

ESCAP/WMO
Typhoon Committee

Forty-sixth Session
10-13 February 2014
Bangkok, Thailand

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY

WRD/TC.46/8.2
28 January 2014

ENGLISH ONLY

ADVISORY WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES
ANNUAL REPORT 2013

(submitted by AWG Chair)

ACTION REQUIRED:

The Committee is invited:

- a) To take note of the major AWG activities in 2013
- b) To take note of the recommendations made in AWG meetings in 2013
- c) To take note of the actions taken by AWG in 2013

APPENDIX: Summary Report of AWG Meeting, Macao, 7 December 2013 (without the Annexes)

SUMMARY REPORT OF ADVISORY WORKING GROUP (AWG) 2013

1. Introduction

In accordance with its Terms of Reference, AWG aims to assist the Chairperson of the Typhoon Committee (TC) and the TC Secretary to coordinate the implementation of TC decisions. AWG also serves as a “Think Tank/Steering Group” to advise and offer options or proposals, as required, to TC Chairperson, TC Secretary and TC Members.

2. AWG Membership

The current composition of AWG is:

Mr. Edwin S.T. Lai, Chair of AWG and TRCG
Mr. Masashi Kunitsugu, Vice-Chair of the AWG
Mr. Raymond Tanabe, Vice-Chair of AWG
Mr. Lei Xiaotu, Chair of WGM
Mr. Minoru Kamoto, Chair of WGH
Dr. Yeo Woon-kwang, Chair of WGDRR
Mr. Tsukasa Fujita, Head of RSMC Tokyo
and ESCAP, WMO and TCS representatives as ex-officio members

3. AWG Meetings

3.1 *Bangkok, Thailand, 10 May 2013*

Agenda items discussed and recommendations or decisions made are summarized as follows:

- Arrangement with respect to 8th IWS and 2nd TRCG forum to be held in Macao, China in early December was discussed, and the following theme was agreed: “Forecasting, warning and DRR strategies in the mitigation of tropical cyclone impact in a multi-hazard coastal environment”.
- It was planned that 46th TC Session in early 2014 would be held in Bangkok and hosted by TMD, while the proposed Joint Session in early 2015 with PTC would also be in Bangkok but to be hosted by ESCAP.
- SSOP progress and preliminary plans in connection with a proposed WGM field experiment were discussed and reviewed.
- Guidelines on conducting expert missions were proposed and adopted for future reference.
- Streamlining of Members’ reports format was proposed, and the revised format would be used in the next round of Members’ reports in 2013. In-kind contribution input format was also revised for use starting in 2013.
- Archival of retired TC names was in progress.
- Evaluation methods used by TRCG for key training and research activities were presented, and working groups were encouraged to adopt such methods where

appropriate.

- Mid-term review of Strategic Plan was discussed, and proposed items for adjustment would be circulated further for Members' consultation.

3.2 Macao, China, 7 December 2013

Summary report of the meeting can be found in the Appendix. Highlights of topics discussed are as follows:

- The understanding was that the PTC/TC Joint Session would be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in the UN Conference Center, in early 2015. It was considered advisable for TC to be represented at the PTC Session to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, in March 2014 to follow up on the proposed joint Session and other matters related to future PTC/TC cooperation (to be followed up under Agenda Item 15).
- The 9th IWS, tentatively in October/November 2014 subject to confirmation with the hosting Member, was proposed to focus on SSOP. There were no formal offers as yet for hosting the 9th IWS, but Malaysia had informally expressed a willingness to consider the possibility (to be followed up under Agenda Item 14).
- A training workshop on SOPs, likely to be in the WMO Regional Training Center in Nanjing or in ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok, was to be held in the second week of June 2014.
- For the mid-term review of the Strategic Plan, TCS would distribute the revised version of SP incorporating all the proposed changes to Members for final comments or input before submission to the TC46 for approval (to be followed up under Agenda Item 9).
- To maximize the benefits of a proposed mission to the Philippines to study and review the impact of Haiyan and, for better synergy, TC would consider joining the mission currently being planned or considered by WMO and ESCAP. It was also noted that it might be necessary to consider further the need to create a budget item for "emergency situations" in the TCTF to support such missions.
- It was noted that the overall TCTF budget for 2014 as originally proposed by the WGs and TCS would exceed the nominal ceiling of around USD 130,000 by a significant amount. It was proposed that one-off non-regular items should be taken out for special funding considerations, similar to the funding request made for the 2nd TRCG Forum. The budget proposals would be revised accordingly through further consultation with AWG members (to be followed up under Agenda Item 13.4).
- It was agreed that funding allocation should be made for representatives from TC to attend the IWTC to be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, in December 2014, and to present findings on Haiyan if available.

4. AOPs and TCTF Budget

AOPs 2013 were reviewed and based on the AOPs submitted by TCS and the various working groups for 2014, and following further consultation with AWG members after the meeting in Macao, China on 7 December 2013, a budget proposal for 2014 was submitted for TC's approval under Agenda Item 13.4.