



Chapter on GFCS Governance

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Background: Analysis of current governance structure

Strength

- +Collaboration is formalized and intergovernmental coordination strengthened by sharing of common language and principles (WMO community)
- +Management Committee helps following up on activities decided by the IBCS
- +Possible commitment of partnering institutions through the PAC

Weakness

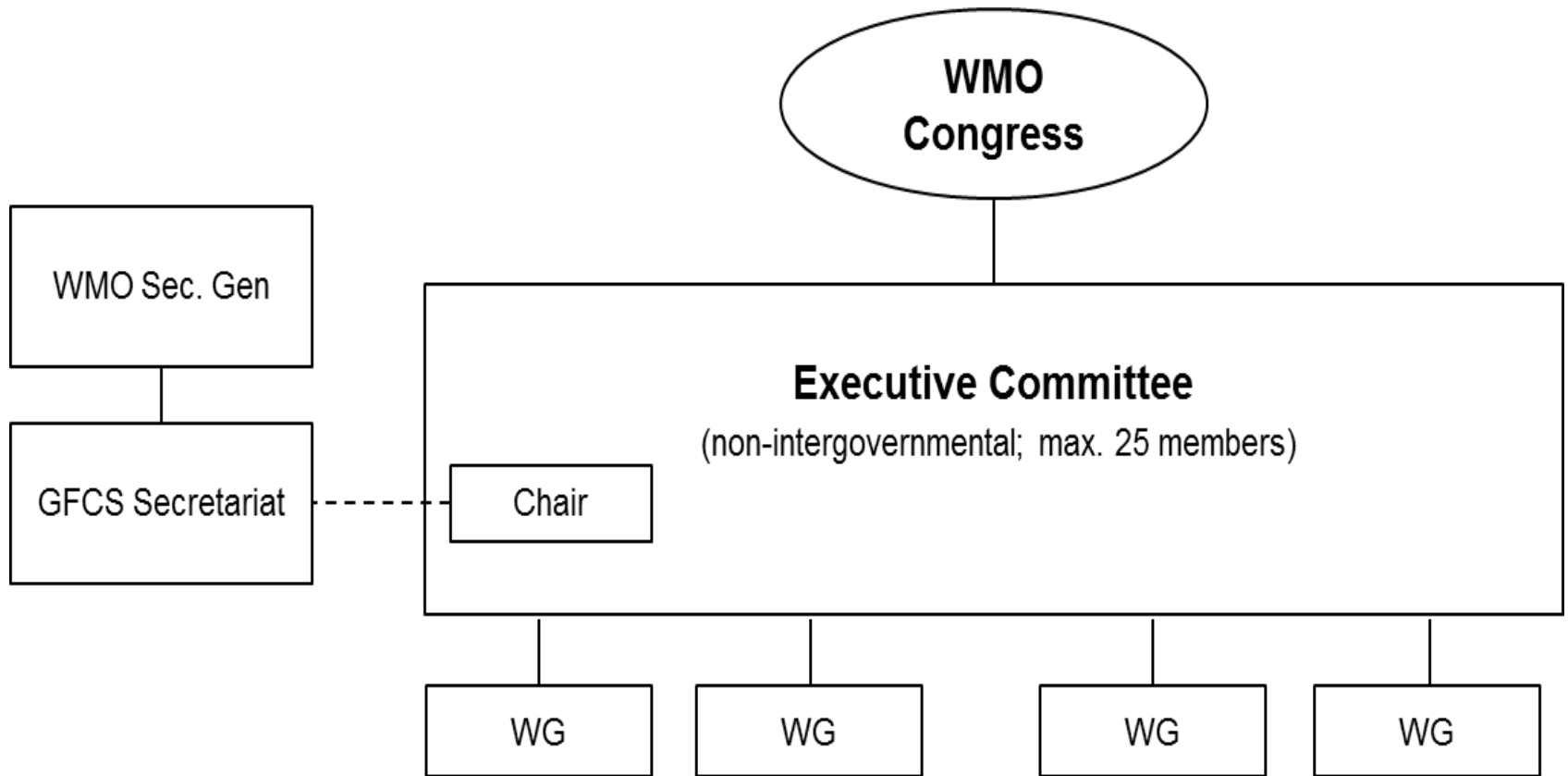
- IBCS is controlled by WMO Members, specifically (or de facto) NMHS, which does not mirror the broader mission of the GFCS (pillars, sectors)
- PAC only confers an advisory role
- Duplication between IBCS and WMO Congress
- insufficient user engagement
- Limited political engagement and visibility

Background: Analysis of current governance structure

Major conclusions

- Avoid duplication (e.g. between IBCS and the World Meteorological Congress);
- Partnering institutions should have a more direct and decisive role in the governance structure;
- Key stakeholders in relevant sectors should be better integrated in the structure in order to create a more balanced governance;
- The GFCS-pillars need to be adequately reflected in the Governance structure

Step 1: Mid-term solution (I)



Step 1: Mid-term solution (II)

