

EXPECTED RESULT 1

AGENDA ITEM 4.1: SERVICE DELIVERY

MARINE METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY

SUMMARY

NON-CONTROVERSIAL DOCUMENT FOR ADOPTION

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

To note the progress in the implementation of the Joint WMO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (WMO-IOC) Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM-4), and provide further guidance on key activities including the implementation of the World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS), the coordination for marine environmental emergencies response, and the JCOMM-CHy Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project (CIFDP).

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APPENDIX

DRAFT TEXT SUPPORTING THE DECISIONS OF EC-65 – FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, WITH FOCUSED PRIORITY AREAS (AGENDA ITEM 4)

4.1 Service Delivery (agenda item 4.1)

Marine Meteorology and Oceanography

4.1.(4)1 The Council recalled that the report of the fourth session of Joint WMO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (WMO-IOC) Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM-4), held in Yeosu, Republic of Korea, from 23 to 31 May 2012, including the resolutions and recommendations was approved by the WMO Executive Council at its sixty-fourth session through Resolution 2 (EC-64).

4.1.(4)2 The Council agreed with the JCOMM management approach to make plans for a proper operating plan versus available resources considering the expected long intersessional period (2012-2017/18). Intermediate steps may be required taking into account the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (2015).

4.1.(4)3 The Council noted that the 10th session of the JCOMM Management Committee was held at the UNESCO/IOC Headquarters (7-10 May 2013). It recognized with satisfaction that the JCOMM intersessional workplan (2012-2017) included contributing activities to all five WMO Strategic Thrusts. The Council advised that further efforts should be made to fill the regional and technological gaps in ocean observations and services, including support for the new establishment of a new marine Data Collection or Production Centres (DCPCs) in Qatar, and encouraged JCOMM to expand capacity building initiatives to support the workplan conducted by the Commission.

IMO/WMO World Wide MetOcean Information and Warning Services

4.1.(4)4 The Council recalled its decision at the sixty-second session to establish a World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS), and consequently the IMO/WMO, World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service, Guidance Document, formally adopted by the twenty-seventh session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Resolution 1051/A27, on 20 December 2011.

4.1.(4)5 The Council noted that the WWMIWS introduced the role of METAREA Coordinators and identified their responsibilities to ensure that the provision of met-ocean information and warnings is consistent in meeting the obligations of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS). This also ensures consistency with other aspects of safety information provided under the Convention, in particular, Navigation Warnings, which are provided under the auspices of the International Hydrographic Organization, and are coordinated by NAVAREA Coordinators. The Council noted the need for collaboration by JCOMM (through its Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services) with IOC, IHO and IMO to better coordinate the provision of tsunami warnings on the SafetyNet system. The Council recognized the need of ensuring maritime weather and sea ice safety services, including the operational service in five new Arctic Ocean Metareas, and acknowledged the acceptance of the NMHSs to serve as coordinators in their different Metareas. It further requested the Secretary-General to coordinate with IMO and IHO to have the METAREA Coordinators formally approved as soon as possible.

4.1.(4)6 The Council noted and endorsed the recommendation of the JCOMM Management Committee at its 10th session (7-10 May 2013, Paris, France) to review the overall structure of the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), in view of making a recommendation for a new structure of those mandatory publications without duplication and/or potential conflict in contents. The Council also noted that such a review should also develop clear guidelines for Members applying to be Preparation/Issuing Services for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) Marine Broadcasting System.

