



World Meteorological Organization  
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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H.E. Mr Alexander Dobrindt  
Minister of Transport and Digital Infrastructure  
in Germany  
Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of  
Germany to the United Nations Office and  
other international organizations in Geneva  
Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28C  
**1209 GENEVA**  
Switzerland

GENEVA, 16 December 2015

Subject: German support for WMO's water related programs

Your Excellency,

Before I will retire from the Office of Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization at the end of 2015, I have the honour to thank you for your Ministry's constant support for WMO's water related activities.

Under your guidance, the Federal Institute of Hydrology in Koblenz houses the Global Runoff Data Center (GRDC) and it is home to the International Center for Water Resources and Global Change and the global water quality database GEMStat. As such, it has proved to be one of our key partners in developing digital infrastructure for global water information and global support for water management as well as forecasting and warning services.

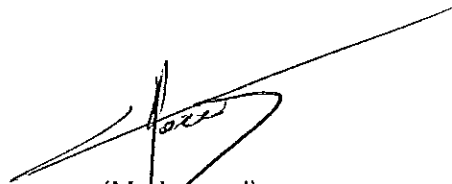
An important outcome of the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17), Geneva, 25 May–12 June 2015, the value of the GRDC in WMO's Programs had been highlighted. Congress recognized the continued support of the Government of Germany to the GRDC over the past 27 years. While appreciating the indispensable contributions of GRDC in the past, Congress also recognized that new tasks lie ahead which will impact on the activities of the GRDC and the services GRDC develops together with the International Center for Water Resources and Global Change and GEMStat. Notably, these tasks relate to data and services in support of the Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), the newly established World Hydrological Observing System (WHOS), and data services and products in support of monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals, foremost Goal 6 – Water.

I would therefore wish to express my highest appreciation and sincere gratitude to Germany in its support of the international water related activities at the Federal Institute of Hydrology in the past and future.

cc: Permanent Representative of Germany with WMO  
Hydrological Adviser to the Permanent Representative of Germany with WMO

Further, I wish to express my sincere hope that, in the light of its global importance to WMO and water-related programs of the United Nations, our cooperation will continue to bear tangible results for water management, water related transport issues and sustainable development worldwide.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



(M. Jaffraud)  
Secretary-General