

**WMO OMM**

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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26 May 2026

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Data Buoy Cooperation Panel Workshop on Ocean Observations and Data Applications for the Western Indian Ocean Region (DBCP-CD-2026), Toliara, Madagascar, 20–22 October 2026

Action required: To nominate participants from your service to attend the workshop, at your earliest convenience, **but not later than 1 July 2026**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may recall, the Joint WMO–IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) is an official body of WMO and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. It is also one of the 17 global ocean-observing networks, coordinated under the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) Observations Coordination Group (OCG). The DBCP focuses on the global coordination of drifting and moored buoys, ice buoys and tsunami buoys to provide critical data for weather and climate applications.

At its forty-first session (DBCP-41), held in virtual mode from 29 to 31 October 2025, the DBCP noted its ongoing success in regional training workshops conducted from 2016 to 2025 and endorsed support for organizing the **DBCP Workshop on Ocean Observations and Data Applications for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO)** this year. The workshop will be conducted in person from 20 to 22 October 2026, in Toliara, Madagascar, at the kind invitation of the Marine Sciences and Resources Institute (IHSM), Toliara University, Madagascar and WMO–IOC DBCP.

The goal of this workshop is to enhance the effectiveness and impact of ocean observing systems in the Western Indian Ocean by strengthening regional capacity, improving data use for forecasting and early warning, and supporting safer and more resilient coastal and maritime communities. The workshop will include both classroom and hands-on training to improve understanding of equipment operation, maintenance and data management. The themes will cover ocean observing technologies, data management, best practices, regional collaboration to improve observing capacities, and the role of ocean observations in operational services.

This workshop is primarily designed for marine meteorological and oceanographic (met-ocean) forecasters, ocean data managers, and observation instrument operators. The workshop will be conducted in English only, facilitated by trainers from a wide spectrum of the international ocean community. A copy of the workshop goals ([Annex I](#)) is attached for your information. Further details on the programme, local arrangements (for example, accommodation, visas), and other pertinent information will be posted on the following link in due course: <https://oceanexpert.org/event/5016>.

I kindly invite you to nominate potential trainee(s) using the attached Nomination/Registration Form ([Annex II](#)). This workshop presents an exceptional opportunity for participants to gain new skills in maintaining instruments and platforms and contribute significantly to major international programmes. Please note that a similar invitation for this event is being circulated by the IOC/UNESCO.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (countries with a coastline - limited distribution)

The workshop is open to applicants from the coastal nations; however, priority will be given to the Western Indian Ocean countries. Once all nominations are received, a selection committee will review the applications and select the most qualified experts with relevant experience in met-ocean forecasting or observations. The selection committee will finalize its decisions by early August 2026, and selected participants will be notified shortly thereafter.

Regarding insurance coverage for non-staff members, may I draw your attention to the following:

*Non-staff members of WMO who are authorized to travel at the Organization's expense and/or who are receiving a DSA from WMO must ensure they are fully responsible for expenses incurred in the event of death, illness or injury during official travel and attendance at meetings on behalf of the Organization. They are, therefore, fully responsible for arranging life, health, accident, as well as any other forms of insurance with an adequate level of coverage for the duration of such meetings and events.*

*WMO liability is limited to the performance of services or attendance at a meeting on behalf of the Organization, is covered by an injury and illness benefit insurance which provides a limited coverage for medical, emergency and supplementary official travel expenses.*

Please send your nominations, using the form in Annex 2, to the WMO Secretariat, attention Ms Champika Gallage (Scientific Officer, Marine) at ([cgallage@wmo.int](mailto:cgallage@wmo.int)), with a copy to Ms Li Jing (Programme Specialist, IOC/UNESCO) at ([ji.li@unesco.org](mailto:ji.li@unesco.org)), at your earliest convenience, **but not later than 1 July 2026**. Selected participants will be required to present valid passport (valid for at least six months beyond the travel date) details and obtain the necessary entry and/or transit visas in due course.

Finally, I look forward to the active participation of all attendees in this important and rewarding event. In your capacity as the Permanent Representative of your country with WMO, I encourage you to nominate experts from your Meteorological Service or other national institutions specialized in the relevant field.

