

# WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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OpenCDMS Project Advisory Team  
2 September 2020 at 15:00 Geneva time

Original: English

## Meeting notes

### **Agenda**

1. Opening and adoption of notes from previous OpenCDMS meeting
2. Introducing Mr Vasko Stojov and Mr Angel Luis Aldana
3. Decision on OpenCDMS Project Management Committee (PMC)
4. Short status reports
  - Technical collaboration for ACP 2.4.2 and Data model review; arrangements for a working group on data models and consideration of role of WMO Expert Teams
  - ACP 2.4.1
  - Implementing use of the Contributor License Agreement, Agreeing the OSI and Creative Commons licenses to be used, Bringing in predecessor systems
5. AoB
  - Brief reflection on CliDEsc call
6. Date of next meeting and closure

### **Participants:**

1. *Ms Etna Cervantes*
2. *Mr Eduardo Porras*
3. *Mr Steve Palmer*
4. *Mr Ian Edwards*
5. *Mr Samuel Machua*
6. *Mr Marcellin Habimana*

7. Mr Jose Guijarro
8. Mr Denis Stuber
9. Mr William Wright
10. Mr Nirina Ravalitera
11. Mr Peer Hechler
12. Mr Jeremy Tandy
13. Mr Vasko Stojov
14. Mr. Angel Luis Aldana
15. Mrs Karen McCourt

## **Notes** (actions and key agreements highlighted in **bold**):

### 1. Opening and adoption of notes from previous OpenCDMS meeting

Peer opened the meeting. **The notes of the previous OpenCDMS meeting of 19 August had been agreed and can be published in GitHub.**

### 2. Introducing Mr Vasko Stojov and Mr Angel Luis Aldana

Vasko and Angel Luis introduced themselves and will reinforce representation of hydrology in the OpenCDMS project.

### 3. Decision on OpenCDMS Project Management Committee (PMC; proposal attached)

Steve introduced the document circulated by Peer on the Project Management Committee, with thanks to Peer for curating the final version. There was a discussion of how the reporting to WMO will work. It was emphasised that meetings in the OpenCDMS project are open to all to participate, though the PMC is responsible for making decisions and reporting to the OpenWIS Association. Working documents will be held in the SharePoint site, but once finalised, they will be published on the GitHub site. Peer said that linkage to stakeholders is important, and there are numerous links within the Project Advisory Team to WMO Expert Teams.

**The PMC proposal (attached) was agreed unanimously.**

*Post-meeting note from Peer on 3 September referring to discussions subsequent to this meeting: The group's decision on the Project Management Committee provides a good opportunity to rename the current OpenCDMS meetings into OpenCDMS Project Advisory Team meetings and to rename the current 'reading@wmo.int' email list into 'OpencdmsPAT@wmo.int' (to be agreed during next meeting on 16 September). The list of experts forming the PAT will be published and maintained on GitHub (Peer, Nirina).*

### 4. Short status reports (90 minutes including discussion)

- Technical collaboration for ACP 2.4.2 and data model review; arrangements for a working group on data models and consideration of role of WMO Expert Teams (discussion led by Ian)

- Data Model Review Working Group (DMR-WG)

The DMR-WG has been charged with writing an in-depth review of existing climate data models and making recommendations for the next generation OpenCDMS data model.

**Denis Stuber has offered to coordinate the activities of the working group. The current activities will be completed by the end of 2020.**

- OpenCDMS community systems

The OpenCDMS Project Charter stated that the project “will provide repository facilities for publication and archiving of any offered CDMS software and system, whether obsolete or current, with the aim of enabling inspection of those systems so the techniques are not lost, and thus enabling re-evaluation of products used in past studies.”

Should we refer to MCH, Climsoft etc. as “community systems”? Is there a better term? William used ‘Franchise CDMS’ to reflect the fact that the one system is utilized in a common way between various different countries.

Should MCH, Climsoft, Belize SURFACE and CLICOM move into the OpenCDMS GitHub organization?

Jeremy suggested that community systems could be placed under the OpenCDMS Project GitHub organization but they would need to assert their existing ownership within the license declared on GitHub. Ian suggested to host the projects externally unless they are under the OpenWIS Association CLA – e.g. MCH published within its own GitHub ‘organization’ and Climsoft continuing within its own GitHub organization.

- OpenCDMS License(s)

To ensure the maximum adoption of the early code, and to enable easy changes of the license in the future, we received early advice to begin with a permissive open source license for the main OpenCDMS project.

Jeremy suggested it was essential to adopt a permissive license at this time.

**Ian suggested creating a sub-group to create a proposal to submit at the next Project Advisory Team (PAT) meeting in two weeks' time. Watch out for emails with [License-SG] in the subject title for conversations relating to the choice on an initial license** (unlike working groups, which have long-term work and terms of reference, sub-groups are intended to be more ad hoc).

- OpenCDMS v0.x approach

**Ian noted that he (personally) is trying hard not to invent anything. Instead of introducing significantly new capabilities in v0.x, the focus is on sharing existing capabilities, improving interoperability and improving existing capabilities.**

- ACP 2.4.1 (led by William)

William reported on good input received for his first draft summary report on CDMS recommendations that will be discussed with ACP countries for consolidation soon.

Steve mentioned the Climate Services Toolkit (CST) and that approved products would be ideal. Peer noted that OpenCDMS was likely to develop faster than the Climate Services Toolkit.

Ian mentioned that the OpenCDMS Process Library was intentionally *restricted* to defining the Python/R *interface* to external tools including R-Instat, MCH, Climatol and CliDEsc. This could also include an interface to the Climate Services Toolkit in the future. This essentially means that the OpenCDMS Project does not aim to make any modification to these existing libraries, but rather enable supported CDMS to work with these tool's existing structure.

William noted that some processes will fall into the remit of the ET-DRC.

*- Implementing use of the Contributor License Agreement, Agreeing the OSI and Creative Commons licenses to be used, bringing in predecessor systems (led by Steve and Marcellin)*

Steve referred to the discussions on OpenCDMS licenses above. Marcellin shared the current list of contributors and Jeremy referred to the OpenWIS Association practice to store signed Contributor License Agreements on an appropriate place.

## 5. AoB

*- Brief reflection on CliDEsc call (led by Ian)*

In our most recent IPL-WG technical meeting, we moved towards the treatment of the R programming language as first-class citizen alongside Python for the implementation of processes.

In the presentation last Friday, it was interesting to see CliDEsc take a similar approach in supporting the creation of Python and R products. The CliDEsc team shared their CliDE CDMS “connector” Python code. They took the interesting approach of using the Pandas Python library to transfer all data

Samuel mentioned that the OpenCDMS team were impressed by the approach taken to the CliDEsc architecture allowing interoperability among multiple CDMSs and products.

## 6. Date of next meeting and closure

**The next online meeting will be held on Wednesday, 16 September, 15:00 – 17:00 Geneva time.**

*Post-meeting note: Mr Vasko Stojov and Mr Angel Luis Aldana were added to the Sharepoint site.*

1 Attachment (agreed PMC proposal)