Step 1: Main elements

- WMO Congress as superior body
- Interdisciplinary, high level Executive Committee (ExCom)
- Members in ExCom are countries and key organizations involved in the development and implementation of the GFCS pillars and GFCS priority areas
- Establishment (and termination) of Working Groups upon decision by the ExCom

Step 1: Addresses main weakness of current structure

- Avoids duplication between IBCS and WMO Congress
- Adds decision-making power for partner organizations
- Integrates regional perspectives into GFCS governance

Suggested ExCom Members (I)

Representatives of GFCS Pillars

- Observation: WMO (for instance GCOS or president TC)
- Research, Modelling and Prediction: WMO (for instance WCRP)
- CSIS: WMO (for instance president of TC)
- UIP: IFRC
- Cap. Dev.: UNDP / UNESCO

Representatives of Priority Areas

- Food/Agric.: WFP/FAO
- Health: WHO
- DRR: UNISDR
- Energy: e.g. IRENA
- Water: e.g. GWP

Suggested ExCom Members (II)

Representatives of Major Financing Organizations

- World Bank, GCF

Representatives of Regions

- e.g. European Union, presidents of WMO RA, representatives of LDC and Small Island States

Others based on specific expertise, network, political influence, etc.:
e.g. UNFCCC, private sector representatives (GWE), specific NGOs

Additional information to ExCom

- ToR would specify permanent Committee member organizations (approved by Congress)
- Elected organizations would designate/ensure high level representation in the ExCom
- Congress has the authority to elect additional (rolling) members, as long as the total membership does not exceed 25
- ExCom elects (Co-)Chairs
- Tasks are related to the main functions of the GFCS (among others: facilitate resource mobilization, facilitate knowledge sharing; monitoring and review; establish a reporting and information sharing mechanism for implementation projects) but would also be related to the GFCS implementation plan: define implementation priorities; evaluate new potential priority areas

