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| **WORLD WEATHER WATCH COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS** | banner | |
| WIS Country visit questions  Version 3 | |  |
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Introduction

1. This document provides suggestions on information that might be gathered during a visit to a WMO Member to assess the suitability of the Member’s WIS and telecommunications facilities to meet the needs of the Member. Its structure is derived from Appendix 1: *Common WIS related actions: National urgency (H, M, L)* that itself was developed during Region I WIS/WIGOS planning meetings to assist Members consider how they might prioritize their planning for WIS and related areas.
2. Any actual assessment is likely to consider aspects that are not in this document and to omit topics because they are of lower priority for the Member concerned.
3. The following sections identify information that might be gathered during the visit, grouped into themes that are commonly led from within a single management area.
4. These lists are not exhaustive; please record other information that those interviewed consider important.

WIS COUNTRY VISIT QUESTIONS - responses

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Country/state: |  |
| Date questions answered: |  |
| Team visiting: |  |
| People contributing to answers and their affiliation |  |

1 Transmission of information from observing stations to central offices

1. This section covers the following topics from Appendix 1:

A1 Creation of digital reports at manual station for transmission

A2 Automatic digital transmission of AWS information to national/sub-national collection point

A3 Telecommunications connection from observing site (or production office) to national/sub-national centre.

1. Information gathered should include the following.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| Telecommunications method used to communicate observations to the central collection point(s). Indicate number of stations using each method.  Include both the telecommunications method (such as voice fixed phone or data collection by satellite) and protocol (such as dictation or TCP/IP). State supplier if possible, especially for methods that involve parties outside the Member country. |  |
| Reliability of telecommunications (availability, errors) |  |
| Backup telecommunications |  |
| Protection of telecommunications (UPS, physical security, etc) |  |
| Data formats used to pass data to centre |  |
| Issues identified by staff at observing site |  |
| Issues identified by staff at collecting centre |  |
|  |  |
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1. The following background information to be confirmed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
|  |  |
|  |  |

2 Infrastructure of telecommunications centres

1. This section covers the following topics from Appendix 1:

A4 National/sub-national collection centre

A7 Create reports in TDCF

A8 Transmit information to national users

A9 Transmit information to international users – management of data flow (including GTS)

A10 International telecommunications connections

A11 Reception of information from international centres (including GTS)

A14 Creation and maintenance of WIS Discovery metadata records

A15 Delivery of non-real time national products through the WIS

1. Information gathered should include the following.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| Where are the national and (if any) regional collection centre(s)? |  |
| What are the connections between the national and regional centres (if any)? |  |
| Message/file switching /WIS systems – supplier, version |  |
| Is the Message/file switching system WIS compliant? |  |
| Are the APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) for the Message/file switching/WIS systems available so that automated connections to exchange information with other Member systems can be implemented? Have such connections been implemented? |  |
| Can the centre process and issue TDCF reports of surface observations? How? |  |
| Can the centre process and issue high resolution TDCF reports of upper air observations? How? |  |
| Can the centre issue converted TAC reports as TDCF for upper air observations? How? |  |
| Infrastructure support for the collection centre: power supply |  |
| What back-up power supply arrangements are in place? |  |
| Environmental conditioning of rooms housing computer/telecommunications equipment (and arrangements for resilience) |  |
| Physical security for computer/telecommunications rooms |  |
| International telecommunications -  Dedicated telecommunications:  for each destination specify lines, bandwidth, protocols, resilience arrangement. |  |
| International telecommunications -  Internet (especially connections available for exchanging WIS data operationally): bandwidth, resilience arrangements |  |
| Satellite broadcast reception |  |
| GTS RTH |  |
| To which GTS centres does the centre connect? |  |
| How many GTS bulletins are issued by the centre (a list would be useful) |  |
| Principal GISC |  |
| Does the centre manage the content of its own WIS Discovery Metadata (if not, state reasons) |  |
| Does the Member use the GISC interfaces to download information? |  |
| Is the Member using WIS facilities to deliver non-real time information? If so, specify |  |
| Is the Member using WIS facilities to receive non-real time information? If so, specify |  |
| How is information exchanged with the civil aviation authorities and operators? |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. The following background information to be confirmed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| GTS RTH is xxx |  |
| Principal GISC is xxx |  |
| The formal GTS connectivity is shown in the regional implementation plans as <http://wis.wmo.int/folder=75>  Is this correct? |  |
| Location of GTS connection in country is xxxx |  |
|  |  |

