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RA II WIGOS Project Newsletter

DEVELOPING SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AND
HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES IN SATELLITE DATA, PRODUCTS AND TRAINING

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Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan 2017-2020 (R-WIP-II) approved by RA II-16

The 16th session of the WMO Regional Association II (RA II-16, Abu Dhabi, UAE, Feb. 2017) approved the Regional WIGOS Implementation Plan 2017 – 2020 (R-WIP-II), which includes the RA II WIGOS Project to Develop Support for NMHSs in Satellite Data, Products and Training. The draft project was developed by the RA II Expert Group on WIGOS (Abu Dhabi, UAE, Oct. 2016) with feedback from discussions held at the 4th Coordinating Group Meeting (Songdo,

Republic of Korea, 28 Oct. 2016) before consideration by RA II-16. The project will include the following activities:

- (a) To facilitate the timely provision of satellite-related information by satellite operator to NMHSs in RA II including developing countries via the project web page, newsletters, user's conference, etc., aligning with VLab activities to optimize assistance to NMHSs in RA II and coordinating training activities on use of satellite data/products;
- (b) To identify requirements and current and planned utilization capabilities of NMHSs in RA II regarding data and products of Earth observation satellites including new generation geostationary meteorological

satellites in support of their weather services, including forecasts and warnings, providing a gap analysis in which the capabilities are matched against the requirements so as to develop an action plan to close the gap;

- (c) To strengthen capabilities of NMHSs in RA II to use the routine images and derived products from the Earth observation satellites including new generation geostationary meteorological satellites, Himawari-8/9, FY-4 series and GEO-KOMPSAT-2 satellites, by user training and guidance on upgrading processing software/hardware, information and tools;
- (d) (i) To develop a protocol for NMHSs of the countries in the Region to request event-driven rapid scan imagery; and (ii) to assist NMHSs to utilize rapid scan data in support of DRR in response to their requests;
- (e) To continue the issuance of the quarterly newsletters.

Based on these activities, the project (coordinated by JMA and KMA) will provide RA II NMHSs with continued support toward improved use of satellite-related information in collaboration with all relevant satellite operators and in coordination with other ongoing projects conducted by bodies such as the WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory (VLAB) and the RA V Task Team on Satellite Utilization.

(Hiroshi Kunimatsu, JMA)

Commencement of backup operation of Himawari-9

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) has operated the Himawari-8 geostationary satellite since 7 July 2015. The Agency also launched its new Himawari-9 geostationary meteorological satellite, which is identical to the Himawari-8 unit, on 2 November 2016 from the Tanegashima Space Center of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) using H-IIA launch vehicle No. 31 (H-IIA F31).

The satellite flew as planned after separating from the rocket and entered geostationary orbit on the scheduled date of 11 November.

After a period of in-orbit testing, Himawari-9 began serving as back-up to Himawari-8 on 10 March 2017 and will continue in this role until the planned switchover in or around 2022. This dual combination of new-generation satellites will support JMA's stable provision of continuous satellite observation data for the Asia-Oceania region until 2029

To support users preparing for Himawari-8/9 data utilization, JMA provides Himawari-8/9 information on the Himawari User's Guide web page. The information encompasses the schedule, spacecraft/AHI specifications including estimated spectral response functions (SRFs), sample data in various file formats, data distribution/dissemination methods, and reference software for data reading/conversion. JMA also posts Himawari-8/9 information on its Satellite User Readiness Navigator (SATURN) resource. See also the following web pages:

<http://www.jma-net.go.jp/msc/en/support/>
<https://www.wmo-sat.info/satellite-user-readiness/topic/satellites/himawari-8/>



Figure: First Image by Himawari-9 at 02:40 UTC on 24 January 2017

(Shiro Ohmori, JMA)

The 8th Asia/Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference

ROSHYDROMET and ROSCOSMOS are pleased to announce the 8th Asia/Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference (AOMSUC-8) to be held from 16 to 21 October 2017 in Vladivostok City (Russky Island), Russian Federation. The web-site of the Conference is available at:

<http://aomsuc8.ntsomz.ru>

Objectives

AOMSUCs provide an excellent forum for meteorological community in Asia and Oceania to meet and enhance their joint efforts in the utilization of satellite data and products for better weather, climate and disaster mitigation services. The Conferences are focused on the further enhancement of various application techniques among satellite data users, advancement of satellite observation technologies, and users' preparation for taking full advantage of the new generation satellites.

Organizing Committee

Co-Chairs:

- Dr. Alexander Frolov (Head of ROSHYDROMET, Russia)
- Mr. Igor Komarov (Director-General of ROSCOSMOS, Russia)

International Conference Steering Committee Chair:

- Dr. James Purdom (Special Advisor to WMO on Integrated Observing Systems & CIRA, Colorado St. University, USA)

Co-Chairs:

- Prof. Vasily Asmus (Director of SRC Planeta, ROSHYDROMET, Russia)
- Dr. Hoon Park (Director-General of NMSC, KMA, Republic of Korea)

Daily Schedule

16–17 October: Training event on satellite data and product application

18–20 October: The 8th Asia/Oceania Meteorological Satellite Users' Conference

21 October: The 5th meeting of the Coordinating Group of the RA II WIGOS Project

Conference Session Topics

- (a) Current and future meteorological satellite programs
- (b) Facilitation of data access and utilization
- (c) Atmospheric parameters derived from satellite observations
- (d) Application of satellite data to weather analysis and disaster monitoring
- (e) Application of satellite data to numerical weather prediction
- (f) Application of satellite data for climate and environmental monitoring
- (g) Land surface and ocean parameters derived from satellite observations
- (h) Global Spaced-based Inter-Calibration System (GSICS)
- (i) Capacity building and training activities

Call for Papers

Abstract submission to the Conference is now open. Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words. Please note that the person who submits the abstract will automatically be identified as the presenter and point of contact for future correspondence. The language of the Conference is English. Abstracts will be reviewed and, probably, reassigned to another sessions, before being finally approved. Authors may be asked to make poster instead of oral presentations, if this is considered more appropriate. Authors will be notified on the final decision via e-mail by 15 August 2017, and the abstracts will be posted on the Conference website.

