

ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee
Fifty-eighth Session
10-13 March 2026
Maison Glad Hotel
Jeju, Republic of Korea

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY
WRD/TC.57/9.2
14 February 2026
ENGLISH ONLY

**ADVISORY WORKING GROUP (AWG) ACTIVITIES
ANNUAL REPORT 2025**
(Submitted by AWG Chair)

ACTION REQUIRED:

The Committee is invited:

- a) To take note of the major AWG activities and actions taken by the AWG in 2025 and prior to the 58th Session of the Typhoon Committee*
- b) To take note of the recommendations made by the AWG*

APPENDIXES:

Appendix A - DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION AT SESSION REPORT
Appendix B - ADVISORY WORKING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2025

APPENDIX A: DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE SESSION REPORT

Report of the AWG

1. *The Committee was informed of the activities and major issues discussed at the AWG Meetings in 2025 and prior to the 58th Session of the Typhoon Committee (Appendix ??).*
2. *The Committee was informed of the proposed budget for 2026/2027 and noted that there was no **special budget proposed** in 2026/2027.*
3. *The Committee was briefed on the progress of preparation of the Typhoon Committee's Strategic Plan for 2027-2031.*
4. *The Committee expressed its appreciation to AWG for offering advice and support to TC Chairperson and TCS in following up the key issues identified at the last Session and in coordinating key TC activities.*

Recommendations of the AWG

1. *Recognize and thank The Philippines for their leadership and great effort in hosting the 57th Session of the Typhoon Committee in Manila, Philippines during 17-21 February 2025.*
2. *Recognize and thank Macao, China for their exceptional effort in preparing and hosting the highly successful 20th Integrated Workshop/High-Level Forum in Macao, China during 2-5 December 2025.*
3. *Take note of the progress and recommendations made in the planning and implementation of Typhoon Committee's activities, including the preparation of the budget for 2026/2027, the proposed Typhoon Committee Research Award for Young Scientist, the review on the Member's Annual Contribution to the TCTF, and the progress of the resource mobilization team.*
4. *Recognize and thank TCS for completing the revamping of the TC webpage.*
5. *Take note of the progress of the drafting team for preparing the Strategic Plan for 2027-2031.*
6. *Take note of the TRCG's successful Roving Seminar.*
7. *Recognize and congratulate the two inaugural Typhoon Committee Research Award for Young Scientist winners.*
8. *Accept the nomination of Mr. CHOY Chun-Wing as the Co-Vice Chair of the AWG.*

9. *Encourage participation in the 11th International Workshop on Tropical Cyclones scheduled for November 16-20, 2026, in Shanghai, China.*
10. *Any other text which will be included in the Session report.*

APPENDIX B: ADVISORY WORKING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2025

1. Introduction

In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Advisory Working Group (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. Tom EVANS, Chair of AWG

Dr. Koji ISHIHARA, co-Vice-Chair of AWG/Head of RSMC Tokyo

Mr. Chun Wing CHOY

Dr. Jie TANG, Chair of WGM

Mr. Mamoru MIYAMOTO, Chair of WGH

Dr. Chihun LEE Chair of WGDRR

Mr. Chun Wing CHOY, Chair of TRCG, elect

and ESCAP, WMO and TCS representatives as ex-officio members

3. AWG Meetings/Activities

Since the 57th Session of the Typhoon Committee (TC57) in February 2025, five AWG Meetings were conducted during the inter-session period. Four of them were face-to-face meetings and the other two were conducted online. The key items discussed in each meeting are summarized in the following sub-sections with the notes of the AWG Meetings included in the Annex of this report.

3.1 Post – TC57 AWG Meeting on 20 February 2025 (Manila, Philippines)

Right after TC57, AWG conducted a face-to-face meeting on 20 February 2025 in the Philippines to follow up on the TC57 decisions and other housekeeping issues.

(a) Follow up of TC57 decisions

AWG discussed the completion of the revamping of the TC webpage noting it is now accessible to Members. Discussions also highlighted the importance of securing sensitive information and ensuring all Members have the necessary access credentials. The AWG discussed key details of the Young Scientist Award and requested TCS to issue a Circular Letter inviting nominations. The AWG emphasized the importance of keeping the Resource Mobilization Task Team small and focused, with clearly defined in the Terms of Reference (TOR). The AWG will request TCS to issue a Circular Letter to PRs. The AWG discussed the High-Level Forum/IWS20 and their Themes. Macao, China, as the host, will provide financial support and coordinate the participation of PRs. Working Group Chairs are also

encouraged to propose theme ideas for both the High-Level Forum and IWS20. To mark the 20th Anniversary of IWS, Macao, China, is considering issuing a statement reflecting the discussions at the forum. The AWG discussed plans for the 21st IWS, which is currently set to be hosted by ESCAP in 2026.