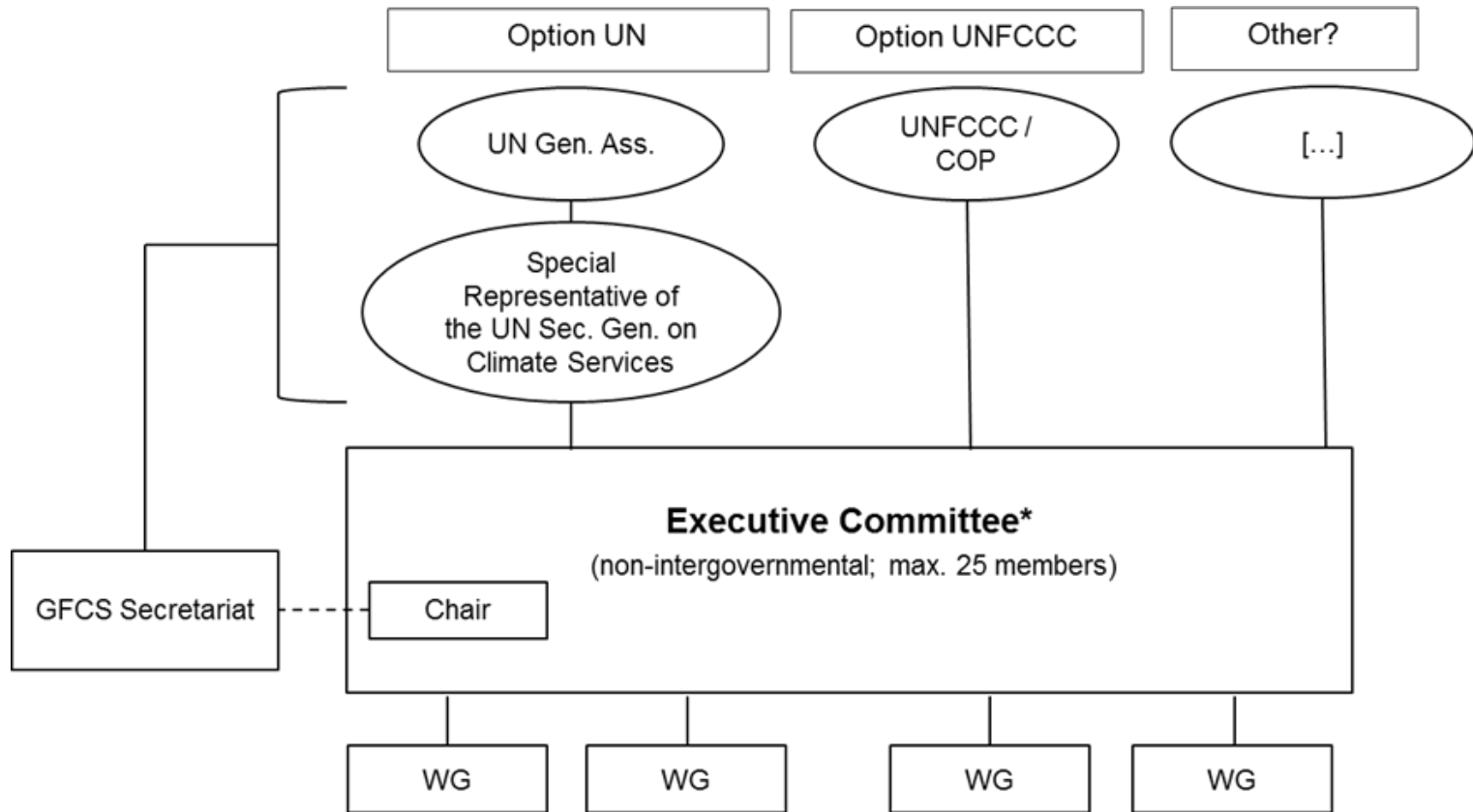
Working Groups

- Working Group may be established in relation to:
 - sectors/priority areas
 - pillars
 - specific functions, e.g. monitoring and review, knowledge sharing
- Ex Com decides on
 - Working Groups to be established
 - ToR of Working Groups (incl. membership)
 - Elects members
- The members of the WGs shall be leading experts, they may be from anywhere, including hydromet services, the UN, international organizations and private sector organisations.

Recommendations related to the Step 1 Governance structure

- “fast option”
 1. IBCS MC endorses Step 1 governance in principle
 2. WMO Sec. Gen. (delegation to GFCS office) elaborates detailed proposal (ToR incl. membership, legal issues, Congress-Resolution) for adoption by WMO Congress in 2019
 3. Elaboration of a communication and transition plan
 4. Submission of respective documents to extraordinary IBCS MC meeting in February 2019
- “slow option”
 - IBCS MC endorses Step 1 governance in principle
 - WMO Congress in 2019 endorses in principle Step 1 governance structure
 - Points 2 to 4 according to fast option above but with an extended time schedule in order to give more time for preparatory work:
 - Adoption of ToR and election of organizational members of ExCom at the extraordinary Congress in 2021

Step 2: Long-term solution (I)



* Composition of the Executive Committee according to «step 1» structure

Step 2: Long-term solution (II)

Step 2: Main elements

- Extracting GFCS Governance from WMO structure
- Embedding GFCS Governance into broader, interdisciplinary political framework (UN-system; UNFCCC; other)

Step 2: Addresses weakness of current structure (in addition to step 1)

- Decouples from the WMO to the UN system to better meet the mission of GFCS as cross-sectoral framework
- Increases international visibility and recognition

Recommendation

- agree with main concept of Step 2 governance
- mandate a new Task Force to further evaluate the opportunity and feasibility of a possible attachment of the GFCS to the UN- or UNFCCC-structure or to other suitable structures

Global / Regional Platform on Climate Services

- bring together the broader community engaged in Climate Services, in order to share information, promote innovation, and discuss on priority matters
- take into account similar structures already existing (Global Platform on DRR; International Conference on Climate Services (ICCS)) in order to prevent duplication / to gain synergies.
- initial discussions between the GFCS Secretariat/Office and the Climate Services Partnership (CSP) to evaluate closer co-operation, e.g. regarding the organization of the ICCS

-> decision to be taken by ExCom

Some comments raised during the consultation (I)

- Comments regarding representation of WMO expertise (Secretariat, member states) in ExCom:
 - WMO-Congress remains superior governance body (Step 1)
 - WMO would represent several GFCS pillars in ExCom (3 out of 5)
 - NMHS participation via presidents of RA (eventually representatives from LDC/small island states)

Some comments raised during the consultation (II)

- Comment: Intergovernmental members must have majority in the ExCom, decisions must be made by governmental org.:
 - UN Agencies, World Bank, EU, etc. are also intergovernmental institutions. Accordingly, a vast majority of ExCom members are of intergovernmental nature
 - No “decision-monopoly” in ExCom for governmental organizations is suggested. However, It is not the meaning that the ExCom takes decisions that would fall in the responsibility of the governance structures of participating organisations (e.g. WMO, WHO, etc.)
- Comment: High level representation of ExCom members -> is this achievable from a political / legal perspective?
 - Legal feasibility of Step 1 structure (WMO-Cg as superior body) to be further evaluated

Some comments raised during the consultation (III)

- Comment: is ExCom decision making body or “high level platform”?
 - The ExCom should be both
 - Decision making regarding for instance
 - Decide on Draft implementation plan for adoption by Congress
 - Decide on thematic and geographic priorities based on implementation plan (“operative plan”); decision on outreach activities / public affairs strategy
 - Decision on yearly budget for GFCS Management
 - Decision on resource mobilization activities for operation of GFCS Secretariat
 - Establishment of Working Groups and, eventually, of a Platform on Climate Services
 - Decision on mandates, studies, etc.

Some comments raised during the consultation (IV)

- Comment: why UNFCCC or UN SRSG for Step 2 model?
 - UNFCCC has been raised by several stakeholders as a possibility for political upscaling
 - UN SRSG has been taken from UNISDR when studying several governance structures
 - However, also further models can/should be taken into consideration



Thank you for your attention