Please fill in Abstract submission form (available at:

<http://aomsuc8.ntsomz.ru/1-announcement/>)

to submit an abstract and send to the Organizing Committee via the following e-mail: andreeva.planet@gmail.com.

The deadline for abstract submission is 31 July 2017

Registration

Electronic registration to the Conference is now open. Please follow the link: <http://aomsuc8.ntsomz.ru/registration/> to register to the Conference. The deadline for registration is 30 September 2017

Conference fee: none

Visa Support

Please note that most foreign nationals are required to have an Entry Visa to travel to Russia, and visa application process usually takes about three weeks. All the information related to the Visa support issue is available at: <http://aomsuc8.ntsomz.ru/visa/>.

Venue and Accommodation

AOMSUC-8 will be held at the Congress and Exhibition Center of the Far Eastern Federal University (FEFU) Campus (Vladivostok City, Russky Island).



FEFU Campus on Russky Island has already hosted the following events:

- 24th Annual Summit of the leaders of the APEC economies;
- 21th Session of the Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum;
- Annual Presidents Meeting of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities;
- Asian and Pacific Energy Forum;
- East Economic Forum and others.

Hotel complex of FEFU Campus includes 5 hotels with a spectacular panoramic view on the Ajax bay. It is located in 10 minutes away on foot from the Congress and Exhibition Center.

To make a reservation, please fill in the Hotel Reservation form (available at:

<http://aomsuc8.ntsomz.ru/venue-and-accommodation/>) and send to FEFU Campus Housing office via e-mail: drk@dvfu.ru (AOMSUC-8 must be identified as a topic in your e-mail to secure the usage of block booking).

(Zoya Andreeva, SRC Planeta/ROSHYDROMET)

The 45th Plenary Session of the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS-45)

The 45th Plenary Session of the Coordination group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS-45) will be held in Jeju-land, Republic of Korea on 15-16 June 2017 at the Maison Glad Jeju Hotel. The plenary session will be preceded by the CGMS Working Groups on 11-13 June.

http://www.cgms-info.org/index_.php/cgms/meeting-detail/cgms-45

Objectives

The main goals of the coordination activities of the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) are to support operational weather monitoring and forecasting as well as climate monitoring, in response to requirements formulated by WMO, its programmes and other programmes jointly supported by WMO and other international agencies.

It is the policy of CGMS to coordinate satellite systems of its members in an end-to-end perspective, including protection of in-orbit assets and support to users - e.g. through appropriate training - as required to facilitate and develop shared access to and use of satellite data and products in various applications. This policy is reflected in the structure of the so called High Level Priority Plan (HLPP) initially endorsed by CGMS-40 plenary session in 2012, covering:

1. Coordination of observing systems and

protection of assets

2. Data dissemination, direct read out services and contribution to the WIS product development
3. Enhance the quality of satellite-derived data and products
4. Outreach and training activities
5. Cross-cutting issues and new challenges

In addition to the reports on the status of the satellite programmes and on the work performed by the Working Groups, it would like to be highlighted the following items that have been identified as priorities for the 45th plenary session on 15-16 June:

- Presentations on preliminary results of recently launched new generation GEO satellites by CMA (FY-4A), JMA (Himawari-8/-9) and NOAA (GOES-16) together with a progress report and proposal for the way forward of the non-meteorological applications study since CGMS-44;
- Progress and results of the Climate inventory and gap analysis since CGMS-44 by the Joint CEOS-CGMS Working Group on Climate, together with the CGMS input to the GCOS Implementation Plan;
- Follow-up of discussion held at CGMS-44 on carbon observations, covering the interaction with CEOS and presentations on carbon programme status by CMA, JAXA, NASA, and the European Union; and
- The CGMS International Science Working Groups on precipitation (IPWG), wind (IWWG) and radio-occultation (IROWG) will present their recommendation to CGMS agencies following their respective plenary sessions.

It will be preceded four Working Group and one task team meeting on 11-13 June with the

following items:

- WG I : Global issues on satellite system and telecommunication coordination
- WG II : Satellite Data and Products
- WG III : Operational Continuity and Contingency Planning
- WG IV : Global Data Dissemination
- SWTT : Space Weather Task Team

The all working paper of WG and plenary will be collected by 15 May 2017.

Venue

The CGMS-45 will be held at the Maison Glad Hotel, on Jeju-Island, Republic of Korea. The hotel is located about 3.5 km away from the Jeju International Airport.

The contact details are:

Maison Glad Hotel
Jeju-Island
80 Noyeon-ro, Jeju-si, Jeju-do,
Korea 63132

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<https://ora.oraresort.com/eng/GRD>



(Tae-Hyeong Oh, KMA/NMSC)

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From the Co-editors

The co-editors invite contributions to the newsletter. Although it is assumed that the major contributors for the time being will be satellite operators, we also welcome articles (short contributions of less than a page are fine) from all RA II Members, regardless of whether they are registered with the WMO Secretariat as members of the WIGOS Project Coordinating Group. We look forward to receiving your contributions to the newsletter.

(Dohyeong KIM, KMA, and Hiroshi KUNIMATSU, JMA)

RA II WIGOS Project Home Page

http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/satellite/ra2wigosproject/ra2wigosproject-intro_en_jma.html

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(Editor-in-chief of this issue: Hiroshi Kunimatsu)