

Typhoon Committee  
Forty-fifth session  
Hong Kong, China  
29 January to 1 February 2013

ENGLISH ONLY

## **SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR THE COMMITTEE'S PROGRAMME**

(Item 14 of the Provisional Agenda)

Note by the WMO Secretariat in cooperation with  
the ESCAP Secretariat and the Typhoon Committee Secretariat

### **I. TECHNICAL COOPERATION**

#### **1. Banks and Trust Fund Projects**

The WMO Secretariat continued to make efforts towards the mobilization of resources from the World Bank and regional development banks, and other funding mechanisms. In collaboration with the World Bank, UNISDR and UNDP, a regional disaster risk management and adaptation programme has been initiated for six countries in Southeast Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam). The proposed project entitled "Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Development and Sustainability of Meteorological, Hydrological and Climate Services to support Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation in Southeast Asia" aims at improving institutional and operational cooperation of the NMHSs with socio-economic sectors. Under the crosscutting framework of the DRR Programme of WMO, the implementation of the project would engage and leverage technical capacities and network of all relevant WMO technical and scientific programmes. A proposal was submitted to donors for funding in May 2011, however as yet there has been no confirmed offer for funding.

The Secretariat of the Typhoon Committee, together with the Secretariat of the Panel on Tropical Cyclones, submitted to the 7th round of funding of the ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness in Indian Ocean and South East Asian Countries, the project Synergized Standard Operating Procedures for Coastal Multi-Hazards Early Warning System (SSOP). This project was one of the six approved by the Advisory Council of the Fund, in a total of sixty eight proposals for this round. Following recommendation of the 44th TC Session held in Hangzhou, on 06-11 February 2012, the Letter of Agreement was concluded between ESCAP and TC on the 1st August 2012.

#### **2. WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP)**

The WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP) is another major source available for WMO Members requiring technical assistance for meteorological and operational hydrological components.

In 2012, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea made cash contributions to the Voluntary Cooperation Fund (VCP(F)). China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; Republic of Korea; and USA provided equipment, expert services, training and fellowships within the framework of the VCP Equipment and Services (VCP(ES)) Programme. Following the WMO expert mission to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, carried out in March 2011, the training requirement in Agricultural Meteorology has been supported by China in 2012.

VCP holds potential for support of activities of the Typhoon Committee, either through individual projects with the Members of WMO or by a VCP coordinated programme which could provide assistance of a regional nature to the Committee as a whole. Members who need VCP assistance are urged to submit or update their requests to WMO in accordance with the Rules of the WMO VCP.

### **3. Emergency assistance for disasters**

The WMO "Emergency Assistance Fund" (officially entitled "WMO Disaster Assistance Fund for Meteorological and Hydrological Services"), established in 1991 (and renamed in 1999), is an existing WMO emergency assistance mechanism to assist Members affected by disasters in the rehabilitation and restoration of observing network, data collection and processing facilities and in international data exchange in cases where disasters have destroyed or severely disabled the meteorological and/or hydrological infrastructure.

Following the exceptional severe floods in Pakistan in July-August 2010 and a WMO fact-finding and needs-assessment mission carried out in November 2010 in collaboration with ESCAP and in coordination with UNESCO, several donor Members of WMO, including China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; and USA, indicated their possible support to restore essential hydrometeorological infrastructure (AWSs, conventional synoptic meteorological stations, a Flash Flood Guidance System, etc.) in Pakistan, in addition to the WMO support under the Emergency Assistance Fund.

Following the floods caused by monsoon rains in August 2012, the Philippines requested WMO for emergency assistance for the restoration of damaged meteorological instruments and equipment at synoptic meteorological stations. Assistance will be provided with the Emergency Assistance Fund and with support from VCP donors. Affected Members who need emergency assistance are advised to utilize this scheme, and all Members are requested to consider possible support to the affected NMHSs.

### **4. South-South Cooperation**

The south-south cooperation (or Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC)) has become an increasingly important modality to address the various development challenges in the developing nations. It is recalled that its basic objective was to promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among developing countries through the exchange of expertise, pooling of resources, sharing of technical capabilities and development of complimentary capacities. The Member countries are urged to utilize such a scheme to promote the technical cooperation activities.

China organized the 41st China Study Tour and a Workshop on Human Resources Development for NMHSs in Developing Countries in Africa in May 2012.

### **5. Bilateral assistance**

Great importance should be attached to assistance from developed countries to Committee's activities on a bilateral basis. Members concerned are invited to inform the Committee at this session of typhoon-related activities, which have been implemented and/or will be undertaken on bilateral arrangements.