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## WINTER 2017/18 CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR SERBIA

Based on the climate outlook, winter air temperature in Serbia will be around 1°C above the average. The upcoming winter is likely to be warmer compared to the previous winter which was cold in most of Serbia, the 12<sup>th</sup> coldest on record. The winter mean air temperature is expected to range from 1°C to 4°C in the lowland and from -4°C to +0°C in the mountain regions.

Extremely low air temperatures lasting for a prolonged period are not expected during this winter, that is, the occurrence of cold spell<sup>1</sup> similar to the one from February 2012, when a great number of consecutive ice days was recorded is unlikely to occur. Regardless of the climate outlooks indicating above-average winter, the conditions will be favorable for the onset of cold spell, particularly at the end of January and beginning of February.

According to the outlooks, the number of frost days, with the minimum air temperature below 0°C in December, January and February will vary between 40 and 65 days and on the mountains from 65 to 85 days. The number of ice days with the maximum air temperature below 0°C is expected to range from 10 to 20 days, and on the mountains from 25 to 45 days.

Climate outlooks indicate that the precipitation sums in the upcoming winter will be within the multiannual average, in a 100-170mm range, and in the hilly-mountainous regions in a 150-220mm range, locally reaching up to 240mm.

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<sup>1</sup> Cold wave is defined as period of 5 or more consecutive days with the minimum daily air temperature in the categories of very cold and extremely cold