

ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee
Forty-eighth Session
22- 25 February 2016
Honolulu, Hawaii
USA

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY
WRD/TC.48/10
1 February 2016
ENGLISH ONLY

LONG-TERM APPOINTMENT MECHANISM FOR TC SECRETARY

(Submitted by AWG)

Summary and Purpose of Document:
To consider LONG-TERM APPOINTMENT MECHANISM FOR TC SECRETARY as
proposed by Advisory Working Group with
comments from Members incorporated

Action Required:

The Committee is invited to:

- (a) Take note of the proposals outlined in the Appendix.
- (b) Consider and adopt the proposals.

APPENDIX - LONG-TERM APPOINTMENT MECHANISM FOR TC SECRETARY

APPENDIX I

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION AT SESSION REPORT

10. Review of the Long Term Mechanism for TC Secretary Appointment

- 1.** The Committee took note the presentation made by AWG Chair, with the revised procedures on the Long Term Mechanism following the 10th IWS in Malaysia.
- 2.** The Committee accepted that the terms relating to the appointment of TC Secretary should form part of any future TCS hosting bids to be submitted for the Committee's consideration.
- 3.** Subject to any applicable terms governing the appointment of TC Secretary in the TCS hosting agreement, the following process should be followed as far as practicable as presented to the Committee.

(Additional text to be added in the light of discussion on this item)

APPENDIX II

LONG-TERM APPOINTMENT MECHANISM FOR TC SECRETARY

LONG-TERM APPOINTMENT MECHANISM FOR TC SECRETARY

(revised following AWG meeting in Kuala Lumpur on 28 October 2015)

Introduction and Background

Typhoon Committee (TC), currently with 14 Members from the Asia Pacific region, was established in 1968 with a Secretariat first set up in Bangkok, with the designation ECAFE/WMO Joint Unit on Typhoons. In 1971, upon invitation of the Philippines the ECAFE/WMO Joint Unit was re-located to Manila, and given a new name: Typhoon Committee Secretariat (TCS). The TC Secretary was by default provided by PAGASA to serve as a chief executive leading the TCS and implementing the decisions made by the Committee. This continued until the decisions to open the hosting opportunity of TCS to all Members in 2004 and subsequently to re-locate the TCS to Macao, China in 2007. The new TCS was established with generous funding support from the Macao SAR Government, covering the physical facilities as well as the staffing of TCS in terms of both professional and administrative personnel. A new TC Secretary was thereby appointed on the recommendation of the Macao SAR Government.

Traditionally, both in Manila and Macao, the appointment of the TC Secretary was very much based on the recommendations of the TCS Host Member and endorsed by the Committee. According to the Terms of Reference of the Typhoon Committee (Annex I) approved at its 45th Session, the Committee shall have the responsibility of appointing the TC Secretary, considering the importance of the role as a representative of TC in regional as well as international affairs. Yet there were no well-established rules for the selection and appointment of the Secretary and as such the Advisory Working Group was tasked to develop a long-term mechanism for the appointment process. Based on the discussion at the AWG meeting in Bangkok on 24 October 2014 and comments from the 47th Session as well as feedback subsequently received, the current proposal was drafted and revised at the AWG meeting in Kuala Lumpur on 28 October 2015 for submission to the Committee at the 48th Session.

The Terms of Reference for TCS and TC Secretary are provided in Annex II and III respectively for reference.

Proposal for Long-term Appointment Mechanism for TC Secretary

The appointment of TC Secretary should be conducted in an open, transparent and wholly accountable manner with due consideration given to the suitability of the appointee in carrying out the responsibilities under the Terms of Reference for TC Secretary and in promoting the objectives of TC within as well as outside the TC region. In setting criteria and requirements for the appointment process, due consideration should also be given to the limited numbers of Members ready for hosting the TCS and the need for a suitable balance to be struck between the expectations of TC and the TCS Host Member. In this connection, it

is recommended that terms relating to the appointment of TC Secretary should form part of any future TCS hosting bids to be submitted for the Committee's consideration.

Subject to any applicable terms governing the appointment of TC Secretary in the TCS hosting agreement, the following process should be followed as far as practicable:

1. Members to nominate candidates, with curriculum vitae of candidates, to reach TCS 6 months before the annual Session that would decide on the appointment.
2. Nominations by Members should be made in consideration of the qualifications required for TC Secretary (see para. 6 below) and any terms specified by TCS Host Member as stipulated in the TCS hosting agreement. As TC is an inter-governmental organization, written support or clearance should also be provided where the eligibility of the candidate requires the endorsement or agreement of another Member or other government administrations within or outside TC.
3. TCS to present a collated list of candidates to TCS Host Member for advice and comments on any issues that may arise in respect of the relevant terms and conditions as stipulated in the TCS hosting agreement.
4. TCS, in consultation with TC Chair and AWG, to present the finalized list of candidates with relevant information, including comments by TCS Host Member if any, to Members for reference and consideration 3 months before the annual Session.
5. Members to discuss and appoint the new TC Secretary, through voting if necessary, at the annual Session.
6. Qualifications for TC Secretary:

Essential

- Knowledge and working experience in NHMS or other relevant organizations in meteorology, hydrology and DRR among ESCAP, WMO or TC Members.
- Ability to coordinate and work effectively with ESCAP, WMO and TC Members, including TCS Host Member.
- Proficiency in spoken and written English.

Preferable

- Knowledge or previous experience in the works of Typhoon Committee.
- Communicating ability in a working language of the TCS Host Member.