(b) Upcoming activities/meetings before IWS

The AWG reviewed the upcoming meetings of the Working Groups (WGs) which are scheduled to occur as follows: WGM, Hong Kong, China, in October 2025; WGH, Guam, USA, in October 2025; WGDRR, Seoul, Republic of Korea, in May 2025; TRCG/Roving Seminar, Guangzhou, China, between October and November 2025. Hong Kong, China nominated Mr. CHOY Chun-Wing from HKO to serve as co-vice chair of the AWG.

(c) Tentative AWG Meeting Schedule in 2025/26

The AWG discussed the following meeting schedule: In conjunction with the WGDRR Meeting, May 2025, Seoul, ROK, Wednesday, 28 May 2025; Online, September/October 2025; Pre-IWS20, December 2025, Macau, China; Post-IWS20 AWG Meeting, December 2025; Online, January 2026; Pre-TC58, Early March 2026, Republic of Korea.

(d) Other business

The AWG discussed the best platform to conduct online meeting and agreed to use Microsoft Teams. The AWG reviewed the timeline for the Strategic Plan (SP) and requested TCS to issue a Circular Letter inviting Members to designate focal points, as China will take the lead on the SP.

3.2 AWG Meeting on 28 May 2025 (Seoul, ROK)

With the kind invitation and support from the National Disaster Management Research Institute (NDMI) of Republic of Korea (ROK), AWG conducted a face-to-face meeting in-conjunction with the 20th Annual Meeting of the WGDRR in Seoul, ROK on 28 May 2025. Highlights of key issues discussed are summarized as follows:

(a) Preparation of the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum

AWG discussed and agreed on the proposed themes, latest arrangements, financial support and the proposed date of the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum. SMG introduced a draft Joint Statement to be issued following the High-Level Forum. Feedback from the AWG was incorporated into the document, which will be further discussed during the Forum. It is anticipated that the Permanent Representatives will formally sign the final version at a ceremony to conclude the event.

(b) Hosting of the 21st IWS

The 21st Integrated Workshop will be hosted in Bangkok, Thailand, at the UN ESCAP premises. The proposed dates, as approved during the 58th Session of the Typhoon Committee, are from 1 to 4 December 2026. (Post meeting note: Due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict, the originally approved date for 21st IWS are no

longer feasible. After consultation with AWG Chairs and ESCAP, two options of alternative dates were proposed (24 – 27 November 2026, 15 – 18 December 2026). A circular letter was issued on 19 June 2025 to consult Members' preference).

- (b) *Preparation of Roving Seminar 2025*
The meeting noted Mr. Choy Chun-Wing's report on the arrangements and preparations for the Roving Seminar to be held in Guangzhou, Guangdong, China, to be held sometime between October and December 2025. Mr. Choy also informed that Dr Anh Tien Do will be stepping down as Chair of TRCG. In the interim, Mr. Choy will assume the role of Acting Chairperson, while Ms. Won Seonghee will continue in her role as Vice-Chairperson.
- (c) *Strategic Plan for 2027-2031*
Dr. Tang Jie from the China Meteorological Administration, Lead Member, introduced the preliminary ideas for the preparation and important contents. The AWG explored potential new content for the upcoming Strategic Plan. The AWG emphasized the importance of making the Plan more inclusive, with greater engagement from society and increased resource mobilization for the Committee. Mr. Daisuke Maruichi from ESCAP, proposed a review of the existing Targets, noting that the Committee currently has limited influence over their achievement. He recommended that future Targets should be measurable and directly influenced by the Typhoon Committee's work.
- (d) *The progresses on the implementation of Typhoon Committee Research Award for Young Scientist (RAYS)*
TCS informed the AWG that a Circular Letter has been issued to Members, inviting nominations. The AWG emphasized the importance of ensuring a fair and balanced evaluation process and agreed that each Working Group should nominate an assessor. Dr. Koji Ishihara, Co-Vice Chairperson of the AWG, was nominated to serve as one of the assessors.
- (e) *Resources mobilization (RM)*
TCS presented the draft Terms of Reference (ToR). During the discussion, the AWG reviewed the section on structure and organization, highlighting the need to more clearly define the roles and involvement of ESCAP and WMO. The AWG requested TCS to revise the ToR to reflect the suggestions raised. The AWG Chairperson and TC Secretary will coordinate closely to finalize the composition of the task team.
- (f) *SSOP-III*
The AWG was provided an update on the latest developments and shared that the proposal is expected to be submitted in June 2025.
- (g) *Working Group budget estimates for the 58th Session*
The Working Group Chairs presented their estimate budget 2026/27.
- (h) *Kick start of the preparation of TC58*