Yours faithfully,



Ms Ko Barrett  
for the Secretary-General

## OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

1. **Demonstrating socioeconomic value:** Illustrate how integrated ocean observations enhance regional forecasting for weather, climate and ocean, while highlighting the economic and safety benefits for WIO coastal communities and maritime sectors
  2. **Advancing technical innovation and resilience:** Provide access to state-of-the-art ocean observation and disaster prevention technologies, focusing on practical, hands-on skill development for sensor deployment, data processing and early warning systems.
  3. **Strategic collaboration and network integration:** Identify critical observation gaps in the WIO region and explore the cooperative frameworks across GOOS networks (including DBCP, SOT, SMART Cables), as well as through targeted bilateral partnerships.
  4. **Standardizing excellence and data management.** Promote data sharing across borders, increase awareness and implementation of Ocean Best Practices, especially for ensuring rigorous quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC).
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**NOMINATION/REGISTRATION FORM****The Data Buoy Cooperation Panel Workshop on Ocean Observations and Data Applications for the Western Indian Ocean Region – 2026***Toliara, Madagascar, 20–22 October 2026**The Government of:* \_\_\_\_\_*proposes the following nomination:*

**NOTE TO THE NOMINATED PARTICIPANT:  
PLEASE COMPLETE ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THIS FORM. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY,  
AND SUBMIT IT, PREFERABLY, IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

<b>A. PERSONAL</b>		
Mr/Ms/Dr	Mr / Ms	Dr/Professor/Eng
Family name		
First name		
Job title		
Professional specialization		
Graduation degree(s)		
Organization		
ADDRESS:		
Dept/Div.		
Street		
Suite/Office		
City/Postal code		
State/Province		
Country		
Tel. number(s)		
Email(s) - <b>PLEASE WRITE YOUR EMAIL(S) VERY CLEARLY</b>		
Email (1)		
Email (2)		
Current job responsibilities:		

**Do you require financial assistance to attend this workshop: (please check one)**

- No**  
 **Yes; If Yes, for (please check all that apply):**  
 **Travel**  
 **Per diem**

**B. QUESTIONS TO THE EXPERTS NOMINATED FOR THE TRAINING WORKSHOP**

1. Give details of working experience (both in technical operation and management related experiences)

Name of organization	Starting and end date	Brief description of role and responsibilities	Reason for leaving

2. Write a brief statement setting out clearly why you are interested in attending this workshop and how you intend to use the skills from this training


3. What is your level of expertise/experience in oceanography and ocean observation (such as instrumentation, data management, and so forth)? (please check one)  
 **No experience**     **Basic**     **Intermediate**     **Advanced**

4. Please indicate:

- (i) The gaps and needs for ocean forecasting and/or operational service delivery in your country, the Indian Ocean region and surroundings;
- (ii) The existing programmes and plans of initialization/maintenance/utilizing ocean observing systems in the Indian Ocean region;
- (iii) The existing and planned collaboration and cooperation initiatives that align with international implementation of ocean observing programmes (for instance, through the provision of instrument deployment opportunities, capacity development, and so forth).

*N.B.: Please use a separate sheet to provide a brief description on this question.*

5.	Which topics would you prefer the training workshop to focus on, especially to help you address your plans in No. 4? (you can select up to three topics) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Ocean observations and observing technologies (including the instruments)</li><li>o Ocean data and metadata collection, management and delivery (including QA/QC)</li><li>o Ocean data utilization and application (that is, weather and marine forecasting, sea-level rise prediction, and so forth)</li><li>o Regional and global collaboration and cooperation</li><li>o Other related topics, please list..... .....</li></ul>
6.	Did you participate in any other DBCP capacity building workshops? (please select one)  <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; If Yes, please mention which event(s) you have attended: ..... .....

<b>PLEASE NOTE, ONLY NOMINATION/REGISTRATION FORMS SIGNED BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE (PR) OF YOUR COUNTRY WITH WMO OR THE IOC ACTION ADDRESSEE(S) OF YOUR COUNTRY WILL BE CONSIDERED</b>
Name of PR with WMO or IOC Action Addressee:

Name of the Permanent Representative with WMO or IOC Action Addressee

Date:

(Signature of the Permanent Representative with WMO or IOC Action Addressee)

Please return the completed form **before 1 July 2026** preferably by email, to Ms Champika Gallage, ([cgallage@wmo.int](mailto:cgallage@wmo.int)) and cc Ms Li Jing ([ji.li@unesco.org](mailto:ji.li@unesco.org)) and/or by surface mail to the WMO Secretariat at:

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