



Over the last two months, we KMA undertook many interesting activities to be shared with you through the newsletter.

First of all, KMA successfully held the JCOMM-4 in conjunction with Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea. We appreciate all those participants for the successful conclusion of the meeting. Another meaningful meeting KMA held was the Typhoon Committee's Advisory Working Group meeting which draws several important conclusions for the TC.

In the mean time, the WMO expert team conducted on-site audition for establishment of GISC-Seoul which resulted in the formal approval of KMA as a GISC during the 65th Session of the Executive Council. KMA is going to put every efforts to help successful implementation of WIS.

There were several new initiatives for closer cooperation between other NMHSs including the signing of MoU with the HKO and the UK Met Office. In addition to the new initiatives, several bilateral meetings with NAMEM of Mongolia, NMHS of Vietnam and Roshydromet of Russia, were held to reinforce the ongoing technical cooperations between KMA and respective organizations.

With the onset of summer monsoon in Korea, severe weathers such as heavy rainfall and consequent flash flood, tropical storms, thunderstorms will be more frequently around us. I wish all the best for other NMHSs to help prevent and mitigate natural disasters caused by such hazardous weather phenomena.

KMA Attends WMO EC-64

(25 June-3 July, WMO, Geneva)

Administrator CHO participated the 64th Session of the WMO Executive Council (EC) held in Geneva, Switzerland from June 25 to July 3.

Participants of the Council reviewed 2011 financial status and human resources management as well as the implementation plan of Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS). They also reviewed the implementation plan of WMO's five top priorities and its outcome.

During the Council, Administrator CHO attended in EC By-election, a closed-door meeting, welcoming 5 new acting EC members. Mr. CHO and his alternate participated the selection of members of WCRP JSC, IMO Prize recipients, and chaired the Selection Committee on Award for Young Scientists. In particular, professor Kang In-sik of Seoul National University was selected as a new member of WCRP JSC.



WMO Approves GISC Seoul

(30 June 2012, WMO, Geneva)



The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) has a firm ground to operate a "Global Information System Centre (GISC)," a collection and distribution hub of global weather data, in Seoul with the approval of WMO EC on 30 June.

Accordingly, KMA has been able to collect and distribute the global weather data in real-time as the hub of the global data exchange, and to take the lead in technology and policy on the world weather information and communication.

KMA is planning to set up the standardized operation system for the stable operation of GISC, and consolidate the operational foundation on "GISC Seoul" through supporting Data Collection or Production Centres (DCPC) at home and abroad and enhancing GISC operation. In addition, KMA will make every effort to implement 2012-2015 WIS plans successfully, to support regional WIS centers and to promote their capacity-development activities.

Advisory Working Group meeting of ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee

(28-29 May 2012, Seoul, Korea)

The AWG meeting of the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee was held on 28-29 May in Seoul, Republic of Korea. AWG members who are representatives of ESCAP and WMO, working group chairs of the Typhoon Committee, and staff from TCS and KMA attended the meeting. The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Woo Jin Lee and Mr. Olavo Rasquinha, secretary of the TC.

At the meeting, the rules, operational procedures, terms of references were reviewed for the competency of the TC for the benefit of all Members. Many issues were raised and intensively discussed, including the reorganization of the meetings such as the IWS and the TC Session, update of the TC's main legal documents, follow-up of the decisions and recommendations made at the 44th Session, and follow-up action plan to draft the AWG report. The concrete proposals on the main issues discussed at the AWG meeting, will be reviewed at the 7th IWS to be held in Nanjing, China in coming November. And the final report will be submitted to the 45th session.



The 7th Bilateral Meeting Between KMA and Roshydromet

(20-22 June 2012, Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation)



The KMA delegation headed by Administrator CHO visited Saint-Petersburg, Russia to have the 7th bilateral meteorological cooperation meeting between KMA and Roshydromet on 20-22 June.

During the meeting, both sides discussed measures to expand cooperation for the successful hosts of 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics and 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics, including joint participation in the international meteorological programmes, mutual exchange of professional forecasters and sharing know-hows.

To exchange technology and acquire experiences related to forecast on Winter Olympics sensitive to weather, KMA is planning to dispatch its forecasters to Sochi, Russia until 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics and implement benchmarking of the best practices. Furthermore, from 2015 to the end of the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics, KMA is committed to improving forecast technology for large-scale international events through global cooperation programmes where Russian forecasters will participate in the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics.

