

Our ref.: 17934/2020-SI-WCRP  
Appendix: 1

Dr A.P. Dimri  
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29 September 2020

Dear Dr Dimri,

On behalf of the JSC, we are pleased to invite you to be a **Regional Focal Point (RFP) for the WCRP consultation of the Asia-Oceania region**, and to join a small team to assist the WCRP in rolling out a series of “virtual town halls” in this region. This team, listed below in Appendix 1 (link to file), comprises the nominees received from WCRP’s core activities along with others who we have asked to assist. We thank you for your patience and interest.

We apologize that this invitation has taken longer to be sent than we planned. In part, this is because this has been a busy time for our community. We are very keen to quickly begin organizing these consultations at least for the Asia, Africa and South American regions. Once these are initiated, we will then turn our attention to Europe and North America. Our hope and request is for your team to work with us, along with the WCRP Secretariat, our International Offices, and (where appropriate) our partners and allied networks, to organize a series of meaningful and engaging virtual town halls.

An initial description of what a virtual town hall might look like is provided in an attachment (the link is given below). However, this is just a suggestion as the actual approach and content is really in the hands of the RFPs and organizing team and might potentially differ substantially between regions. The original brief regarding these Regional Consultations is also provided in a link below.

The immediate next step is that we will be in touch with you to find a time for a videoconference where we will start the planning phase. Hopefully, this will be in the coming week.

We understand this is a significant and important request and offer the **following guidance and support**:

1. For each Region, we have asked our International Offices to provide support and assistance. For the Asia-Oceania Region, these are:

**Primary support:** International CLIVAR Project Office, International CLIVAR Monsoon Project Office

**Additional support:** SPARC International Project Office, S2S International Coordination Office.

In addition, the WCRP Coordination Office for Regional Activities (CORA) (Beatriz Balino) and the WCRP Secretariat (Narelle van der Wel or Mike Sparrow), are also able to provide assistance. Contact details are listed in the List of Regional Focal Points (link below).

2. There are members of the WCRP Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) on the team who can help with guidance and suggestions. In addition, Helen Cleugh, as JSC Vice Chair, will be providing close oversight and liaise with the JSC Chair and broader JSC membership as appropriate.

Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any questions and concerns. And please watch out for an email asking for meeting time options for a 1-hour planning videoconference very soon.

Thank you for agreeing to assist WCRP with this extremely important engagement with the broader community, which will be of great value to WCRP and we hope also to these regions.

Yours sincerely,



(Detlef Stammer)  
Chair

WCRP Joint Scientific Committee



(Helen Cleugh)  
Vice-chair

WCRP Joint Scientific Committee

**Appendix 1: [Region 4 - Asia and Oceania](#)** (click the link)  
List of Regional Focal Points (WCRP Region 4 - Asia-Oceania)  
Example of Approach to Virtual Town Halls (VTHs)  
Original Brief on Regional Consultations