

Summary of the 26th WMO RA-III-IV-SDR Teleconference

25 April 2019, 15.00-16.30 UTC

The 26th teleconference of the WMO Coordination Group for Satellite Data Requirements (SDR) in Region III and IV (RA-III-IV-SDR Group) was held on 25 April 2019, .15:00-16:30 UTC.

Attendees:

- William Abarca (El Salvador)
- Werner Balogh (WMO)
- Kathy-Ann Caesar (CIMH, Barbados)
- Jorge Chira (Peru)
- Bernie Connell (CIRA, US)
- Glendell de Souza (CMO, Trinidad) (designated temporary co-chair)
- Natalia Donoho (NOAA)
- Marcial Garbanzo (Costa Rica)
- Andre Joyeux (St Lucia)
- Toshiyuki Kurino (WMO)
- Luiz Machado (INPE) (co-chair)
- Eric Madsen (NOAA)
- Martin Medina (NOAA)
- James Peronto (NOAA)
- Diana Rodriguez (SMN Argentina)
- Dwayne Scott (Belize)
- Diego Souza (INPE, Brazil)

Draft Agenda:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Confirm co-chairs of the RA-III-IV-SDR group
3. Review membership of the group
4. Review status of the work of the group
5. Status of planning of RA-III-IV-SDR group meeting at the 2019 Joint AMS/EUMETSAT/NOAA Conference
6. Any other business

1. Welcome and introduction

Werner Balogh (WMO Space Programme Office, Satellite Data Utilization Division) welcomed the teleconference participants.

He noted, that the main purpose of the teleconference was to ensure the continuation of the work of the RA-III-IV-SDR group and to plan the fourth meeting of the group to be held in September/October 2019.

To facilitate communication among group members, a (google) mailing list had been set up, which can be reached through the email address “ra-iii-iv-sdr@wmo.int”. Messages sent through this email address are archived and available for review by group members.

Information on the work of the group will continue to be made available at the RA-III-IV-SDR webpage at <http://satellite.cptec.inpe.br/geonetcast/es/datareq.html>.

He also informed the group that Dr. Stephan Bojinski (formerly with the WMO Space Programme Office) had left WMO to join EUMETSAT in May 2018.

On 1 May 2019, Mr. Heikki Pohjola joined the WMO Space Programme Office as Scientific Officer in the Satellite Data Utilization Division and he will also support the activities and work of the Regional Association Satellite Data Requirements groups.

2. Confirm co-chairs of the RA-III-IV-SDR group

With the departure of Mr. David Bradley (ECCC) as co-chair of the group, it was necessary to decide on a temporary co-chair replacement.

It was decided that Mr. Glendell de Souza (CMO, Trinidad) will act as co-chair of the SDR group together with the other co-chair, Mr. Luiz Machado (INPE).

At its fourth meeting, the SDR is expected to decide on new co-chairs.

Action 26-1: SDR Group members to think about possible nominees for the two co-chair positions to be decided at the fourth meeting in September 2019. Names of nominees should be submitted to wbalogh@wmo.int.

Action 26-2: WMO Secretariat to send out ToRs for the co-chair responsibilities to all SDR Group members. (Note: there are no specific ToRs for the co-chair responsibilities, but the recommended ToRs for the SDR groups should provide an understanding of the work that the co-chairs are expected to facilitate. The ToRs will be distributed together with this document.)

3. Review membership of the group

The teleconference reviewed the table with the list of names of members of the RA-III-IV-SDR group. The list was last updated in August 2017.

Several updates were made during the teleconference and other updates were provided by email subsequent to the meeting. The updated member list is distributed together with this document.

Action 26-3: Several names of group members remain to be (re-)confirmed (indicated as “tbc” in the list). Kindly provide any updates/changes to wbalogh@wmo.int.

Action 26-4: WMO Secretariat to send letter to Permanent Representatives (PRs) in RA-III-IV, requesting those countries that have not yet done so to nominate members for the RA-III-IV-SDR group.

4. Review status of the work of the group

As the teleconference time was limited, it was decided that WMO Space Programme Secretariat would provide a document with the status of actions resulting from the third meeting of the RA-III-IV-SDR Group for the group to review and to provide updates to the Secretariat.

The status of actions will then again be reviewed at the forthcoming RA-III-IV-SDR group (face-to-face) meeting.

Action 26-5: RA-III-IV-SDR group members to review the status of actions resulting from the third meeting of the RA-III-IV-SDR Group (distributed with this document) and to provide updates to wbalogh@wmo.int.

5. Status of planning of RA-III-IV-SDR group meeting at the 2019 Joint AMS/EUMETSAT/NOAA Conference

The most recent, third meeting of the RA-III-IV-SDR Group was held from 16 to 19 July 2018 in New York, United States (see <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/sat/meetings/RA-3-4-SDR-3.php>).

It is planned, that the fourth meeting of the RA-III-IV-SDR Group will be held alongside the Joint AMS/NOAA/EUMETSAT conference (see <https://www.ametsoc.org/index.cfm/ams/meetings-events/ams-meetings/2019-joint-satellite-conference/>) in Boston, United States, from 28 September to 4 October 2019.

Eric Madsen (NOAA) reported on the status of preparations.

It is planned that VLab-organized training events will be held on 28 and 29 September, including hands-on-exercises. As part of this, an AMS short course is

The RA-III-IV-SDR Group meeting would be held in two sessions in the afternoon of 29 September (4-6 PM) and on 3 October (4-6 PM). The meeting time would therefore be limited to 4 hours. English to Spanish translation would be available for the opening of the Joint conference, but not for the SDR meeting.

NOAA and WMO will provide limited funding support for travel and accommodation to enable the participation of SDR Group members.

Funded participants will be expected to present a poster in a dedicated poster session to be organized.

Action 26-6: NOAA and WMO will in due course provide further information on the kind of support that will be available and how to apply for it.

The teleconference also discussed the draft agenda of the fourth meeting, which was provided by RA-III-IV-SDR co-chair Luiz Manado, and which is attached to this document.

It was suggested that paper/presentation templates for the country reports under the proposed agenda item 7 should be provided to participants. The country reports should be submitted prior to the meeting. Only an overall summary, identifying common issues and necessary actions should be discussed under this agenda item.

VLab activities (including a focus on blended learning) would be discussed under the proposed agenda item 8.

Luiz noted that the SDR Data Requirements priorities list needed to be updated. The latest version of the list, updated in July 2015, is available from <http://satelite.cptec.inpe.br/geonetcast/es/docs/RA-III-IV-Requirements-v20150707.xlsx>. This would be discussed under the proposed agenda item 9.

6. Any other business

There is a need to update the RA-III-IV SDR group webpage at <http://satelite.cptec.inpe.br/geonetcast/br/datareq.html>, which was last updated in 2017. Minutes/summaries of teleconferences, ToRs, should be uploaded. The webpage could be re-organized for easier viewing. See for example the webpage of the RA II/V SDR at http://www.jma.go.jp/jma/jma-eng/satellite/ra2wigosproject/ra2wigosproject-intro_en_jma.html or of RA I SDR at <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/sat/ra1-expertgroup-intro.php>.

Action 26-7: Diego and Luiz to update the RA-III-IV SDR group webpage at <http://satelite.cptec.inpe.br/geonetcast/br/datareq.html>.

The teleconference ended at around 16:30 UTC.