

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**  
**Twelfth WMO Congress, Geneva, May 1995**

RESOLUTION 20 (Cg-XII)

**WORLD HYDROLOGICAL CYCLE OBSERVING SYSTEM (WHYCOS)**

THE CONGRESS,

**NOTING:**

(1) That WHYCOS has already been endorsed by the Commission for Hydrology at its ninth session (1993),

(2) That the Executive Council, at its forty-sixth session (1994), expressed the view that WHYCOS was potentially of great importance to water resources assessment on the global, regional, and national scales,

(3) That the eleventh session (1995) of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO adopted a resolution which called upon the Director General of UNESCO to arrange, in cooperation with WMO, for the planning and implementation of WHYCOS,

(4) That the World Bank, as part of its water resources strategies, has specifically recommended the establishment of a Hydrological Cycle Observing System (HYCOS),

(5) The financial support already given by the World Bank for the implementation of the Mediterranean Hydrological Cycle Observing System (MED-HYCOS), a subregional component of WHYCOS, and the interest shown by other donors for similar subregional components,

**CONSIDERING:**

(1) That WHYCOS is one of the basic WMO responses to the recommendation of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development to strengthen efforts towards a comprehensive assessment of freshwater resources, notably by providing timely, reliable, and consistent data to regional data centres. Certain of these data could, then, be made available at the international level through centres, such as GRDC for runoff data,

(2) That WHYCOS has a vital role to play in several new programmes, such as GCOS, GTOS and GOOS,

(3) That the WHYCOS concept is in line with the spirit of international cooperation in which WWW was established and has since operated,

**ENCOURAGES** Members:

(1) To participate in the development of a global conceptual basis for providing a framework and general guidance for the establishment of WHYCOS;

(2) To facilitate the establishment of WHYCOS through the implementation of national, subregional and regional components of the system;

**REQUESTS** the president of the Commission for Hydrology to ensure that the Commission provides WHYCOS with the technical advice that it requires;

**REQUESTS** the Secretary-General:

(1) To invite other international organizations to cooperate with WMO to establish WHYCOS, contribute to its implementation, and make use of it;

(2) To provide all possible support to WHYCOS from available resources and to seek additional resources for this purpose from external sources.