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The Island

Vol. 25 No. 277 Tuesday 22nd November, 2005 Rs.15 - 24 Pages Registered in Sri Lanka as a Newspaper - Late City Edition

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WMO & SACEP signs MOU for mutual co-operation

Pursuant to the proposal made at the 9th Meeting of the Governing Council of South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP) held on 26th August 2005, SACEP, and the 3rd Intergovernmental Ministerial Meeting of the South Asian Seas Programme (SASP), will be signing an MOU with the World Meteorology Organization (WMO) at the SACEP Secretariat, in Colombo.

The World Meteorological Organization is an intergovernmental organisation with a membership of 187 Member States and Territories. It originated from the International Meteorological Organization, which was founded in 1873. Established in 1950, WMO became the specialized agency of the United Nations in 1951 for meteorology (weather and climate), operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences.

As weather, climate and water cycle knows no national boundaries, international cooperation at a global scale is essential for the development of meteorology and operational hydrology as well as to reap the benefits from their applications. WMO provides the framework for such international cooperation.

Since its establishment, WMO has played a unique and powerful role in contributing to the safety and welfare of humanity. Under WMO leadership and within the framework of WMO programmes, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services contribute substantially to the protection of life and property against natural disasters, to safeguarding the environment and to enhancing the economic and social well-being of all sectors of society in areas such as food security, water resources and transport.

The provisions of the Convention of World Meteorological Organization, by which WMO was created in order to facilitate cooperation in the establishment of networks of stations for making meteorological including climatological, hydrological and other related geophysical observations; to promote the rapid exchange of meteorological information, the standardization of meteorological observation and the uniform publication of observations and statistics; to further the application of meteorology to water problems, agriculture, drought monitoring, natural disaster reduction and mitigation, ozone and pollution monitoring, monitoring of climate change, weather—and climate-sensitive socio-economic activities, to promote operational hydrology and

encourage research and training in relevant fields

South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme is an Inter-governmental Organisation established in 1982 by the countries of South Asia comprising of the countries of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of environment in the region. During the past two decades of its existence, SACEP has launched a number of programmes in the areas of environmental law, management, training, capacity building, education, and state of environment reporting and also in biodiversity, South Asian Seas and transboundary air pollution etc.

The need for framework of co-operation between the two organisations for maximum utilisation of resources for the benefit of the people of South Asia by avoiding duplication was under discussion through the years.

The signing of the MOU is therefore a significant achievement in this direction to cooperate with a view to achieving their shared objectives, in particular with regard to the promotion of sciences of meteorology, climatology and hydrology for the safety of human life and property, disaster reduction and mitigation including tsunami early warning, environment monitoring and management, sustainable economic and social development, and education and training in disaster reduction field.

It Provides the opportunity to merge the separate strengths of the two organisations, both political and technical to address the environmental issues in the region. It is also expected that UN and other agencies will enable and support these organisations to carry out their respective mandates effectively and hence the instances of duplication of activities will be minimised.

The MOU will be signed by the Secretary General, Mr. Michel Jarraud on behalf of WMO & Director General, Dr. Arvind Boaz on behalf of SACEP.

SWEEP RESULTS

Govi Setha
 Draw No: 524
 Draw Date: 21.11.2005
 Winning Nos: Q 21-30-31-34

Jayoda
 Draw No: 187
 Draw Date: 21.11.2005
 Winning Nos.: 8-6-0-8-9-6
 Super No: 21
 Jackpot not won