



**World Meteorological Organization &
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
(of UNESCO)**

**GLOBAL OCEAN OBSERVING
SYSTEM/OBSERVATIONS COORDINATION GEORP**

Ship Observations Team Eleventh Session

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DRAFT 1

AGENDA ITEM 14: Secretariat Update

AGENDA ITEM 14.1: WMO Secretariat Update

SUMMARY

This document provides a report on decisions of WMO governing bodies which are directly relevant to Ship Observations Team (SOT) and its subsidiary bodies. This includes 18th Congress, 1st Infrastructure Commission and the 73rd Executive Council session outcomes.

A. SUMMARY :

The Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-18) was held from 3 to 14 June 2019 at the International Conference Centre of Geneva (CICG). WMO Constituent body reform, was the key focusses of the session together with some other major topics such as observations (Global Basic Observing Network, World Water Data Initiative, and others), public-private engagement and data policy.

18th Congress Resolutions, and Decisions¹ ;

Resolution 1 (CG-18): WMO STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan sets out long-term goals for 2030 horizon and strategic objectives, focused on addressing the most pressing developments and needs during the 2020-2023 planning cycle of the Organization. Five Long-term goals are as follows;

- Goal 1 Better serve societal needs: delivering, authoritative, accessible, user-oriented and fit-for-purpose information and services
- Goal 2 Enhance Earth system observations and predictions: Strengthening the technical foundation for the future
- Goal 3 Advance targeted research: Leveraging leadership in science to improve understanding of the Earth system for enhanced services
- Goal 4 Close the capacity gap on weather, climate, hydrological and related environmental services: Enhancing service delivery capacity of developing countries to ensure availability of essential information and services needed by governments, economic sectors and citizens
- Goal 5 Strategic realignment of WMO structure and programmes for effective policy and decision-making and implementation

Resolution 7 (Cg-18): Establishment of the WMO Technical Commissions for the 18th Financial Period

Two new Technical commissions listed below were established. Upon completion of the transition period, disband the existing eight technical commissions that have been active during the seventeenth financial period. Two new technical commissions are Commission for

¹ https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827

Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (Infrastructure Commission) and Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (Services Commission).

Resolution 9 (Cg-18): Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board

Established the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board, as a high-level coordination mechanism with broader engagement of the key relevant bodies of the WMO and IOC, with the terms of reference.

1st Infrastructure Commission Resolutions and Decisions;

Decision 5.1.1(1)/1: Satellite Data Requirements for Global NWP Position paper²

Position paper on baseline requirements for satellite products for global NWP, to trigger a CGMS (Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites) discussion on status of delivery of such observations and possible improvements in the future.

Decision 5.1.3(1)/1: Experimental CF-NetCDF profiles for marine and weather radar³

Endorsed the experimental use of the Climate and Forecast Network Common Data Form (CF-NetCDF) profiles for marine and weather radar data (<https://community.wmo.int/wmo-cf-extensions>)

Decision 5.1.7: Optimum functional connections for marine meteorological observations and data management⁴

Endorsed the proposed connections for Marine Climate Data System (MCDS) and governance of DBCP and SOT. SOT and DBCP will report to Observations Coordination group while DBCP & SOT and subsidiary bodies shall operate under their own governance, whereby their Terms of Reference (ToR) are kept under review by the respective panels. Any changes proposed to DBCP and SOT ToRs shall be considered by OCG with a view to their approval by the OCG Executive Board on behalf of the OCG. Respective panels will decide on leadership appointment following their approved ToR and operating principles.

73rd Executive Council Recommendations, Decisions, and Resolutions;

Recommendation 3: WMO Unified Policy for the International Exchange of Earth System Data⁵

Single 'unified' data policy across multiple domains includes Weather, Climate, Hydrology, Atmospheric Composition, Cryosphere, Oceans and Space Weather that aims to broaden and enhance the free and unrestricted international exchange of Earth system data. For oceans it covers in situ and remotely sensed observational data both in and above the ocean and at the sea-surface, from the open ocean to the coast, along with other data that provide necessary input to ocean monitoring and prediction and for a variety of other Earth system applications. This policy acknowledges the right of governments, based on their national laws and policies, to choose the manner by, and the extent to which, they make data available domestically or for international exchange; so does not override national data policies. This will be presented to the 19th WMO Congress (Cg-19) for final approval.

