



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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GENEVA, 3 February 2016

Subject: 8th Meeting of the WMO-CGMS VLab Management Group, Bridgetown, Barbados,
9 – 13 May 2016

Dear Colleagues,

The 8th meeting of the VLab Management Group (VLMG), kindly hosted by the Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (Barbados), in Bridgetown, Barbados, from 9 to 13 May 2016, offers a key opportunity to discuss how the new VLab strategy 2015-2019 can be effectively put into practice to address satellite-related capacity development of Members in all WMO Regions and official languages.

A new generation of meteorological satellites is being put in service over the coming 5 years, providing great opportunities to satellite meteorology and related applications, but, due to novel data types and larger data volumes, also posing unprecedented challenges to effective use by the WMO community.

The global VLab training activity is a unique tool to address these and other capacity development challenges, as recognized in the new VLab strategy. I take the opportunity to remind you of the online event week on Preparing for the Next Generation of Satellites, held in November 2015, which saw participation by all key CGMS operators and had excellent participation by users.

At this critical juncture to a new era in satellite meteorology, I strongly encourage CGMS satellite operators as well as VLab Centres of Excellence to participate in this important meeting. Centres of Excellence should be represented at the executive level (Head of Centre) to take decisions that will chart the course of VLab activity in the coming years.

I look forward to your participation and wish you a very successful session.

Yours sincerely,

(W. Zhang)

Director, WMO Space Programme
Observing and Information Systems Department

To: Members of the VLab Management Group (VLMG)