Marine Environmental Emergencies

4.1.(4)7 The Council recalled Recommendation-4 (JCOMM-4), approved by EC-64, that JCOMM should take a proactive role in supporting Members/Member States to respond to marine environmental emergencies including the maritime radioactive material discharge. The Council noted the establishment of an ad hoc Task Team on JCOMM Coordination for Marine Environmental Emergency Responses, in pursuing this objective during the intersessional period. The Council requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the work of the ad hoc Task Team, and encouraged JCOMM to closely liaise with IAEA, IMO, IHO, IOC (of UNESCO) and other partners to develop a clear concept including the user perspectives and requirements for the delivery of information regarding marine environmental emergency responses. The Council further noted that the results of the Task Team activities would also contribute to the implementation of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

4.1.(4)8 The Council noted the recent announcement from the Arctic Council of the signing of the Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic. The Arctic Council encouraged the development of future national, bi-national and multinational contingency plans, training and exercises, to develop effective response measures. To this end, the Arctic Council established a Task Force to develop an Arctic Council action plan or other arrangement on oil pollution prevention, and directed the Task Force to present the outcomes of its work and any recommendations for further action at the next Ministerial meeting in 2015. The Council encouraged the Secretariat and the ad hoc Task Team on JCOMM Environmental Emergency Responses to participate in the work of this Task Force and to bring meteorological expertise to bear on the protection of this fragile environment from possible future oil pollution incidents.

Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project

4.1.(4)9 The Council recalled the joint efforts of JCOMM and CHy through the Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Project (CIFDP: <http://www.jcomm.info/CIFDP>), to demonstrate how integrated coastal inundation forecasting and warnings can be improved and effectively coordinated by the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). The Council reaffirmed the importance of CIFDP to enhance capacity of NMHSs for coastal disaster risk reduction, and to improve interaction with users of the NMHSs' information services

4.1.x(4)10 The Council noted with satisfaction the progress in ongoing National Sub-Projects of CIFDP for Bangladesh, Dominican Republic and Fiji. It also welcomed the initiation of the Shanghai Sub-Project (CIFDP-S) in China and a plan for an Indonesia National Sub-Project (CIFDP-I). The Council expressed its appreciation to those countries providing support for the implementation of Sub-Projects, including the Republic of Korea and the USA, and requested the Secretary-General to continue to explore and coordinate resource mobilization for further implementation of CIFDP projects. The Council further noted that other countries with similar coastal issues should benefit from the experience and developed procedure/technologies from the CIFDP National Projects.

4.1.(4)11 The Council recognized the improved concept and general framework of CIFDP, as detailed in the CIFDP Implementation Plan (JCOMM Technical Report No.64), and agreed that the revised framework would provide sound guidelines for those countries which plan to develop an integrated coastal inundation forecasting and warning system embedded in the national disaster management. Noting that even the most efficient warning system could leave a large potential for fatalities, and that the institutional collaboration would be the key to efficient warnings, the Council encouraged all Members concerned to consider developing and improving an integrated forecasting/warning system for coastal inundation by using the established framework and guidelines through CIFDP.

4.1.(4)12 The Council noted linkages with related programmes and projects with CIFDP, including the Storm Surge Watch Scheme (SSWS), Severe Weather Forecast Demonstration Project (SWFDP), eSurge project of the European Space Agency (ESA), the WMO Working Group on Societal and Economic Research Applications (WG-SERA), IOC Working Group on Tsunamis and Other hazards related to sea level Warning and mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG) and many others. The Council requested JCOMM and CHy, with support from the Secretary-General, to ensure continuing and close coordination with these activities, for synergies in strengthening national capacities under the respective subprojects.

4.1.(4)13 The Council noted with satisfaction the JCOMM contributions to the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) that the JCOMM leadership articulated in the 10th session of the JCOMM Management Committee. JCOMM expertise in ocean observations, ocean modelling, and ocean forecasting services is one of the foundational components that enable the GFCS. The Council further recognized that the JCOMM-led CIFDP efforts have demonstrated service provisions to coastal communities under the GFCS.

4.1.(4)14 The Council noted the establishment by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the UNESCO/IOC and the WMO, of a Joint Task Force to, *inter alia*, develop a roadmap that could lead to enabling the availability of submarine repeaters equipped with scientific sensors for disaster warning system (tsunamis), and the monitoring of some essential climate variables. The Council requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the work of the Joint Task Force and encouraged JCOMM to actively contribute by providing the corresponding technical advice and expertise.