World Data System Asia-Oceania Conference 2019

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The World Data System Asia-Oceania Conference 2019 (WDS-AO 2019) was held in the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research (IGSNRR), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Beijing, on May 7–8. The conference was hosted by the World Data System of the International Science Council (ISC-WDS), organized by IGSNRR, CAS, and jointly organized by World Data Center for Renewable Resources and Environment (Beijing), Global Change Research Data Publishing & Repository (Beijing), Chinese Astronomical Data Center (Beijing), Chinese Space Science Data Center (Beijing), World Data Center for Geophysics (Beijing), Cold and Arid Regions Science Data Center (Lanzhou), World Data Centre for Microorganisms (Beijing), World Data Center-Oceanography (Tianjin), National Earth System Science Data Sharing Infrastructure of China (Beijing).

This conference aims at strengthening collaboration in the Asia-Oceania region to reinforce WDS-oriented activities, exchanging advanced technologies to data management, pushing the interoperability in WDS community, developing and expanding the world data center in the Asia-Oceania region, exchanging experiences on successful WDS trustworthy data-repositories certification, and supporting the science and technology projects of ISC.

The honorary chairmen of the conference, Sun, H. L., CAS Member, Sun, J. L., Chinese Academy of Engineering (CAE) Member, Wang, R. D., deputy director of the National Science and Technology Infrastructure Center of China, Wang, S. Z., deputy director of the General Office of CAS, Representatives of ISC-WDS Asia-Oceania Regional Science Data Centers, attended the meeting. Totally, more than 120 experts and scholars from 14 countries, including China, Japan, Australia, Russia, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Mongolia, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bolivia and Sudan, participated in the conference (Figure 1).

The co-chairmen of the conference, Liao, X. H., deputy director of IGSNRR, CAS, and professor Watanabe, T., Kyoto University, Japan, co-hosted the opening ceremony. On behalf of IGSNRR, CAS, Liao, X. H. welcomed the guests, the representatives from the ISC-WDS Science Committee and all the experts and scholars attending the conference. He said, IGSNRR is the largest Geographical Science institute in the world and also is the only institution with two regular members in a legal entity of the world data system. Furthermore, the World Data Center for Renewable Resources and Environment, founded in 1988, is one of the earliest Chinese data centers jointing in WDS; Global Change Research Data Publishing & Repository, founded in 2014, is the unique publishing and open sharing unit in WDS that links metadata, entity data, and data papers. On behalf of CAS, Wang, S. Z. delivered a welcome speech. He reviewed and introduced the development history of the sci-

ence database of the CAS and the WDS Data Centers established relying on CAS. He also pointed out that CAS attaches great importance to the work of open sharing of scientific data, in China, 7 out of current 9 regular members of the World Data System are from CAS. Wang, R. D. introduced the development history of the National Science and Technology Infrastructure of China and the promulgation of the "Scientific Data Management Measures", and pointed out that it is expected to establish a closer cooperation relationship with the WDS Data Center in the future. Li, G. Q., a former member of the WDS Science Committee and a professor at the Aerospace Information Research Institute, CAS, introduced the background of the conference. Wang, J. L., the secretary-general of the conference, chaired the organizing committee, and a professor in IGSNRR, CAS, introduced the organization of the conference.

Harrison, S., chairman of the WDS Scientific Committee, gave a keynote speech on "World Data System—trustworthy data services for global science". She introduced background information on WDS including its establishment, goals, principles, scientific committee members and WDS members, and discussed future priorities of WDS. Shi, L., from the National Science and Technology Infrastructure Center, gave a keynote speech on "Enhancing scientific data management in China", introducing the overall situation of scientific data development in China, problems in current scientific data management in China, relevant provisions of "Measures for scientific data management", etc.

The conference had six sessions during the two days. On the agenda there were discussions of international collaboration on data, data for geophysics and space science, the development of data-sharing systems, marine and polar data, data processing and evaluation, and a WDS forum. A total of 33 oral presentations and 12 posters were displayed in the conference.

The co-chair of the conference, professor Watanabe, T., pointed out in the summary after the conference that the priorities of WDS in the future include: (1) Expand WDS members in terms of subject scope and geographical scope, encouraging more scientific data centers in Asia and Oceania to join WDS; (2) Strengthen the exchange of core Trust Seal certification experience of scientific data center, and promote more scientific data centers to pass the certification; (3) Strengthen the cooperation with WDS International Technology Office and promote the introduction of information technology of data; (4) Strengthen the cooperation with ISC Regional Office for Asia–Pacific (ROAP); (5) Promote the cooperation between the Asian region and Future Earth and other international organizations such as the Committee on Data (CODATA) of the ISC.

The World Data System is an Interdisciplinary body of the International Science Council (ISC; formerly ICSU) created by its 29th General Assembly in 2008. Its predecessor, the World Data Center (WDC), was founded in 1957. The mission of WDS is to support the long-term vision of ISC, to provide long-term management and equal access with quality assurance for scientific data, data services, products and information

Figure 1   Group photo of the Conference

among a series of subjects such as natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities, to promote compliance with mutually agreed data standards and practices, to provide mechanisms to facilitate data access, and to advance its goals with "data sharing principles". In order to promote cooperation among WDS data centers and more stakeholders in Asia-Oceania region, the World Data System Asia-Oceania Conference 2017 was held on September 27–29, 2017 at Kyoto University, Japan, under the guidance of World Data System of the International Science Council (ISC-WDS) Scientific Committee.