



WMO OMM

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

Secrétariat

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300
CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse
Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11
Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81
wmo@wmo.int – public.wmo.int

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29 June 2017

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Publication of gridded climate monitoring products by the UK Met Office

Dear Sir/Madam,

Kindly find attached a letter from Mr Robert Varley, Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom with WMO and Chief Executive of the UK Met Office, concerning the Met Office's plan to publish their gridded climate monitoring products under an 'open' license on 31 July 2017.

The attached letter is for your information and consideration as Permanent Representatives of your country with WMO.

Yours faithfully,

(P. Taalas)
Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives



Rob Varley
Chief Executive
Direct tel: +44(0)1392 884610
e-mail: rob.varley@metoffice.gov.uk

31 May 2017

Ref: WMO/11/08/Gridded products

Dear Permanent Representative to the WMO

I am writing to inform you of the Met Office's plan to publish our gridded climate monitoring products under an 'open' licence on 31 July 2017. We believe that there is high value to all in making our products available under an 'open' licence, enabling NMSs and Governments to use the gridded data for any purpose. For example, the data may be useful in producing climate adaptation and resilience strategy for sectors that are essential to society such as energy or transport. In many cases, reports of this nature are considered commercial and therefore in breach of any non-open use policy.

Our climate monitoring products use data that are freely transmitted over the GTS and from historical agreements of data sharing. These data have been processed to create gridded products such that it is not possible to retrieve any of the raw station data from our products. Thus, there is no conflict with your own holdings of the original station series. To create Met Office gridded monitoring products (e.g. HadCRUT4 monthly mean surface temperature, HadISDH monthly mean surface humidity), the data used have been quality controlled, averaged with other stations, averaged to monthly resolution and in many cases converted to anomalies from a 30 year reference period.

The data used in our products constitute both 'essential' and 'additional' data under the WMO Resolution 40 Annex 1 description. The Met Office plans to use the UK's Open Government Licence, a national standard document, for this purpose which clearly states the use policy. The licence can be found here:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3>

I hope you will support this change of use policy, given the high value of the products to all parties and the lack of conflict with your own raw station data holdings. If you do have any further questions or objections, please contact Robert Dunn, robert.dunn@metoffice.gov.uk prior to 20 July 2017.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Varley".

Rob Varley DSc CDir CMet