MOU Signing Ceremony for KMA-Met Office Meteorological Cooperation

(26 June 2012, WMO, Geneva)

During the WMO Executive Council (25 June-3 July, Geneva), KMA and UKMO signed a MOU for comprehensive meteorological cooperation between the two organization at WMO headquarters.

KMA and Met Office laid cooperation foundation on a variety of areas including development of NWP model, weather forecasting, observation, communication, weather-climate technology, applied meteorology, meteorological research and development, and expert training. Besides, both established the cooperation system for expanding and strengthening opportunity of expert exchange.



The 2nd Bilateral Meeting Between KMA and NHMS

(16 May 2012, Seoul, Korea)



KMA hosted the second Korea-Vietnam Meteorological Cooperation Meeting with National Hydro-Meteorological Service (NHMS) headed by Mr. Nguyen Van Tue in Seoul on 16 May.

In the meeting, both sides discussed various issues such as training on typhoon analysis system and ODA cooperation. Specifically, both sides agreed to improve hydrological capability of Hong and Mekong river in Vietnam through joint R&D support programme.

The 5th Bilateral Meeting Between KMA and NAMEM

(30 April-5 May 2012, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia)

The KMA delegation headed by Deputy Administrator Lee Ilsoo visited National Agency for Meteorological and Environment Monitoring (NAMEM) of Mongolia, to have the 5th bilateral meeting from 30 April to 5 May. Both sides discussed future cooperation in 8 main areas such as aviation meteorology, NWP model, development of wind resource map and enhancement of joint research on Asian dust, etc.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the MOU signed by two parties. For the decade, both sides have had vibrant meteorological cooperation and exchange of related technologies including expansion of joint observatory network for Asian dust, training on numerical forecast and document restoration project.



KMA Develops WECO Using Renewable Energy

(14 June 2012, Seoul, Korea)



For the weather observation in the mountainous areas, KMA has been developing a "WECO system (WECO: Weather+Eco)," utilizing eco-friendly renewable energy.

Its main power is provided by the wind power with the solar power as the auxiliary source of power. The system is designed to be suitable for Korea's terrain which features strong wind at high altitude and valley. It is able to generate electricity even with a breeze of 1.2 m/s regardless of wind direction and generates 700W level that fits electricity consumption of weather observing equipment. For the easy installment, the tower part is disassembled into 1-2 m units.

KMA plans to apply the new system into the mountain weather observing stations and encourage other organization to adopt the new system for their own purpose. By doing so, KMA expect an increased capability for the provision of weather services to prevent forest disasters.

Photo News

MOU between KMA and HKO (5.30)



- Creating a synergy effect through advanced meteorological technologies of both sides in the field of NWP, Climate change, Satellite data analysis etc.

MOU between WMO and Ewha Womens University (5.25)



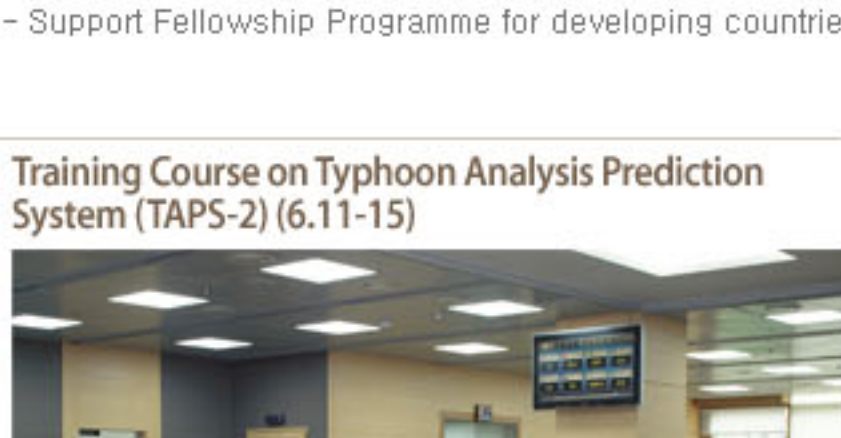
- Support Fellowship Programme for developing countries.

Visit by CMA Urban Meteorological Experts (5.6-11)



- Discussion on role of KMA and cooperation with the related division in terms of urban weather disasters.

Training Course on Typhoon Analysis Prediction System (TAPS-2) (6.11-15)



- Target : Vietnam, Lao PDR, The Philippines, Thailand



KMA Annual Report 2011 was published in May
- posted on the KMA website.
(<http://web.kma.go.kr/communication/webzine/yearbook.jsp>)