



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

Our ref.: 40003/2017/OBS/OSD/AIR

21 November 2017

Subject: Short questionnaire of Members on possible future changes to WMO regulations on the operation and observing schedule of upper-air radiosonde networks

Action required: Provide a response to the questionnaire as soon as possible and no later than **8 December 2017**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You may be aware that, at its sixty-ninth session, the WMO Executive Council (EC-69) approved Decision 25 — Study to be undertaken to analyse options for optimization of the Upper-air Observations Programme of the Global Observing System (GOS). This decision endorses a corresponding Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) decision to direct its Expert Team on Surface Based Observations (ET-SBO) to coordinate an activity associated with action G10 of the Implementation Plan for the Evolution of Global Observing Systems (EGOS-IP¹). Action G10 calls for Members to “Investigate the possibility to optimize the radiosonde network of the GOS in order to make the upper-air conventional observation coverage more uniform, taking into account all the user requirements in terms of space and time distribution; and make relevant recommendations to the CBS for updating Technical Regulations accordingly”.

As an important component of this study, the ET-SBO is undertaking a short questionnaire that requests WMO Members to provide feedback on the current operational status and reporting frequency of their radiosonde networks and also on their initial views, ideas and preferences in relation to possible changes to WMO regulations and guidance associated with this aspect of observing networks. The results of this questionnaire will be used to guide and support the aims of the study.

It is, therefore, preferable that the questionnaire is responded to by a high-level observing systems manager or similar, in consultation with national and organizational upper-air data users and stakeholders.

It is expected that the questionnaire should take only around 10 to 15 minutes to complete, although some preliminary research and consultation within the organization may be required to be undertaken by the respondent so as to provide a well-informed response.

¹ See: <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/OSY/gos-vision.html#egos-ip>

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

The questionnaire will be provided in English only and is to be responded to online at the following internet address:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cbs-radiosonde-questionnaire>

I would, therefore, be grateful if you would give high priority to providing a response to this questionnaire as soon as possible and no later than **8 December 2017**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in promoting the Programmes and activities of WMO.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zhang', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

(W. Zhang)
for the Secretary-General