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

WEATHER CLIMATE WATER
TEMPS CLIMAT EAU

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Ref.: 28944/2022-L61

Our ref.: 28944/2022/I 6 December 2022

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Establishment of a Data Acquisition Centre for marine meteorological and oceanographic climate data within the Marine Climate Data System and associated updates to the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), Appendix 1

Action required: Review the Draft Resolution to EC-76 in the annex and provide comments or objections to plenary@wmo.int before **27 February 2023**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You may recall that the Marine Climate Data System (MCDS) was established through Resolution 2 (EC-64) – Report of the fourth session of the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, Recommendation 2 (JCOMM-4) to formalize and coordinate the activities of existing meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) data collection systems. The MCDS addresses gaps and produces a dedicated WMO-IOC operational data system with a view to compiling coherent marine metocean climate data sets of known quality, extending beyond the Essential Climate Variables (ECVs).

The three tires of the MCDS; Centres for Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Climate Data (CMOCs), Global Data Assembly Centres (GDACs), and Data Acquisition Centres (DACs) are provided in the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471) Appendix 1.

The WMO received an application from the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory (LDL) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), University of California San Diego, USA requesting to operate as a DAC. The application from LDL was assessed following the process and criteria provided in the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), Chapter 9 and Appendix 1. The outcome of the evaluation and review by the application evaluation team recommended that the LDL be established and operated by the USA as an MCDS DAC for Drifting Buoys. This recommendation was re-reviewed and endorsed by the eleventh meeting of the INFCOM Management Group held in December 2021.

Due to an oversight, a recommendation with a draft resolution on the establishment of LDL as a drifting buoy DAC within MCDS to the seventy-sixth Executive Council (EC-76) was not included in the INFCOM-2 Agenda. Considering the importance of ocean observations provided from drifting buoys for Earth System Monitoring, the designation of this DAC cannot wait for the INFCOM-3 session. The president of INFCOM would like to approve the proposal of the INFCOM Management Group to provide a recommendation to EC-76 in this regard, on behalf of the INFCOM without a vote, according to General Regulation 59, (*Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)).

To: Members of INFCOM

INFCOM members are kindly requested to approve the draft resolution to EC-76 provided in the annex. Your comments or objections should be sent to plenary@wmo.int. If no objections are received by **27 February 2023,** the draft resolution will be considered as approved by INFCOM.

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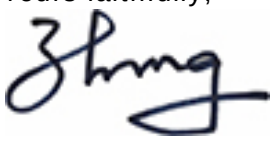
Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Introduction

The Marine Climate Data System (MCDS) was established through Resolution 2 (EC-64) – Report of the fourth session of the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, to formalize and coordinate the activities of existing data collection systems and to address gaps in order to produce a dedicated WMO-IOC operational data system with a view to compiling coherent marine meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) climate data sets of known quality, extending beyond the Essential Climate Variables (ECVs).

Centres for Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Climate Data (CMOCs), Global Data Assembly Centres (GDACs), and Data Acquisition Centres (DACs) are the three tiers of the MCDS. The terms of reference for MCDS Data Acquisition Centres (DACs) are provided in Appendix 1 of the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471).

The application received from the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory (LDL) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), University of California San Diego, USA to operate as a DAC was assessed following the process and criteria provided in the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), Chapter 9 and Appendix 1. The outcome of the evaluation and review by the team of experts independent from the applicant recommended that the centre be established and operated by the USA as an MCDS DAC for Drifting Buoys. This recommendation was re-reviewed and endorsed by INFCOM Management Group at their eleventh meeting held in December 2021.

Expected action

Based on the above, and following the General Regulation 59 section (*Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)) on vote by correspondence, INFCOM members are kindly requested to approve the draft resolution to EC-76. Your comments or objections should be sent to plenary@wmo.int. If no objections are received by **27 February 2023**, the draft resolution to EC-76 will be considered as approved by INFCOM.

Draft Resolution ##/1 (EC-76)

Establishment of a Data Acquisition Centre for marine meteorological and oceanographic climate data within the Marine Climate Data System and associated updates to the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), Appendix 1

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,

Recalling Resolution 2 (EC-64) – Report of the fourth session of the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, which approved Recommendation 2 (JCOMM-4) establishing the Marine Climate Data System (MCDS) to formalize and coordinate the activities of existing data collection systems and to address gaps in order to produce a dedicated WMO-IOC operational data system with a view to compiling coherent marine meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) climate data sets of known quality, extending beyond the Essential Climate Variables (ECVs),

Having examined Resolution 10 (EC-70) – Report of the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology at its fifth session, includes the list of established Data Acquisition Centres (DACs) in the Marine Climate Data System (MCDS),

Takes note that well formed MCDS enables establishment of a much-needed operational international path for acquisition and for sharing of relevant public access delayed-mode global marine meteorological and oceanographic data leveraging existing tested resources to generate information and products about marine meteorological conditions to a wide range of research and science applications in support of industry and national interests in the coastal and offshore regions,

Having considered the important contribution of DACs to the MCDS by providing routine and standardized collection of Real-Time (RT) and Delayed-Mode (DM) climatological data and metadata in support of global climate studies and the provision of a range of marine climatological services,

Takes note of the Application procedure and evaluation process for establishing a centre within the Marine Climate Data System provided in the *Guide to marine meteorological service* (WMO-No. 471),

Having considered the recommendation of INFCOM obtained following the General Regulation 59 (*Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), on the application from the Lagrangian Drifter Laboratory (LDL) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, USA to operate as a DAC for Drifting Buoys within the MCDS,

Approves:

(1) The nomination of LDL to operate as a DAC for drifting buoys within the MCDS subjected to parallel approval by the fifty-sixth session of the IOC Executive Council;

(2) Associated updates to the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471), Appendix 1, to include LDL in the List of established Data Acquisition Centres within the Marine Climate Data System.

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