

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Updated WGIV Terms of Reference – for endorsement by CGMS Plenary</b>
<b>In response to CGMS action/recommendation</b>	WGIV/A51.01
<b>HLPP reference</b>	
<b>Executive Summary</b>	<p>CGMS Working Group IV (WGIV) is one of five CGMS Working Groups. CGMS Working Group IV was initiated in 1989 to focus on global issues on satellite systems and telecommunication coordination. In 2001, it evolved to address global data dissemination and it further evolved and changed its focus in 2018 and now addresses data access and end user support. The WGIV Terms of Reference were last updated in CGMS-46 (CGMS-46-CGMS-WP-18).</p> <p>This paper presents the outcome of intersessional meetings arranged by the WGIV Chair and Rapporteurs which tasked the Group with updating its Terms of Reference in line with the current WGIV Task Group structure and activities.</p> <p>This paper presents the revised Terms of Reference for WGIV.</p>
<b>Action/Recommendation proposed</b>	CGMS Plenary is invited to endorse the revised Terms of Reference for WGIV.



## **1 INTRODUCTION**

CGMS Working Group IV on global data dissemination was created in 2001. The Group originally provided a forum for the discussion and distribution of information on satellite data dissemination from current and future CGMS members' satellite missions, data exchange and retransmission. Furthermore, the Group strived to standardise tools and equipment that enable any authorised user to receive data from any satellite operator. Another key topic was the facilitation of exchange and rebroadcast of satellite data and products between CGMS member agencies. Over the years the Working Group has fostered discussions resulting in the setting up of a growing number of bilateral arrangements allowing access and use of satellite information from satellite systems operating in other parts of the world, not normally "visible" to the user via direct broadcast.

In recent years, CGMS WGIV has broadened its remit to explicitly include themes such as the preparation of users for new satellite systems, long term data preservation, and the coordinated adoption of cloud-based services.

Considering the evolution of WGIV activities and structure, the Working Group was tasked to revise its Terms of Reference. The proposed updated WGIV Terms of Reference are presented in the following Section 2.

## **2 PROPOSED UPDATES TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WGIV**

### **2.1 WGIV Scope**

CGMS WG IV will provide a regular forum for CGMS agencies to address topics of interest in areas related to data access and sharing in general and the contribution to the WMO Information System. The working group will address issues related to the dissemination systems and metadata exchange and will also deal with the user interfaces and data access. (WG I addresses direct readout systems).

### **2.2 WGIV Objectives**

WGIV has the following objectives:

1. To support the user-provider dialogue on regional/global scales;
2. To support the implementation and evolution of sustained and coordinated communication satellite broadcast systems (e.g. GEONETCAST related);
3. To address global or inter-regional data circulation and access (e.g. WIS 2.0/GTS, academic networks, other terrestrial networks, etc.) in coordination with WMO dedicated expert teams;
4. To promote the widening of data access, to new missions/providers as well as for other user communities, considering cloud access, small satellite networks, and additional data sharing technologies;

5. To support the coordination of metadata for satellites and instruments;
6. To address the user readiness for new satellite systems and the WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory (VLab);
7. To address the notification of changes (and alerts) in satellite data and/or products impacting users, with the aim of defining best practices;
8. To address long term data preservation issues related to data access and interoperability;
9. To consider research to operations (R2O) with a view to secure the continuation of high-value observations demonstrated with research satellites in a sustainable way, and to maximise research benefits from operational satellites;
10. To address the use of satellite systems to mitigate emergency situations;
11. To discuss relevant aspects on the implementation of the global contingency plan (as proposed by WGIII) from Plenary, and
12. To address topics from the CGMS High Level Priority Plan within the scope of WG IV.

## **2.3 WGIV Arrangements**

The working group will be of permanent nature and will be co-chaired by two Chairpersons who will be supported by at least one Rapporteur, all appointed by the CGMS Plenary. The objectives of WGIV, as listed in Section 2.2, will be achieved *inter alia* via several Task Groups coordinated by WGIV. Each WGIV Task Group will be led by a Task Group Chair appointed by the WGIV Co-Chairs.

The current WGIV Task Groups are:

1. Expert Group on Cloud Services
2. Task Group on Data Access/Exchange
3. Task Group on Metadata
4. Task Group on User Readiness

All agencies of CGMS participate in WGIV. Nomination of WGIV and relevant Task Group members is under the responsibility of each agency but shall promote continuity and foster active contribution. WGIV Co-chairs, WGIV Co-rapporteurs, WGIV Task Group Chairs and CGMS Secretariat shall be informed by agencies of names of representatives and changes before the CGMS Plenary.

Each WGIV Task Group Chair, with the support of the CGMS Secretariat, will maintain an up-to-date mailing list of Task Group members. The CGMS Secretariat will maintain a mailing list of WGIV representatives, which shall include all Task Group Chairs and may include Task Group members as required. The CGMS Secretariat will maintain, on a corresponding CGMS WGIV webpage, the WGIV Terms of Reference, including a list of the current WGIV Co-Chairs/Co-Rapporteurs/Task Groups/Task Group Chairs.

The Working Group will meet ahead of CGMS Plenary with an agenda covering the objectives of WGIV and shall also assess the status of implementation of the CGMS

High Level Priority Plan and update it as necessary. To achieve this, each WGIV Task Group will present a report containing its latest Terms of Reference, status on current and proposed/planned activities, as well as any good practices and the status of their implementation for each agency. The WG will use, when possible, the support of established international working groups and Task Teams (e.g. WMO ET-Data, GODEX\_NWP). Space weather operational issues of relevance to WGIV, such as access to space weather products, user preparation and coordination of metadata, would be covered in a joint SWCG-WGI-WGIV Working Group meeting ahead of CGMS Plenary.

The WGIV Co-Chairs, with the support of the Co-Rapporteurs, shall compile a report on the outcome of the WGIV meeting, including proposals for relevant CGMS actions and recommendations. This will be reported to CGMS Plenary and will highlight aspects of relevance and/or identify topics needing high-level approval or guidance at the plenary. As necessary, the Working Group will also convene intersessional meetings for addressing topics of interest or to complete actions and tasks identified at WG meetings and plenary.

### **3 ACTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY WORKING GROUP IV**

CGMS Plenary is invited to endorse the revised Terms of Reference for WGIV.

### **4 CONCLUSION**

CGMS Plenary is invited to endorse the revised Terms of Reference for WGIV.