

EC-68/Doc. 6.4 Submitted by: Chairperson 23.VI.2016

APPROVED

AGENDA ITEM 6: SERVICE QUALITY AND SERVICE DELIVERY

AGENDA ITEM 6.4: METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES FOR MARINE OPERATIONS

SUMMARY

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

Adopt draft Decision 6.4/1-Technical Assessment of the Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme.

CONTENT OF DOCUMENT:

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DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision 6.4/1 (EC-68)

TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE MARINE METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY PROGRAMME

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Recalls Resolution 2 (Cg-17) - Implementation of the WMO Strategy for Service Delivery;

Recalls the discussions at Cg-17 for marine activities to be more prominent in the WMO Strategic Plan, based on the fact that many coastal Members lack a sufficient marine meteorological forecasting service, without which human lives are unnecessarily lost. This situation can be improved with recognition that marine meteorology is important;

Recognizes that the overall technical guidance and governance for the Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme (MMOP) is provided by the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM), jointly sponsored by WMO and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO;

Recognizes that the Forty-ninth Session of the IOC Executive Council adopted a decision that requests the IOC and WMO, working through the Data Buoy Cooperation Panel and the Working Group on Tsunami and Other Hazards related to Sea Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS), to develop a regionally relevant education and outreach strategy, for discussion (in 2017), that could be jointly implemented by IOC, WMO, FAO, regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), IOC Member States and WMO Members, the fisheries sector and other relevant organizations in order to substantially reduce damage through vandalism or interference with ocean data buoys;

Notes that a Marine Service Ad Hoc Working Group has been established since Cg-17 to assess the work and future direction of the MMOP, including examining links to JCOMM, the cooperation between WMO, UNESCO/IOC, IMO and IHO and identifying positive engagement mechanisms with all relevant partners/stakeholders (both within WMO and externally) for improved service delivery in marine meteorology, whilst taking into account the needs of users (beyond mariners), cost recovery and that JCOMM (through JCOMM MAN-12) is supportive of this assessment, in particular because it will complement the JCOMM Review, currently underway;

Acknowledges that the Ad Hoc Working Group met in February and agreed on a Workplan (2016-2017) (the *Summary of Intent* and *Workplan (2016-2017)* for the Technical Assessment of the Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme is available on the JCOMM website) to carry out the assessment in a one year period, the results of which will be available to EC-69;

Requests that the Ad Hoc Working Group also address the issue of data buoy vandalism and additionally, recommend how to strengthen capacity development on all marine related aspects, including observations, data management and services;

Requests JCOMM to revisit the issue of buoy vandalism, and in doing so, assist to design a regionally relevant education and outreach strategy that will reinforce the WMO and IOC joint efforts to be tsunami- and weather-ready, which is consistent within the WMO mandate and overall, under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;

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Considers that the results of the assessment will also be important for JCOMM to decide how it can support and align with any strengthened and improved marine service delivery, and as such, the results will be presented to JCOMM MAN-13 in January 2017 as preparation for JCOMM-5 in October 2017;

Endorses the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group currently undertaking the assessment of the work and future direction of the MMOP;

Requests the co-presidents of JCOMM to consider the results of the assessment (once complete) at JCOMM-5 (2017) and provide a clear recommendation to EC-70 for the ways in which JCOMM can support the delivery and strengthening of marine services.