TCS confirmed that the venue for TC58 will be in Jeju, Republic of Korea. A Circular Letter has been sent to Members presenting two possible date options for their consideration: March 10–13, 2026 (preferred by ROK) or February 23–27, 2026.

- (i) *Other Business*
 - a. *Results from the WMO 8th Advisory Group on Tropical Cyclone meeting (AG-TC8)*. Dr. Koji Ishihara, AWG Vice-Chair, updated the Working Group on key points from last week's AG-TC-8 meeting.
 - b. *Preparation of TC60, TRCG Forum, and IWS22*. TCS presented a consideration for the AWG. Should the 5th TRCG Forum be moved from IWS22 to the TC60 due to the anniversary celebration? The Acting TRCG Chairperson, Mr. Choy, will consult with the TRCG members and report back.
 - c. *PAGASA seeking support for developing a Tropical Cyclone Research Center*. Mr. Marcelino Villafuerte, Deputy-Administrator of PAGASA, requested that the Typhoon Committee provide a letter of support for PAGASA's plan to establish a Tropical Cyclone Research Center. The AWG noted that, given their extensive work in developing the agreement with AP-TCRC, this could serve as a useful reference for PAGASA. The AWG agreed that the AWG Chairperson, together with the TCS, will draft a letter of recommended support for the Deputy-Administrator, PAGASA and Vice-Chairperson to sign and present to PAGASA. Full endorsement of this letter will be requested at TC58.
 - d. *WMO Regional Training Center Nanjing Agreement Update*. TCS informed the AWG that the WMO RTC Nanjing now seeks to update their agreement to offer academic education to TC members based on the original terms. Members of the AWG expressed support, considering the revised agreement beneficial for member capacity building. However, Mr. Yu Jun of the WMO pointed out that the current agreement was signed by WMO RTC–Nanjing, and thus, any updates must be approved by WMO in accordance with its regulations. Mr. Yu will consult with WMO to clarify the appropriate framework and report back to the AWG.

3.3 AWG Online Meetings on 28 October 2025

AWG conducted an online meeting on 28 October 2025 to continue discussions of key issues, which are summarized as follows:

- a) *Arrangements of the 20th Integrated Workshop/High-Level Forum*

TCS briefed the AWG on the updated programme and arrangements for the 20th Integrated Workshop (IWS) and High-Level Forum (HLF) to be held in Macao, China, from 02 to 05 December 2025. DSMG presented the proposed arrangements for the HLF, including three structural options. The AWG discussed the options. The AWG discussed the Joint Statement to be presented at the HLF. The AWG Chair will revised draft based on input from Members and circulate it to all Members for any further comments ahead of the IWS20.
- b) *Hosting of 21st IWS*

TCS reported on the scheduling conflict initially raised by ESCAP regarding the proposed dates for the 21st Integrated Workshop (IWS). After consultation with Members, the new dates have been confirmed as 24–27 November 2026, to be held at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand. The China Meteorological Administration (CMA) expressed interest in hosting the 21st IWS in the Guangdong Province, China. The AWG requested that a formal letter of intent be submitted by China.

c) Progress on preparation of the Roving Seminar 2025

TCS reported that this year's Roving Seminar supported eight participants, made possible by savings in the lecture component. Mr Koji Ishihara, AWG Vice-Chair, raised the option of online participation. Clarence will consult the LOC regarding online participation for the next Roving Seminar and update Members on any changes.

d) Progress on the Strategic Plan for 2027-2031

Dr, Tang Jie, Lead Member for the Strategic Plan 2027–2031, reported that an international team comprising seven members and four experts has been established to draft the new strategic plan.

