



HKO Signs MoU with WMO to

Editorial Board

Strengthen Co-operation in Meteorology

At the beginning of October, the Director of the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO), Mr Shun Chi-ming, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Professor Petteri Taalas, who visited Hong Kong to further strengthen meteorological co-operation. The HKO will support the WMO in establishing the Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS), by revamping the Severe Weather Information Centre website (SWIC 2.0) (see page 2 for details) and updating the World Weather Information Service website to aggregate authoritative warning signals related to high-impact weather, water and climate events issued by official weather service organisations around the world.

Mr Shun and Professor Taalas also officiated at the launch ceremony of the SWIC 2.0 website and the opening ceremony of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) for Nowcasting.

In June this year, the HKO was designated as an RSMC for Nowcasting for the Asian region. The HKO will provide meteorological organisations in the region with products and techniques related to nowcasting of high-impact weather events.



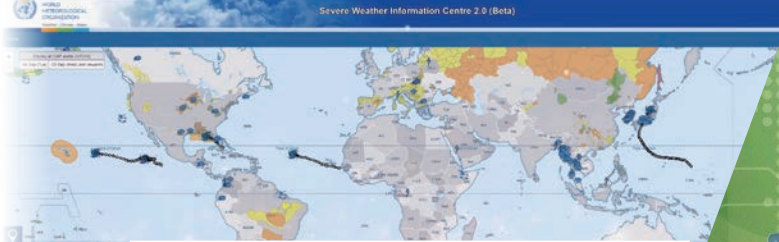
The two parties signed a MoU to further strengthen meteorological co-operation.



SWIC 2.0



Severe Weather Information Centre 2.0 (Beta)



The new version of the Severe Weather Information Centre website (SWIC 2.0) was launched.



香港天文台
HONG KONG OBSERVATORY



區域預報區域專業氣象中心
RSMC for Nowcasting

揭幕儀式
OPENING CEREMONY
2 October 2018



Opening ceremony of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) for Nowcasting.

Editorial Board

WMO Receives LUI Che Woo Prize

This year, the WMO won the LUI Che Woo Prize-Prize for World Civilization "Welfare Betterment Prize", in recognition of its outstanding contributions to reducing the impact of natural disasters. The Secretary General of the WMO, Professor Petteri Taalas, said that developing countries will be provided with resources to train more meteorological personnel and improve global weather warning systems. Also, alert services will be provided to the United Nations and humanitarian organisations. He also strongly affirmed Hong Kong's capability for issuing alerts regarding potential natural disasters, and considered this can serve as a good reference for other places.

The Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, attended the ceremony, and delivered a speech commending the WMO for its significant contributions to responding to the effects of potentially disastrous weather and mitigating global climate change. In addition, she appreciated the advance warnings, preparations and defensive measures in response to Super Typhoon Mangkhut by various government departments, including the Observatory, to minimise the impact of the tropical cyclone on Hong Kong.



Professor Petteri Taalas received the LUI Che Woo Prize-Prize for World Civilization "Welfare Betterment Prize" from the award presenter, Mr Tung Chee-hwa.