² [https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1\(III\)-d05-1-1\(1\)-SATELLITE-DATA-REQS-FOR-GLOBAL-NWP-draft2_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1(III)-d05-1-1(1)-SATELLITE-DATA-REQS-FOR-GLOBAL-NWP-draft2_en.docx&action=default)

³ [https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1\(III\)-d05-1-3\(1\)-CF-NetCDF-draft1_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1(III)-d05-1-3(1)-CF-NetCDF-draft1_en.docx&action=default)

⁴ [https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1\(III\)-d05-1-7-SG-OCEAN-OBSERVATIONS-INFRASTRUCTURE-draft1_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/INFCOM-1-III/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/INFCOM-1-III/English/3.%20SESSION%20ARCHIVE/INFCOM-1(III)-d05-1-7-SG-OCEAN-OBSERVATIONS-INFRASTRUCTURE-draft1_en.docx&action=default)

⁵ [https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20\(Approved%20documents\)/EC-73-d03-4\(1\)-WMO-UNIFIED-DATA-POLICY-approved_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Approved%20documents)/EC-73-d03-4(1)-WMO-UNIFIED-DATA-POLICY-approved_en.docx&action=default)

Recommendation 4: Update of Regulatory Material Related to Establishment of the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON)⁶

Recommends that the amendments to the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1160), section 3.2.2 Global Basic Observing Network, based on the current draft to be adopted by the Extraordinary session of the World Meteorological Congress, in 2021 (Cg-Ext. 2021), with effect from 1 January 2023. Updates relevant to the SOT group are;

3.2.2.10 Members shall maintain the continuous operation of a set of surface marine meteorological observing stations/platforms within their Exclusive Economic Zone that observe, at a minimum, atmospheric pressure and sea surface temperature located such that where opportunity exists, GBON has a horizontal resolution of 500 kilometres or higher, over the marine areas of their jurisdictions, for these variables, with an hourly frequency

3.2.2.11 Members should facilitate other Members to make surface marine meteorological observations within their Exclusive Economic Zone, subject to the data being shared internationally according to 3.2.2.5

Resolution 10: Amendments to the Technical Regulations on WIGOS⁷

On behalf of Members, OceanOPS is authorized to issue WIGOS Station Identifiers for surface marine stations or sea stations contributing to the co-sponsored GOOS, when asked to do so.

Resolution 13: Guide to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WMO-No. 1165)⁸

Includes the guidance on WIGOS Station Identifiers (WSIs) to be used by operators of all Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Observation Coordination Group (OCG) Observing Networks and allocated by OceanOPS

Decision 8: Establishment of Data Acquisition Centres (DAC) for Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Climate Data within the Marine Climate Data System (MCDS)⁹

Endorsed the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (AOML) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, USA), to operate as a DAC for Drifting Buoys under MCDS, subject to a parallel approval by the fifty-fourth session of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

B. ACTIONS/DECISIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS REQUIRED:

- (a) Adopt draft Action: SOT members are requested to support the implementation of GBON requirements identified in the WMO NO 1160 (section 3.2.2.10) and provide input to further develop GBON to include marine/ocean domain.

⁶ [https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20\(Appeoved%20documents\)/EC-73-d04-2\(2\)-GBON-approved_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Appeoved%20documents)/EC-73-d04-2(2)-GBON-approved_en.docx&action=default)

⁷ [https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20\(Appeoved%20documents\)/EC-73-d04%E2%80%93\(3\)-WIGOS-TECHREG-ANNEX-2-No-1160-approved_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Appeoved%20documents)/EC-73-d04%E2%80%93(3)-WIGOS-TECHREG-ANNEX-2-No-1160-approved_en.docx&action=default)

⁸ [https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20\(Appeoved%20documents\)/EC-73-d04-2\(6\)-WIGOS-GUIDE-ANNEX-No-1165-approved_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Appeoved%20documents)/EC-73-d04-2(6)-WIGOS-GUIDE-ANNEX-No-1165-approved_en.docx&action=default)

⁹ [https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20\(Appeoved%20documents\)/EC-73-d04-2\(16\)-MCDS-DAC-DATA-approved_en.docx&action=default](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-73/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-73/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Appeoved%20documents)/EC-73-d04-2(16)-MCDS-DAC-DATA-approved_en.docx&action=default)