

**SSEC/CIMSS
Seminar**

WENJIAN ZHANG

Director

WMO Observing and Information Systems Department (OBS)

**Update on the WMO Integrated Global
Observing System (WIGOS) and
Perspectives for the Future**

WIGOS Initiative: The 15th WMO Congress (2007) decided that the enhanced integration of the WMO observing systems should be pursued as a strategic objective of the WMO and identified this as a major expected result of the WMO strategic plan. Congress agreed to refer to this initiative by the acronym WIGOS -- WMO Integrated Global Observing System. This talk will report on recent progress in establishing the WIGOS and plans for overcoming some of the remaining challenges.

WIGOS Concept and Vision: WIGOS will establish an integrated, comprehensive and coordinated observing system to satisfy in a cost-effective and sustained manner the evolving observing requirements of WMO Members and will enhance coordination of WMO observing systems with those of partner organizations for the benefit of society.

WIGOS Scope: To achieve its objectives WIGOS will

- Build upon the existing observing components of WWW GOS, GAW, and WHYCOS, and will capitalize on existing, new and emerging technologies.
- Improve access to and utilization of surface-based observations and products from co-sponsored systems such as GTOS, GOOS and GCOS through enhanced coordination with partner organizations.
- Improve its space-based component by enhanced collaboration through partnerships such as the Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) and the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS).
- Enhance integration between its surface- and space-based components.
- Provide a mechanism to meet new observational requirements of its Members.
- Make a major and unique contribution to United Nations agencies that are focused on environmental stewardship.

WIGOS Benefit: Across all WMO domains of activity, WMO Member countries and partner organizations will benefit from WIGOS through (1) improved quality, traceability and consistency of observations for better products and services; (2) improved access to observations, whether real-time, or not; (3) optimization of observing network design and flexibility to incorporate new observing systems; (4) improved coordination, standardization and evaluation of national observing networks by National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs); (5) improved data assimilation techniques to allow better exploitation of observations in Numerical Weather Predictions (NWP) in an integrated manner.

Monday, 23 November 2009

10:30 a.m.

Room AOSS 351