



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.: 01615/2020/I/ONM/MQC/WMO-No. 8

5 February 2020

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Preliminary 2020 edition of the *Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation* (WMO-No. 8), Volume III and Volume IV

Action required: To review the Preliminary 2020 edition and send your comments to the WMO Secretariat by **27 February 2020**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to the upcoming Joint Session of WMO Technical Commissions, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 4 to 8 April 2020. On this occasion, the session will receive and review a report on the status of the *Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation* (WMO-No. 8) and plans for its update; and will be invited to approve the Provisional 2020 edition of its volumes III and IV.

Since its first publication in 1950, the Guide WMO-No. 8 has been recognized as the main source of information used by Members to standardize instrument performances and ensure the quality of observations. Being a part of the standards under the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) framework, the Guide WMO-No. 8 is being constantly reviewed and regularly updated, as requested by the World Meteorological Congress.

The Guide's new structure comprising five volumes, that was introduced in 2018, enables more frequent updates of each volume independently. In this regard, satellite and marine experts have worked closely in collaboration with the Editorial Board over the last two years and developed the Preliminary 2020 Edition of WMO-No. 8.

This Preliminary edition includes new updates of the complete Volume IV and Chapter 4 of Volume III. The Preliminary edition is posted on the WMO/IMOP website, under the heading "WMO-No. 8 - Preliminary 2020 Edition", at <https://community.wmo.int/activity-areas/imop>, for consideration by Members. An overview of the proposed updates is provided in [Annex I](#) to this letter.

I should be grateful if you could examine the text of the Preliminary edition and send your detailed comments or suggestions to the WMO Secretariat at your earliest convenience, but not later than **27 February 2020**, using the template provided in [Annex II](#).

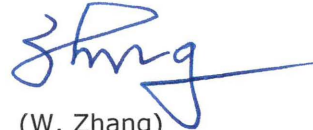
To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives
 Presidents and Vice-presidents of Regional Associations
 President and Vice-president(s) of INFCOM, CIMO, CBS; and Co-presidents of JCOMM
 Members of the CIMO Management Group; and Chairs of CIMO Expert Teams
 Executive Secretary, Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry
 Members of the CIMO Editorial Board

Your valuable feedback will be considered for development of the Provisional 2020 Edition that will be submitted to the Joint Session of WMO Technical Commissions for approval. Should you have concerns with specific chapters, please nominate an appropriate contact person whom these concerns could be discussed with, before the defined deadline.

I wish to take the opportunity to convey to you and your service, my appreciation for your continued contribution to the activities of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System and the Instruments and Methods of Observation Programme, in particular.

Yours faithfully,

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

(W. Zhang)
for the Secretary-General

**TABLE OF DRAFT CHANGES TO WMO-No. 8
(2020 EDITION VS 2018 EDITION)**

Ref.: 01615/2020-15 OBS-WIGOS/OSD

CHAPTER	TITLE	SIZE OF THE UPDATE*
VOLUME III	OBSERVING SYSTEMS	
4	Marine observations	Minor

VOLUME IV	SPACE-BASED OBSERVATIONS	
1	Introduction	Major
2	Principles of Earth observation from space	Partial
3	Remote-sensing instruments	Partial
4	Satellite programmes	Partial
5	Space-based observation of geophysical variables	Major
6	Calibration and validation	Partial
7	Cross-cutting issues	Partial

*Note: **Minor** indicates that only small changes were made to the chapter; **Partial** indicates that substantial changes were made to some sections of the chapter; **Major** indicates that substantial changes were made to the entire chapter.

Template for Members' comments on the:
Preliminary 2020 edition of the *Guide to Instruments and Methods of Observation* (WMO-No. 8)

WMO Member: Date:
Contact person: (name and email address)

Ref: 01615/2020-15 OBS-WIGOS/OSD

Volume / Chapter (e.g. V_IV/Ch_1)	Document ¹ / Page number (e.g. tc/P17)	Section / Paragraph / Figure/Table (e.g. Table 1)	Type of comment ² (e.g. te)	Proposed change (please, expand cell height as needed)	Comment (explain/identify required change) (please, expand cell height as needed)	Remarks Please leave empty

¹ Please specify which document you refer to: tc = track-change version, clean = clean version without tracked changes

² Type of comment: te = technical, ed = editorial