



AGENDA ITEM 5: GENERAL, LEGAL, POLICY AND REGULATORY MATTERS

AGENDA ITEM 5.1: International Meteorological Organization (IMO) Prize and other awards

IMO PRIZE AND OTHER AWARDS

DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision 5.1/1 (EC-72)

International Meteorological Organization Prize and other awards

The Executive Council decides:

- (1) To award the sixty-fifth IMO Prize to Mr David Grimes (Canada);
- (2) To invite Mr David Grimes to deliver a scientific lecture at the seventy-third session of the Council;
- (3) To award the 2020 WMO Research Award for Young Scientists to Dr B. Rohith (RA-II) for the paper entitled "Basin-wide sea level coherency in the tropical Indian Ocean driven by Madden-Julian Oscillation" by B. Rohith et al., published in Nature Communications, 2019, 10(1), 1257; <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-09243-5>;
- (4) To note the significance of the paper "Statistical downscaling of the North Atlantic tropical cyclone frequency and the amplified role of the Caribbean low-level jet in a warmer climate" by Ms Jhordanne J.P. Jones (RA-IV);
- (5) To approve the updated guidelines for granting the Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä awards as given in the [annex](#).

See the [annex](#) to the present decision.

Decision justification: The previous version of the Guidelines for granting the Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Awards was adopted at the sixty-seventh session of the Executive Council (EC-67) in line with the former structure of the WMO Technical Commissions. The new Constituent Body structure enforce an update of the Guidelines. The updates mainly relate to the relevant responsibilities from the president of the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observations to the president of the Technical Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM) and the chair of the INFCOM Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability.

Annex to draft Decision 5.1/1 (EC-72)

Guidelines for Granting the Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Awards

1. The Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Award for an Outstanding Research Paper on Instruments and Methods of Observation

Purpose

The purpose of the Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Award for an Outstanding Research Paper on Instruments and Methods of Observation is to encourage and stimulate interest in research in the field of instruments and methods of observation in support of WMO Programmes.

Criteria for granting the award

The award shall recognize an outstanding paper published in a scientific journal, or a summary of a successfully defended Ph.D. thesis for:

- (a) The significance of its topic;
- (b) The novelty of its ideas and methods;
- (c) The value of its results to WMO Programmes.

2. The Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Award for the Development and Implementation of Instruments and Methods of Observation in Developing Countries

Purpose

The purpose of the Professor Dr Vilho Väisälä Award for the Development and Implementation of Instruments and Methods of Observation in Developing Countries is to encourage and stimulate capacity development in instruments and methods of observation for the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) in developing countries.

Criteria for granting the award

The award shall be granted for an outstanding paper published in a scientific journal, or a significant technical report, a project report or a summary of a successfully defended Ph.D. or MSc. thesis for:

- (a) The significance of its contribution to the long-term stability and reliability of meteorological and related environmental observations in developing countries;
- (b) The relevance to the observing systems in developing countries;
- (c) The value of its results to, and their impact on, WMO Programmes and key priority areas.

3. Submission of nominations for the awards

- (a) The Permanent Representatives of Members of WMO will be invited to submit to the Secretary-General not more than two nominations and the corresponding papers/reports for each award that were published during the 24-month period preceding the year in which the award is granted and that have not previously won an international prize, indicating the title of the award for which each submission is being made;
- (b) Papers/reports for each submission shall be provided in electronic format and in a WMO working language (original or translation). Submitters are strongly encouraged to provide these papers/reports in English. If that is not possible, they shall submit an extended *précis* in English to facilitate assessment of their merit.

4. Selection of candidatures

- (a) The chair of the Standing Committee on Measurements, Instrumentation and Traceability (SC-MINT) of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM), in consultation with the president of INFCOM, invites three distinguished scientists in the field of instruments and methods of observation, who would serve as assessors for both awards;
- (b) For each award, each assessor should allot a mark to each paper, which should be in the range of 0 (lowest) to 5 (highest) and submit the evaluation to the Secretary-General. The evaluation should be based on the criteria defined above with equal weight being assigned to each of the three criteria mentioned under 1 and 2 above;
- (c) The final selection of the winner, or winners, for each award, is made by the Selection Committee established for this purpose by the Executive Council for a period of four years. The Committee consists of three members and, *ex officio*, the president of INFCOM;
- (d) The Executive Council Selection Committee may decide not to recommend an award if the papers/reports submitted are not of a sufficiently high standard.

5. Nature of the awards

Each award consists of a diploma, a medal and a sum of US\$ 10 000; the latter could be shared between co-authors. The award is granted on a biennial basis.

6. Award ceremony

The award ceremony shall normally take place during the conjoint WMO Technical Conference on Meteorological and Environmental Instruments and Methods of Observation and the exhibition of meteorological and environmental instruments, related equipment and services.
