held in November instead of September. It was also emphasized that with the IWSs held closer to the TC Sessions, planning and budgeting works could be finalized without the need for a separate "Small Meeting of Chairs" in December. The AWG recommended TCS to consult the Members in this respect.

Results of the consultation with Members

Following the recommendation of the AWG, TCS has sent a Circular Letter (ref. TCS/267-2010 - 06 October 2010 - copy appended) to all Directors and Focal Points of the three components. From the responses of ten members can be concluded that nine agreed with the recommendation of the AWG and one recommended that the seminar should be held in early September due to the fact that "normally severe tropical cyclones do not occur frequently in the beginning of September, but they are generally more frequent in the second haft of September, while November is the period that many countries in Southeast Asia will face heavy rainfalls and floods induced by the northeast monsoons and the storms emerge in the South China Sea".

IWS IN NOVEMBER INSTEAD OF SEPTEMBER

(Opinions collected)

	AGREE	DO NOT AGREE	Comments
China	Х		
Japan	Х		
Macao, China	Х		
Malaysia	Х		Preferably in early
			November
Macao	X		
Philippines	X		
Singapore	X		
Thailand		X	Beginning of
			September)
USA (Jeff)	X		The Workshop should
			be conducted at least
			two months prior to the
			Session meeting.
Viet Nam	X		

CIRCULAR LETTER

Our reference TCS/267-2010- 06 October 2010

To: The Directors and FocalPoint of Meteorological, Hydrological and DRR Services of Typhoon Committee Members

Subject: Holding the TC Integrated Workshops in November instead of September

As you know, the Advisory Working Group of the Typhoon Committee met on September 10, last day of the Integrated Workshop (IWS) on "Urban Flood Risk Management in a Changing Climate: Sustainable and Adaptation Challenges", which was successfully held in Macao, China, on 6-10 September 2010.

At this meeting the AWG has recommended that the future IWSs should be held in November instead of September, considering that at this time of the year many Members are still affected by typhoons and also due to the fact that the TC Sessions had recently been established to be held preferably in January.

The AWG has stressed that with the IWSs held closer to the TC Sessions, planning and budgeting works could also be finalized without the need for a separate "small meeting of Chairs" in December.

In this regard, TCS would like to know your opinion so that a decision can be taken in the next TC Session, which will be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, on 17-22 January 2011.

Your collaboration will be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Olavo Rasquinho

(Typhoon Committee Secretariat)

Cc: Mr. Foong Chee Leong, Chairman of TC, Director General, MSD, NEA, Singapore

Mr. Thosakdi Vanichkajorn, Chairman, Advisory Working Group

Mr. James Weyman, Vice-Chairman, Advisory Working Group

Mr. XUAN Zengpei, Chief, ICTDRR Division, ESCAP, Bangkok

Mr. Yuichi Ono, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Section, IDD of ESCAP, Bangkok

Mr. Shoji Matsubara, Expert, Disaster Risk Reduction Section, ICTDRR Division, ESCAP, Bangkok **Mr. Koji Kuroiwa,** Chief, TCP Division, WMO, Geneva