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| **World Meteorological Organization &**  **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (of UNESCO)**  **JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY**  **Data Buoy Cooperation Panel Thirty Fifth Session**, Geneva, Switzerland, 15-18 October 2019 | Image result for ioc logo unesco  **DBCP-35/Doc. 0.0.0** |
| Submitted by: TT-DBPD  30.09.2019  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 8: Recommendations by the Task Teams**

**AGENDA ITEM 8.1: Recommendations by the Task Team on Instrument Best Practices and Drifter Technology Development (TT-IBPD)**

# SUMMARY

This document provides a report on the intersessional activities of the Task Team on Instrument Best Practices and Drifter Technology Development (TT-IBPD), including recommendations to the panel for approval and actions/decisions required.

### A. INTRODUCTION/SUMMARY[[1]](#footnote-1):

This is a continuation of the activities from the previous intersessional period. In the following, we refer to “drifter” as platforms that adhere to the Surface Velocity Program (SVP) drifter design specifications. During the intersessional period, the TT-IBPD has addressed the following issues:

1) Definition of a common format for drifting buoy specification sheets compliant with WIGOS requirements, and 2) distribution of the Directional Wave Spectra Drifter (DWSD) data to the Global Telecommunication System

1) During the intersessional period, the Global Drifter Program (LDL and AOML) consulted with Ms. Champika Gallage, Scientific Officer at the Observing Systems Division of the World Meteorological Organization and decided to create a new specification sheet for drifters based on WIGOS metadata standard, WMO publication #1192. The new specification sheet includes all the applicable WIGOS fields and other fields of specific interest to the Global Drifter Program. The specification sheet is made of a pdf interface and of a binary file designed for M2M transfer. The GDP has solicited feedback from JCOMMOPS in April 2019. The new specification sheet, according to LDL’s -Scripps evaluation, is ready for implementation.

2) During the intersessional period the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography has continued the validation of the DWS drifter (Centurioni et al., 2017). The UKMO, USACE and the LDL worked together to create a new GTS format 315010 to distribute the full directional spectra parameters, which has now been approved. To date, integral wave parameters from DWSD are being distributed to the GTS. The wave spectral data can now also be distributed to the GTS.

3) During DBCP 35 it has been recognized that the surface drifter array is underutilized and an expansion, supported by the international community, both in terms of number of drifters and ECV observed should be considered. It was proposed that the TT-IBPD updates its terms of reference to add this new activity.

### B. ACTIONS/DECISIONS2 REQUIRED:

(a) Adopt draft Action(Decision)[[2]](#footnote-2) [0.0.0/1](#_Draft_Decision_X.X.X(X)/1) —*Obtain feedback from JCOMMOPS on the new drifter specification sheet and binary file*

* JCOMMOPS to provide feedback, by November 2019
* Quick implementation of the new drifter spec sheet to improve the accuracy of drifter metadata

(b) Adopt draft Action(Decision)[[3]](#footnote-3) [0.0.0/1](#_Draft_Decision_X.X.X(X)/1) —*Start distributing spectra wave data from DWSD to the GTS*

* LDL/Scripps. Effective immediately
* Broad data distribution

**C. RECOMMENDATIONS3 :**

(a) Adopt draft Recommendation[[4]](#footnote-4) [0.0.0/1](#_Title_of_the_1) *— Change of TOR;*

* Expand the TOR to task the TT-IBPD with exploring the expansion of the surface drifter array with respect to number of drifters and observed ECV to address the opportunities arising from considering that that the surface drifter array is a underutilized infrastructure

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# C. BACKGROUND INFORMATION (not to be included in the session report):

### References (if any):

1. *[Link to the full report on the website]*

2. ...........

**Draft Actions/Decisions**

[Comment: Details on main points and arguments leading to formulation of draft actions/decision presented in this document]

**Draft Recommendations**

[Comment: Details on main points and arguments leading to formulation of draft actions/decision presented in this document]

1. Half a page or less of Summary [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. An Action/Decision is an item directly related to DBCP and on which DBCP can action or decide directly. Details on rational for the action/decision should be included in the Background under Draft Actions/Decisions. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. An Action/Decision is an item directly related to DBCP and on which DBCP can action or decide directly. Details on rational for the action/decision should be included in the Background under Draft Actions/Decisions. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. A Recommendation involves proposed action(s)on another body outside of DBCP (e.g. SOT, JCOMM, WMO, IOC, CBS etc.). Details on rational for the Recommendation should be included in the Background under Draft Recommendation. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)