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World Meteorological Organization
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Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
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Dr Florence Rabier
Director-General
European Centre for Medium-Range
Shinfield Park,
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United Kingdom

11 September 2018

Subject: **Endorsements of the ExtremeEarth Flagship proposal**

Dear Dr Rabier,

It is my pleasure to endorse the ExtremeEarth Flagship proposal to be submitted to the second stage of a two-stage submission procedure for the call "Tackling Grand Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Challenges". If implemented, this Flagship will create an unprecedented scientific and technological framework for weather, climate and environmental science communities, and in turn, it will bring multiple science-for-science benefits to the Members of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

The proposed Flagship addresses key areas covered by the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the World Weather Research Programme (WWRP), and the Global Atmosphere Watch Programme (GAW). WMO Commission for Atmospheric Sciences (CAS) included these research activities in its five key research priorities on Seamless Research for Weather, Climate, Water and Environment, based on the outcome of the Science Summit held in Geneva during October 2017.

The evolution of a seamless Earth System approach and the development of adequate future infrastructures are key ingredients of this Flagship proposal, and well aligned with WMO Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 and the new WCRP strategic plan currently being developed. If fully implemented, this proposal will be a potential game changer that could revolutionize the entire Earth System science. WMO, through its research programmes (GAW and WWRP), and the co-sponsored WCRP, working in partnership with other international initiatives, have a keen interest in playing an active role in the development and eventual implementation of ExtremeEarth.

Considering the above mentioned close alignment in priorities between the ExtremeEarth Flagship with those in the WMO Strategic Objectives, I look forward to continue to work closely with you and Dr P Bauer on this initiative. For any further information on WMO engagement, Dr Bauer is kindly requested to contact P. Ruti (pruti@wmo.int).

Yours sincerely,

(P. Taalas)
Secretary-General

cc: Dr Peter Bauer, Deputy Director of Research, ECMWF