WORLD CLIMATE RESEARCH PROGRAMME
Co-sponsors’ Review and Recommendations

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(on behalf of ICSU-WMO-IOC)
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The Review Process

- ICSU-WMO-IOC Review Panel: Julia Slingo (Chairperson), Mark New, Alan Thorpe, Steven Zebiak, Fumiko Kasuga, Sergey Gulev, Neville Smith
- Ascertain the effectiveness of WCRP in delivering its mandate, how well it partners with other organizations, and to advise on the future structure, governance and resourcing of the programme.
- Conducted between February and October 2017, met twice and took oral and written evidence from a broad range of participants, partners and stakeholders of the WCRP.
- It also took evidence from the co-sponsors, the JSC and the JPS on the governance, operational structure, management and resourcing of WCRP.
- Some recommendations are to the co-sponsors and others to WCRP
- To be approved formally by ICSU-WMO-IOC in June 2018.
A new 10-year WCRP science strategy and related 5-year implementation plan must be developed as soon as possible in discussion with the sponsors and with wide consultation and community buy-in.
Recommendation 1: Science Strategy

(i) It should identify the key societal needs for fundamental climate research to tackle 21st century problems across climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation;
(ii) It should focus on the scientific priorities where WCRP can make a unique contribution through its international, coordinated and integrative activities;
(iii) It should reflect the recommendations regarding the structure of WCRP;
(iv) It should show where recommendations regarding partnerships will add value to WCRP;
(v) Although the focus should be on providing the bedrock climate science, the strategy should demonstrate a clear pathway to applications, i.e., climate services;
(vi) A short synthesis of the new WCRP strategy should be produced to enable the WCRP community to engage with potential new sponsors and funders and to act as advocates for fundamental climate research.
Recommendation 2: Governance and the MoU

The Review Panel recommends that a formal high-level Governing Board for WCRP.
A new MoU should be put in place to reflect changes in governance, operations and structure.

Recommendation 3: Scientific Leadership

The Review Panel recommends that the JSC should be re-invigorated to focus on providing science leadership, setting the science strategy and overseeing its implementation.
Recommendations 4-6

**Recommendation 4: Operations**

The Review Panel recommends that clarity be provided in the terms of reference, structure and functions of the Joint Planning Staff.

**Recommendation 5: Structure**

A new structure for the WCRP research effort that best serves its new strategy and involves a simplified set of delivery mechanisms.

**Recommendation 6: Financing**

Co-sponsors should re-double their efforts to support WCRP financially at a higher level of enabling funding so that it can operate more effectively.
Recommendation 7: Science to Service

WCRP should take action to ensure its knowledge is brought to the service of society, especially in supporting the development of climate services.
Recommendation 7: Science to Service

(i) WCRP should pursue, in particular, partnering with Future Earth and its Knowledge Action Networks. There are positive signs emerging of opportunities for productive research partnerships and these should be pro-actively developed by WCRP.

(ii) WCRP should build a pro-active bridge to the WMO’s Global Framework for Climate Services and other science-to-service initiatives, such as the Copernicus Climate Change Service and the Climate Services Partnership, by implementing a formal activity on Climate Information for Regions.

(iii) A variety of other mechanisms for programme engagement should be explored. One option is through representation on the recommended Governing Board of WCRP. A second is to establish a (cross-cutting) working group that serves as liaison to the partner programmes.

(iv) In engaging with climate services, WCRP should explore, and as appropriate, pursue opportunities this may offer for obtaining additional funding for its fundamental science.
WCRP should seek to develop strategic and strong partnerships with other WMO research programmes (specifically WWRP and GAW), with GCOS, and with Future Earth.
Recommendation 8: Partnerships

(i) WCRP urgently explores the option of the *co-design* and *co-production* of projects that address key scientific challenges of common interest to WCRP, WWRP, GAW and Future Earth.

(ii) **Future Earth** should be brought in as a high-level partner.

(iii) WCRP should be open and dynamic for future opportunities to develop collaboration with new partners.
Thank You