

CONVENTION OF THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

Note: The Philippines was an original signatory to the Convention. It was concurred in by the Senate, S.R. No. 56, May 20, 1948. The Philippine instrument of ratification was signed by the President, February 9, 1949 and was deposited with the U.S. Government, April 5, 1949. It entered into force, March 23, 1950. It was proclaimed by the President, Proc. No. 198, s. 1955.

Reference: This Convention is also published in 77 UNTS, p. 143. The presidential proclamation of the Convention is published in 51 O.G., p. 4930.

With a view to coordinating, standardizing, and improving world meteorological activities and to encouraging an efficient exchange of meteorological information between countries in the aid of human activities the contracting States agree to the present Convention, as follows:

PART I

ESTABLISHMENT

ARTICLE 1

The World Meteorological Organization (hereinafter called the Organization) is hereby established.

PART II

PURPOSES

ARTICLE 2

The purposes of the Organization shall be:

- (a) To facilitate worldwide cooperation in the establishment of networks of stations for the making of meteorological observations or other geophysical observations related to meteorology and to promote the establishment and maintenance of meteorological centers charged with the provision Of meteorological services;
- (b) To promote the establishment and maintenance of systems for the rapid exchange of weather information;
- (c) To promote standardization of meteorological observations and to ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics;

(d) to further the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, agriculture, and other human activities; and

(e) To encourage research and training in meteorology and to assist in coordinating international aspects of such research and training.

PART III

MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 3

MEMBERS

The following may become Members of the Organization by the procedure set forth in the present Convention:

(a) Any State represented at the Conference of Directors of the International Meteorological Organization convened at Washington, D.C., on September 22, 1947 as listed in Annex I attached hereto, and which signs the present Convention and ratifies it in accordance with Article 32, or which accedes thereto, in accordance with Article 33;

(b) Any Member of the United Nations having a meteorological service by acceding to the present Convention in accordance with Article 33;

(c) Any State, fully responsible for the conduct of its international relations and having a meteorological service, not listed in Annex I of the present Convention and not a Member of the United Nations, after the submission of a request for membership to the Secretariat of the Organization and after its approval by two-thirds of the Members of the Organization as specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Article by Acceding to the present Convention in accordance with Article 33;

d) Any territory or group of territories maintaining its own meteorological service and listed in Annex II attached hereto, upon application of the present Convention on its behalf, in accordance with paragraph (a) of Article 34, by the State or States responsible for its international relations and represented at the Conference of Directors of the International Meteorological Organization convened at Washington, D.C., on September 22, 1947, as listed in Annex I of the present Convention.

(e) Any territory or group of territories, not listed in Annex II of the present Convention, maintaining its own meteorological service but not responsible for the conduct of its international relations, on behalf of which the present Convention is applied in accordance with paragraph (b) of Article 34, provided that

the request for membership is presented by the Member responsible for its international relations, and secures approval by two-thirds of the Members of the Organization as specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Article.

(f) Any trust territory or group of trust territories maintaining its own meteorological service and administered by the United Nations to which the United Nations applies the present Convention in accordance with Article 34.

Any request for membership in the Organization shall state in accordance with which paragraph of this Article membership is sought.

PART IV

ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE 4

(a) The Organization shall comprise:

(1) The World Meteorological Congress (hereinafter called the Congress);

(2) The Executive Committee;

(3) Regional Meteorological Associations (hereinafter called the Regional Associations);

(4) Technical Commissions;

(5) The Secretariat.

(b) There shall be a President and two Vice Presidents of the Organization who shall also be President and Vice Presidents of the Congress and of the Executive Committee.

PART V

ELIGIBILITY

ARTICLE 5

(a) Eligibility for election to the Offices of the President and Vice President of the Organization, of President and Vice President of the Regional Associations, and for membership, subject to the provisions of Article 13 (c) of the present Convention, on the Executive Committee should be confined to the Directors of Meteorological Services of Members of the Organization.

(b) In the performance of their duties, the Officers of the Organization and the Members of the Executive Committee, should regard themselves as representatives of the Organization rather than as representatives of particular Members thereof.

PART VI

THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS

ARTICLE 6

COMPOSITION

(a) The Congress is the supreme body of the Organization and shall be composed of delegates representing Members. Each Member shall designate one of its delegates, who should be the Director of its meteorological service, as its principal delegate.

(b) With a view to securing the widest possible technical representation, any director of a meteorological service or any other individual may be invited by the President to be present at and participate in the discussions of the Congress.

ARTICLE 7

FUNCTIONS

The functions of the Congress shall be;

(a) To determine general regulations, subject to the provisions of the present Convention, prescribing the constitution and the functions of the various bodies of the Organization;

(b) To determine its own rules of procedure;

(c) To elect the President and Vice Presidents of the Organization, and other Members of the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article 10 (a) (4) of the present Convention. Presidents and Vice Presidents of Regional Associations and Technical Commissions shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of Articles 18 (e) and 19 (c), respectively of the present Convention;

(d) To adopt technical regulations covering meteorological practices and procedures;

(e) To determine general policies for the fulfillment of the purposes of the Organization as set forth in Article 2 of the present Convention;

(f) To make recommendations to members on matters within the purposes of the Organization;

(g) To refer to any other body of the Organization any matter within the Provisions of the present Convention upon which such body is empowered to act;

(h) To consider the reports and activities of the Executive Committee and to take such action in regard thereto as the Congress may determine;

(i) To establish Regional Associations in accordance with the provisions of Article 18; to determine their geographical limits, coordinate their activities, and consider their recommendations;

(j) To establish Technical Commissions in accordance with the provisions of Article 19; to define their terms of reference, coordinate their activities, and consider their recommendations;

(k) To determine the location of the Secretariat of the organization;

(l) To take any other appropriate action to further the purposes of the Organization.

ARTICLE 8

EXECUTION OF CONGRESS DECISIONS

(a) All Members shall do their utmost to implement the decisions of the Congress.

(b) If, however, any Member finds it impracticable to give effect to some technical requirement in a technical resolution adopted by Congress, such Member shall inform the Secretary-General of the Organization whether its inability to give effect to it is provisional or final, and state its reasons therefore.

ARTICLE 9

MEETINGS

Meetings of the Congress shall be convened by decision of the Congress or of the Executive Committee at intervals not exceeding four years.

ARTICLE 10

VOTING

(a) Each Member shall have one vote in decisions of the Congress, except that only Members of the Organization which are States, as specified in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Article 3 of the present Convention, (hereinafter referred to as "Members which are States"), shall be entitled to vote on any of the following subjects:

(1) Amendment or interpretation of the present Convention or proposals for a new Convention;

(2) Membership of the Organization;

(3) Relations with the United Nations and other inter-governmental organizations;

(4) Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Organization and of the Members of the Executive Committee