



Our ref.: 5553-16/RES/AER/OZO/ANT

GENEVA, 26 July 2016

Subject: WMO Antarctic Ozone Bulletins

Action required: To provide total and/or vertical profile ozone data in near-real-time starting **15 August 2016**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that each year, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) reports the development of the spring ozone depletion in the Antarctic using near-real-time reports of ozone data from the Global Atmosphere Watch (GAW) network of ground-based stations. These data have been supplemented by satellite data from satellite operators. Near-real-time overviews of the ground-based and satellite data are provided by the GAW World Ozone and Ultraviolet Data Centre through the cooperation and support of Environment Canada. Meteorological fields and other meteorological data products are submitted daily to WMO by the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts and the USA (NOAA and NASA), while UV analyses are provided by various national and international networks. Using all of these sources of information, Antarctic ozone bulletins are issued by WMO. These bulletins have been very helpful in providing to all WMO Members, to atmospheric scientists worldwide, to the international press and to the contributing stations, timely and accurate information on the seasonal ozone reduction over Antarctica.

It is intended that this year bulletins will again be issued at two-week intervals beginning 26 August 2016 and would end when the ozone hole has dissipated. The Bulletins will be available through the World Wide Web at <http://www.wmo.int/gaw/ozone>.

The leading role of WMO in the preparation and distribution of these bulletins was acknowledged by the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress, having greatly enhanced the image of WMO and its Members. These have helped position WMO, in partnership with 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.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of WMO (limited distribution)  
Head of Data Services, ECMWF

cc: Executive Director of UNEP (for information)

In light of the above, I shall be very grateful if you would 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. These data should begin on **15 August 2016**, or as soon thereafter as available, and continue until 31 December 2016, 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 GTS/WIS, following the procedures described in 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](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/arep/gaw/documents/FINAL_GAW_193.pdf)

The last four years (2012-2015) have been test years for this new procedure, but as far as we could 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. In the long run the plan is that the WIS will be the sole channel of data exchange.

Dr Geir Braathen, Scientific Officer, Atmospheric and Environment Research Division, Research Department of WMO, will prepare the Antarctic Ozone Bulletins during 2016. Accordingly, if you would agree to submit near-real-time data for the bulletins, please contact Dr Braathen ([gbraathen@wmo.int](mailto:gbraathen@wmo.int)) and he will make arrangements for the electronic delivery of data. Should you have any technical questions or problems that may arise, please kindly let him know. I trust that you will give this request your favourable consideration.

For your information during recent years, 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) have contributed data. 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 data sets to the WMO World Ozone and Ultraviolet Radiation Data Centre (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,



(E. Manaenkova)  
for the Secretary-General