3 Tools to assist production

1. This section covers the following topics from Appendix 1:

5 National/sub-national data store (Not part of WIS)

6 Display/production system (integration of information from multiple sources; not part of WIS)

12 Data store for international information (ideally the same as the national/sub-national data store to allow seamless use of information; not part of WIS)

13 Long term storage and protection of information (not part of WIS)

1. Information gathered should include the following.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| How are nationally-produced data stored? |  |
| Are the APIs (Application Program Interfaces) for the data store(s) published to allow other systems to interact with the store? Are such interactions in place? |  |
| What production systems are used (eg visualisation systems)? |  |
| Are the APIs (Application Program Interfaces) for the production published to allow other systems to interact with the store? Are such interactions in place? |  |
| How are data received from external sources (including international data) stored? |  |
| Are the APIs (Application Program Interfaces) for the data store(s) for external data published to allow other systems to interact with the store? Are such interactions in place? |  |
| How are products delivered to end users? |  |
| Does the Member have a web site? Is this used to distribute products? |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

1. The following background information to be confirmed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| Please confirm that CLIMSOFT is used to store climate observations.  Is CLIMSOFT used in the near-real-time exchange of observations, and if so, how? |  |
|  |  |

4 WIS infrastructure

1. This section covers the following topics from Appendix 1:

A16 Implementation of centres other than the NMHS as WIS National Centres (or DCPCs)

A17 National Centre/DCPC compliance with WIS requirements

A18 Exploit GISC and other WIS facilities to provide more information to national users

A19 National training in WIS – users

A20 National training in WIS – operators of WIS infrastructure

1. Information gathered should include the following.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
| Which WIS centres are registered by the Member, and what is their status? |  |
| For each centre, is it compliant with the requirements of WIS? |  |
| What issues are hindering compliance with WIS? |  |
| Is the Member using GISC facilities to offer services to its own user community? |  |
| How many staff does the Member have for operating WIS systems? It would be useful to break this down by location and function |  |
| Does the Member use external suppliers, partners or contractors to deliver services? If so, how are these managed? |  |
| What WIS skills are available to the Member (see <http://wis.wmo.int/file=687>) |  |
| What are the development needs of the staff of the Member who run the WIS systems in the Member to achieve the competence level needed to run WIS to the benefit of the member? |  |
| How many of staff does the member has who should use WIS? |  |
| What are the development needs of information users in the Member to be able to exploit WIS? |  |
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1. The following background information to be confirmed.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Response** |
|  |  |

**Country**:

| **Action No** | **Action** | **Urgency** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| A1 | Creation of digital reports at manual station for transmission |  |
| A2 | Automatic digital transmission of AWS information to national/sub-national collection point |  |
| A3 | Telecommunications connection from observing site (or production office) to national/sub-national centre |  |
| A4 | National/sub-national collection centre |  |
| A5\* | National/sub-national data store |  |
| A6\* | Display/production system (integration of information from multiple sources) |  |
| A7 | Create reports in TDCF |  |
| A8 | Transmit information to national users |  |
| A9 | Transmit information to international users – management of data flow (including GTS) |  |
| A10 | International telecommunications connections |  |
| A11 | Reception of information from international centres (including GTS) |  |
| A12\* | Data store for international information (ideally the same as the national/sub-national data store to allow seamless use of information) |  |
| A13\* | Long term storage and protection of information |  |
| A14 | Creation and maintenance of WIS Discovery metadata records |  |
| A15 | Delivery of non-real time national products through the WIS |  |
| A16 | Implementation of centres other than the NMHS as WIS National Centres (or DCPCs) |  |
| A17 | National Centre/DCPC compliance with WIS requirements |  |
| A18 | Exploit GISC and other WIS facilities to provide more information to national users |  |
| A19 | National training in WIS – users |  |
| A20 | National training in WIS – operators of WIS infrastructure |  |