

practices, observing requirements and facilities and communications.

Public weather services

A team of experts from five countries was enlisted to prepare initial public weather services programme plans embracing: the content of forecasts and warnings; presentation and dissemination techniques, public information and education; and the exchange and coordination of hazardous weather information between neighbouring countries.

Hydrology and water resources

The first World Water Day was celebrated on 22 March to increase awareness of the need for better management of the world's water resources. Among the problems identified were: increasing water scarcity, water-borne diseases, pollution, flooding, droughts and conflicts in international river basins. The event coincided with the fourth joint UNESCO/WMO/ICSU International Conference on Hydrology Towards the 21st Century: Research and Operational Needs (Paris, 22-26 March). The Conference, which made recommendations in the areas of hydrological research, operational hydrology, interdisciplinary studies and capacity building, followed up on discussions at the ninth session of the Commission of Hydrology (Geneva, 5-15 January). The Geneva session reviewed the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme, planned activities for the next four years and made proposals for the WMO Fourth Long-term Plan. On the Commission's recommendation, WMO intensified its activities in water quality monitoring. It placed more emphasis on technical assistance in water quality assessment and management and initiated regional training workshops on water quality monitoring. A workshop on water quality on small islands was organized for Caribbean countries at St. Joseph, Trinidad and Tobago, in July.

WMO completed a UNDP-funded project to strengthen the overall capacity of the Water Resources Bureau of Papua New Guinea. The project trained personnel, set up computerized databases for water quantity and quality, undertook watershed management studies to evaluate land use and the impact of pollution from mining, and installed a pilot satellite-based telemetry station.

Meetings held under the Hydrology and Water Resources Programme included an international workshop on sea-level changes and their consequences for hydrology and water resources (Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, 19-23 April); a workshop on global environmental change and land surface processes in hydrology, which discussed modelling and measuring problems (Tucson, United States, 17-21 May); a conference on water and envi-

ronment issues (Delft, Netherlands, 3 and 4 June); and an international symposium on precipitation and evaporation (Bratislava, Slovakia, 20-24 September).

Education and training

During the year, instructors under WMO's Education and Training Programme participated in the second meeting of the Working Group on Distance and Computer-aided Learning (Boulder, United States, 10 July); the third meeting of the Standing Conference of Heads of Training Institutions of National Meteorological Services (Boulder, 11 and 12 July); and the First International Conference on Computer-aided Learning and Distance Learning in Meteorology, Hydrology and Oceanography (Boulder, 5-9 July). The Korean Meteorological Administration hosted a regional training seminar for national instructors (Seoul, 6-17 December) and the Third International Conference on School and Popular Meteorological and Oceanographic Education was held at Toronto, Canada, from 14 to 18 July.

Some 536 persons participated in 24 training events organized by WMO in 22 countries during 1993. The Organization also co-sponsored or supported 30 training events organized by members or by national institutions. The number of the WMO Regional Meteorological Training Centres (RMTCs) increased to 19 with the addition of the Nanjing Institute of Meteorology for Class I Training in Chinese and English and the Advanced Meteorological Sciences Training Centre of the Iran Meteorological Organization in Tehran for Class I, II, III and IV Training in Farsi and English. The RMTC global network trained more than 3,000 students during the 1992-1993 biennium.

Drawing on funds from various sources, WMO awarded 32 long-term and 147 short-term fellowships. The WMO Training Library continued to strengthen and expand its holdings of audiovisual training and computer-assisted learning materials to meet the increasing needs of WMO members.

Technical cooperation

In 1993, countries received technical assistance valued at \$26.3 million, financed by UNDP (27.8 per cent), the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP) (29.2 per cent), trust funds (38.3 per cent) and the WMO regular budget (4.7 per cent). Donors contributed some \$7 million to VCP, while member States provided equipment, expert services and fellowships. Some 80 countries received support for 141 VCP projects, 69 of which were completed in 1993. Eighty-one countries received assistance totalling \$1.23 million from the regular budget.

The resource mobilization unit of the WMO secretariat became operational on 1 March. It