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World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

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Our ref.: 21109/2018/RES/ARE

31 July 2018

Subject: WMO Antarctic Ozone Bulletins

Action required: To provide total and/or vertical profile ozone data in near-real time starting on **13 August 2018**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, each year, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) produces Antarctic Ozone Bulletins, which report on the development of the spring ozone depletion in the Antarctic. These bulletins use near-real-time reports of ozone data from the ground-based stations of the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) Programme supplemented by data from satellite operators. The data being used are provided by the GAW World Ozone and Ultraviolet Radiation (WOUDC) Data Centre with the cooperation and support of Environment and Climate Change Canada. Spatially distributed meteorological information and other meteorological data products are submitted daily to WMO by the European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), while UV analyses are provided by various national and international networks.

It is intended that, this year, bulletins will be issued at two-week intervals, beginning 30 August 2018, and would end when the ozone hole has dissipated. The bulletins will be available at <http://www.wmo.int/gaw/ozone>.

The leading role of WMO in the preparation and distribution of the Antarctic Ozone Bulletins was acknowledged by the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress, since it had greatly enhanced the visibility of WMO and its Members. These bulletins have strengthened the position of WMO, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and its Ozone Secretariat, as the authoritative body on issues related to stratospheric ozone within the United Nations system, and as the international coordinator of atmospheric sciences and systematic atmospheric observations.

In light of the above, I would be grateful if you could again consider submitting daily total column ozone data and any available ozone sounding data from GAW stations, in and near Antarctica, that are under your national supervision. The provision of these data should begin on **13 August 2018**, or as soon as possible thereafter, and continue until 31 December 2018, to ensure timely preparation of the Antarctic Ozone Bulletins. In addition to the delivery mechanism that you have used in the past, I would like to ask you to also submit your data daily to the Global Telecommunication System (GTS)/WMO Information System (WIS), following the procedures described in the GAW Report No. 193. This report is available as a downloadable PDF file at:

http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/arep/gaw/documents/FINAL_GAW_193.pdf

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (limited distribution)
Head of Data Services, European Centre for Medium-range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)

cc: Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Ref.: 21109/2018-15 RES-ARE

In the past few years (2012–2017) we have tested this new procedure but, as far as we can see, only a very limited amount of data was submitted through the GTS/WIS. I would, therefore, like to ask again that ozone data be submitted through the GTS/WIS in addition to the traditional method used in the past. The plan is that, in the long run, the WIS will be the sole channel of data exchange.


Mr Geir Braathen, Scientific Officer, Atmospheric Research and Environment Branch, Research Department (WMO), will prepare the Antarctic Ozone Bulletins in 2018. Accordingly, if you agree to submit near-real-time data for the bulletins, please contact Mr Braathen (gbraathen@wmo.int) and he will make arrangements for the electronic delivery of data. Should you have any technical questions or problems, please kindly let him know. I trust that you will give this request your favourable consideration.

For your information, in recent years, the following stations have contributed data: Argentina (Belgrano, San Martin, Marambio, Ushuaia), Australia (Davis, Macquarie Island), Canada (South Pole), Czech Republic (Marambio), China (Zhong Shan), Finland (Marambio), France (Dumont D'Urville, Dôme Concordia, Kerguelen Islands), Germany (Neumayer), Italy (Belgrano), Japan (Syowa), New Zealand (Arrival Heights), Russian Federation (Mirny, Novolazarevskaya, Vostok), Spain (Belgrano), Ukraine (Vernadsky), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Halley, Rothera), United States of America (South Pole) and Uruguay (Artigas). As in the past, providers of the data that are used will be acknowledged in the Bulletins. It should be noted that all submitted data will be identified as "provisional", and that the stations should follow up with submission of their final datasets to WOUDC, in Canada, as soon as they become available.

I would like to express my appreciation for your continued support in promoting the Programmes and activities of WMO.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Taalas', with a stylized flourish at the end.

 (P. Taalas)
Secretary-General