



Our ref.: 22969/2018/OBS/OSD/IMO/ISO-19926-1

30 August 2018

Subject: Draft text of the common WMO/ISO standard on Weather radars –
Part 1: System performance and operation

Actions required: To review and provide the WMO Secretariat with your feedback on the
proposed draft text of the common WMO/ISO standard, and its inclusion in
the *Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation*
(CIMO Guide), **not later than 30 September 2018**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Agreement on Working Arrangements between the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) enables the development and publication of common WMO/ISO standards.

I am pleased to inform you that a draft new common WMO/ISO standard on Weather radars – Part 1: System performance and operation, is now available for your review. The draft text was developed by the ISO Technical Committee (TC) 146, Air quality, Subcommittee (SC) 5, Meteorology, in a close collaboration with the experts of the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation (CIMO). It has also been reviewed by the CIMO Management Group. Their feedback during the standard development and review process have been taken into consideration. The CIMO Inter-Programme Expert Team on Operational Weather Radars and the CIMO Management Group support the publication of the proposed standard.

This document describes system performance of ground-based weather radar systems measuring the atmosphere using frequencies between 2 GHz and 10 GHz. These systems are suitable for area-wide detection of precipitation and other meteorological targets at different altitudes. This document also describes ways to verify the different aspects of system performance including infrastructure. This document is limited to linear polarisation parabolic radar systems, dual polarisation and single polarisation radars.

Following the Agreement on working arrangements between WMO and ISO, the resulting common standards will be published by ISO as ISO 19926-1:2018(E) international standard, and by WMO as an annex to the Part II, Chapter 7 of the *Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation* (WMO-No. 8) (CIMO Guide). These two separate documents will have identical content.

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives
Presidents and vice-presidents of technical commissions
Presidents of regional associations
Executive Secretary, HMEI

Please note that in the context of the Working Arrangements between WMO and ISO, the word "standard" is meant as defined by ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004¹. In this context, an ISO standard is a document describing a procedure to be followed, and does not have the meaning of a WMO standard practice that requires Members to implement it. ISO standards are voluntary, as long as they are not stated in regulatory documents, such as the WMO Technical Regulations and Manuals. The standard mentioned above is intended to be published in the CIMO Guide only and consequently has the status of a practice/procedure that Members are invited to follow.

As common standards shall not be published until WMO and ISO have both provided their approval, I kindly invite you to review and provide your feedback on the draft text to the WMO Secretariat, for attention of Dr Isabelle Rüedi (H/IMO), preferably by e-mail: iruedi@wmo.int, at your earliest convenience but not later than **30 September 2018**. In your response please indicate whether you have no objection, or whether you are providing comments that could be addressed in the next edition of the standard, or you are making an objection to its publication. In case of comments or objection, please provide a clear explanation of your concerns and proposed changes.

The draft text is available, in English only, on the WMO website at: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/IMOP/ISO/Std_Radar_Part1_For_Members_Review.pdf.

The draft standard will be submitted for approval to the seventeenth session of the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observation that will be held from 12 to 16 October 2018, in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

I trust that the proposed document will provide, as a part of the CIMO Guide, practices, procedures and specifications to help you, as Members, in further strengthening of your services.

I wish to thank you for your valued contribution to WMO and its activities.

Yours faithfully,



(W. Zhang)

for the Secretary-General

¹ According to ISO/IEC Guide 2:2004 a standard is a document, established by consensus and approved by a recognized body, that provides, for common and repeated use, rules, guidelines or characteristics for activities or their results, aimed at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given context.

NOTE: Standards should be based on the consolidated results of science, technology and experience, and aimed at the promotion of optimum community benefits.