

ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee
Fifty-Fourth Session
23- 25 February 2022
Lao PDR

FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY
WRD/TC.54/XX
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ENGLISH ONLY

Report on Typhoon Committee Key Activities and Main Events in the Region, 2021

(Submitted by TC Chairperson Mr. HASEGAWA Naoyuki)

ACTION REQUIRED:

The Committee is invited:

- a) To take note of the key events in 2021
- b) To consider the ideas and proposals of the TC Chairperson in formulating the future AOPs, initiatives and recommendations

APPENDICES:

- 1) DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION AT SESSION REPORT

2) TC's Key Activities and Main Events in the Region, 2021

APPENDIX A:
DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE SESSION REPORT

6.1 Report on TC's Key Activities and Main Events in the Region, 2021

6.1.1 The Committee took note of the report of the Typhoon Committee Chairperson on the TC's Key Activities and Main Events in the Region, 2021.

6.1.2 The Committee expressed sincere appreciation to the contributions of **Mr. HASEGAWA Naoyuki** and Ms. Outhone PHETLUANGSY, as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Committee.

6.1.3 The Committee dealt with related issues under the relevant agenda items.

(Additional text to be added in the light of discussion on this item)

APPENDIX B:

Report on Typhoon Committee Key Activities and Main Events in the Region, 2021

In 2021, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation around the world continuedly, some activities of the Typhoon Committee have been affected. However, under the efforts of all Members, AWG, working groups, and TCS, the Committee has implemented the decisions of the 53rd Session smoothly and carried out our mission to reduce the loss of lives and minimize social, economic, and environmental impacts by typhoon-related disasters. Some key activities are highlighted as follows.

1. Implementation of Typhoon Committee Key Activities

1.1 16th Integrated Workshop

The sixteenth Integrated Workshop of TC was virtually held from 2 to 3 December 2021. The main theme of the workshop was “Strengthening Impact-based Forecasting for Improving the Capacity of Typhoon-related Disaster Risk Reduction”. Five Members (China, Republic of Korea, the Philippines, USA, and Japan) and ESCAP gave technical presentations on their ongoing efforts to develop impact-based forecast and warning services. All the fourteen Committee Members reported their tropical cyclone related activities.

1.2 WGM&TRCG

— Implementing WGM's Annual Operating Plans in 2021

WGM has successfully completed the actions plans in 2021 endorsed at TC53 (5 POPs, 9 AOPs and 2PPs) with the assistance of TCP/WMO and TCS as well as the strong support from all Members.

— Conducting the fourth annual meeting of WGM

The fourth annual meeting of WGM was hosted by Shanghai Typhoon Institute of China on 28 October 2021. The meeting successfully reviewed the progress of the WGM Annual Operating Plans in 2021 and proposed the new Plans for 2022.

— RSMC Forecaster's Training Attachment

Under the COVID-19 pandemic, the RSMC Forecaster's Training Attachment was held online from 9 to 11 March 2021 and 11 to 13 January 2022, respectively. Since the training was online with no screening of participants, the number of participants from TC Members had a significant increase.

1.3 WGH

— Implementing WGH AOPs activities in 2021

(1) WGH actively and cooperatively conducted a series of activities for implementing its most AOPs of 2021 as planned at 53rd Session and basically achieved the success indicators.

~~(2)~~ Due to the impact of COVID-19, it was informed that WGH AOP1 “Knowledge Sharing on Storm Surge Inundation Modelling”, led by WFO, Guam, **have been put on hold indefinitely in past two years. However, it was informed by leading Members that, it will be kept on track as soon as face to face meetings are again allowed. will be put on hold indefinitely.**

(3) WGH formulated its AOPs’ implementation plan for 2022, and proposed 5 new

AOPs for further discussion and to be officially launched at TC 55th Session in 2023.

- Organizing WGH annual working meeting
 - (1) WGH successfully held its 10th working meeting virtually on 22 October 2021.
 - (2) Japan proposed to host the potential face to face WGH 11th working meeting in 2022 subject to the situation of COVID-19.

1.4 WGDRR

- Implementing WGDRR's Annual Operating Plans in 2021

As the COVID -19 travel restrictions were still on throughout the 2021, most of the WGDRR projects 2021 were unable to carry out. However, with strong support from the Members, WGDRR completed the DRR educational video project that aimed at raising public awareness for typhoon related disaster in TC region. The video was uploaded to TC Website for sharing with the Members for educational purpose.
- Conducting the WGDRR annual meeting

The WGDRR annual meeting which was supposed to be held in Republic of Korea and hosted by National Disaster Management research institute (NDMI) changed to online format on 5 November 2021 owing to the ongoing travel restriction of COVID-19 pandemic. During the meeting, WG reviewed the progress and implementation of AOPs with the budget expenditure in 2021 and proposal plans for 2022.

2. Strategic Development

The Committee has initiated to renew the current Strategic Plan which was approved at the 49th Session on 21- 24 February 2017 Yokohama, Japan. The drafting team led by U.S.A. has made great efforts and contributions. The final draft will be presented at the 54th Session for its approval.

3. Asia-Pacific Typhoon Collaborative Research Center

The 53rd Session of Typhoon Committee supported the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Typhoon Collaborative Research Center (AP-TCRC) in Shanghai contributing to the TC research activities, and requested to establish a joint task team (JTT) composed of China and interested TC Members to develop a pilot project under TRCG and an agreement on technical cooperation between the Committee and the AP-TCRC in accordance with paragraph 104 of the TC53 final report. The final drafts of these documents will be submitted to 54th Session for their approval. The opening ceremony of the Asia-Pacific Typhoon Collaborative Research Center was held on 1 December 2021 in Shanghai, China.

4. Conclusion

In spite of the on-going COVID pandemic, many of the activities have been done as planned. All the WGs successfully conducted their annual meetings virtually. It shows the commitment and the capability of the Members to complete the Committee activities even under such difficult situation.

Assuming that all the WGs organize their annual meetings in person or virtually in the future, the Committee may be encouraged to consider to organize IWS with more emphasis on cross-cutting activities, minimizing overlap with annual WG meetings.