e) Progress on the implementation of Typhoon Committee Research Award for Young Scientist (RAYS)

TCS reported that a team of five assessors has been formed, comprising the Young Scientists Award Selection Working Group (YSASWG). In total, five (5) nominations were received. TCS will forward the nominations and corresponding papers to the selection team for evaluation and voting prior to the TC58.

f) Progress on Resource Mobilization (RM)

TCS has revised the draft Terms of Reference and circulated the document to all AWG members for comments. Two nominations for the Resource Mobilization Task Team have been received. TCS will proceed with further actions. The finalized mechanism or guidelines are expected to be submitted to the TC58 Session for approval.

g) Preparation of TC58

TCS confirmed that the 58th Session of the Typhoon Committee (TC58) will be held from 10 to 13 March 2026 in Jeju Island, Republic of Korea. The host, the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA), has confirmed the venue at Maison Glad Hotel, located approximately 10–15 minutes from Jeju Airport. Room rates are around USD 120 per night, inclusive of breakfast and taxes.

3.4 AWG Meeting on 1 December 2025 (Macao, China)

With the kind support of the LOC of the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum, the AWG took the opportunity to meet face-to-face again in Macao, China on 1 December 2025, prior to the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum. The meeting discussed key issues of the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum, including the programme rundown, time control, moderators, arrangements of the opening

ceremony, arrangements of the High-Level Forum, including the discussion panels, and arrangements for the Joint Statement for the High Level Forum.

3.5 AWG Meeting on 5 December 2025 (Macao, China)

With the kind support of the LOC of the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum, the AWG took the opportunity to meet face-to-face again in Macao, China on 5 December 2025, after the 20th IWS/High-Level Forum. Highlights of key issues discussed are summarized as follows:

- a) *Preparation of TC58*
TCS and KMA briefed the AWG on the ongoing preparations, tentative programme and provisional agenda for TC58, to be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea. TCS also reported on the status of the Typhoon Committee Research Award for Young Scientists (RAYS). Awardees will be invited to attend TC58 to receive their awards and present their research.
- b) *Proposal to increase the number of Dr. Roman L. Kintanar awards*
TCS proposed to allow up to two recipients of the Dr. Roman L. Kintanar Award each year, aiming to enhance recognition and ensure equitable opportunities for Members. The meeting noted that after about five years extra costs would need coverage from TCTF. TCS will revise the Rules and Procedures for the Dr Roman L. Kintanar Award accordingly and prepare a working document for TC58.
- c) *Preparation of the 4th Assessment Report on impacts of climate change on tropical cyclones in the Typhoon Committee region*
The AWG reviewed the progress on the 4th Assessment Report on impacts of climate change on tropical cyclones and agreed in principle that adopting an “Expert Advisor” approach in place of a formal reviewer system, whereby experts nominated by Working Group Chairs would contribute throughout the drafting process and be appropriately acknowledged.
- d) *Nomination of new experts for ISSC of AP-TCRC*
The AWG discussed the nomination of new experts to represent the Typhoon Committee on the ISSC of APTCRC, with Mr. Choy explaining that TRCG would nominate him to replace Dr. Cha. The AWG Chair will seek the TC Chair’s approval by email.
- e) *Resource Mobilization*
TCS briefed on the progress of the Resource Mobilization initiative, introducing general principles for establishing a Typhoon Committee Support Fund (TCSF). The AWG raised concerns particularly regarding private sector involvement, the robustness of assessment and due diligence procedures, and the relationship between the TCSF and TCTF. The meeting recommended that the principles be circulated before TC58 and that a roadmap and timeline be developed.
- f) *Other Business*

Mr. Yu Jun, from WMO announced the 11th International Workshop on Tropical Cyclones scheduled for November 16-20, 2026, in Shanghai, China.

3.6 AWG Online Meeting on 10 February 2026

AWG conducted an online meeting on 10 February 2026 to review the preparation and arrangements of TC58, and discuss issues related to the 21st and 22nd IWSs.

4. AOPs and TCTF Budget

AOPs for 2025 were reviewed. Based on the AOPs submitted by TCS and the various working groups for 2026-2027, a TCTF budget proposal for 2026/2027 was submitted for the Committee's approval under Agenda Item 19.3 at TC58.