

**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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Ref.: 14187/2023-17/ESM

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10 July 2023

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Seventh Port Meteorological Officers (PMO-7) workshop in Nadi, Fiji, from 31 October to 2 November 2023

Action required: Provide nominations of participants to the POM-7 workshop to the WMO Secretariat by **15 August 2023**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that as part of the activities of the Ship Observations Team (SOT) of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), the international network of Port Meteorological Officers (PMO) provides a way to ensure that standard procedures proposed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) are followed throughout the whole Voluntary Observing Ship (VOS) fleet in every country and that the data produced are homogenous and comply with WMO standards. PMOs also provide marine meteorological services, or information on such services, to shipping companies and port authorities.

At its twelfth session, in Melbourne, Australia, in May 2023, the SOT reinforced the view that the work of PMOs was crucial for the VOS Panel. A seventh PMO workshop will therefore be held in Nadi, Fiji, from 31 October to 2 November 2023 with the kind invitation from the Pacific Community (SPC). The primary focus of the workshop is to help build capability in the Pacific region by developing new VOS programmes in the South Pacific region. [Annex I](#) provides background, rationale and major aims of the workshop.

At the nineteenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19), Members requested to integrate ocean observations in the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON). PMOs will play a role in implementing this. As a Member interested in GOOS activities, you are invited to nominate one or more participants to attend this workshop using the Nomination/Registration Form provided in [Annex II](#). The workshop will be conducted in English only. General information about the workshop, the programme, and local information, including accommodation, will be made available in due course through the following document repository: <https://goosocean.org/pmo-7>.

[Regulation 31](#) of the WMO General Regulations (*Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)) states that: "Expenses of attendance of members of subsidiary bodies of constituent bodies at sessions of these bodies shall normally be borne by the Members or the international organization to which those members belong". I thus very much hope that you will be able to arrange funding for the attendance of your representative from national sources. If, however, this would not be possible, WMO and SPC will then consider, upon request, the possibility of providing some funding support for a limited number of the nominated participants from developing countries in the form of a lump sum to cover travel costs (lowest airfare available locally) and/or a subsistence allowance.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers
SOT Chair Dr. Huai-min Zhang (huai-min.zhang@noaa.gov)
VOS (acting) Chair : Mr Joel Cabrie (joel.cabrie@bom.gov.au)

A selection committee will be set up with a view of selecting the most suitable participants from all the nominations received, with the aim of developing new VOS programmes in the South Pacific. The selection committee will deliberate by early October 2023 and will inform the selected attendees accordingly.

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.

I would appreciate it if you would provide nominations of participants from your country/territory to attend the workshop by completing the Nomination/Registration Form, provided in [Annex II](#) (one form for each nominated participant), indicating whether any financial assistance will be required for travel and/or per diem. Nominations should be sent to the WMO Secretariat (cgallage@wmo.int) as soon as possible and not later than **15 August 2023**.

We look forward to your favourable response and to your active participation in GOOS activities, and, in particular the SOT.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General

**Seventh Workshop of Port Meteorological Officers (PMO-7)
(Nadi, Fiji, 31 October –2 November 2023)**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ref.: 14187/2023-17/ESM

WMO maintains an international network of Port Meteorological Officers (PMO) as a liaison between National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) and the Maritime Industry on weather and related maritime safety issues and to recruit vessels for the Voluntary Observing Ship Scheme (VOS).

The role of PMOs is very important, and the efficiency of the voluntary system of ships' observations often depends on the initiative these officers display. For example, PMOs play a vital role in the day-to-day operations of the VOS Scheme at the national level through:

- (i) Ship recruitment;
- (ii) Training provided to marine observers on VOS;
- (iii) Checking and calibrating the instruments;
- (iv) Collecting metadata and delayed mode data (e.g. from e-logbooks);
- (v) Advising or assisting in meteorological matters upon request by the master of any ship;
- (vi) Providing feedback to the master of the ship on data quality and use.

WMO regularly organizes PMO workshops to ensure the standard procedures proposed by WMO are followed throughout the whole VOS fleet in every country, and the data produced are homogenous and comply with WMO standards.

Major aims for the seventh PMO workshop will be to train and recruit PMOs from the Pacific Island nations and expand the VOS programme in the region. The workshop also will convey important recent developments (e.g. regarding WIGOS metadata requirements, standards and best practices), to promote global standards of service for the VOS Scheme, as well as to provide information on the state-of-the-art marine meteorological services provided by NMHSs that are relevant to PMOs.

The workshop will provide the opportunity to develop capability and form relationships in a role, which relies heavily on international cooperation and is becoming more complex and requiring new skills such as computer and IT-related skills, deploying drifters and floats, using e-logbooks, retrieving delayed mode data, installing automatic weather stations and providing information on marine meteorological services to shipping companies and port authorities.

There is a demand from developing countries to implement programmes for ocean observation. Programmes relying on ships-of-opportunity are quite cost-effective and can realistically be supported by those countries. The training provided at the workshop will assist those countries in this regard. In addition, developing countries also have research vessels that can be used for the deployment and servicing of ocean instruments, including tropical moorings. The workshop will be an opportunity to build partnerships between developed countries that contribute expertise on ocean observing programme management and data use and developing countries that have valuable ship logistical resources.

**Seventh Workshop of Port Meteorological Officers (PMO-7)
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NOMINATION / REGISTRATION FORM

The Government of _____ proposes the nomination of the following person to participate in the Training Workshop.

Family name		Dr/Mr/Ms
First name		
Date of birth		
Job title		
Address		
Tel. Number(s)		
Email(s)		
Job responsibilities:		
Are support services provided for:	<input type="checkbox"/> VOS and ship recruitment	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean observing programme support	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Marine services	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Maritime Safety Information	
WMO financial assistance is requested for:	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Per diem	

QUESTIONS TO THE EXPERT NOMINATED FOR THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

1. What do you expect from this workshop?

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2. In your view, what would make the workshop successful?

3. Does your organization plan to develop a national VOS programme?
Yes / No

4. Other comments or remarks

Please note, only Nomination/Registration Forms, signed by the Permanent Representative (PR) of your country with WMO or the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) action addressee(s) of your country, will be considered.

Name of the PR with WMO or IOC Action Addressee:

Date:

(Signature of the PR with WMO
or IOC Action Addressee)

Please return the completed form **before 15 Aug 2023**, preferably by email to the attention of Ms Champika Gallage, cgallage@wmo.int and/or to the WMO Secretariat, at:

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