



Our ref.: 06735/2018/OBS/OSD/AMDAR-TF

22 March 2018

Subject: 2018 Contribution to the AMDAR Panel Trust Fund

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that the Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay (AMDAR) observing system is now a fully operational component of the Global Observing System of the WMO World Weather Watch Programme. Two WMO expert teams have WMO programmatic responsibility for ongoing maintenance and development of AMDAR, namely the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) Expert Team on Aircraft-Based Observing Systems (ET-ABO) and the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observations (CIMO) Expert Team on Aircraft-based Observations (ET-AO), together referred to as the Aircraft-Based Observations Programme (ABOP). These teams and their work programmes and activities continue to be supported by the AMDAR Trust Fund under agreed and approved Terms of Reference¹.

The ABOP teams have developed a comprehensive strategy, work plan and budget² that are based on the actions relevant to aircraft-based observations and AMDAR from the CBS Implementation Plan for Evolution of the Global Observing System (GOS)³.

A major development within the programme is the move to establish a collaborative arrangement between WMO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) on the future operation of the AMDAR programme. This has been initiated based on a Working Arrangement between the two organizations established in July 2017 following a decision by the WMO Executive Council (EC-69) and is expected to facilitate greater cooperation from the aviation industry in the future expansion and enhancement of the AMDAR observing system.

Over 2017, the ABOP coordinated and completed work towards the following activities and outcomes:

- (a) Developed the first draft of the WMO-IATA Collaboration on the AMDAR Programme Proposed Concept of Operations;
- (b) Conducted two regional workshops on AMDAR, the first in Jakarta, Indonesia (May 2017), and the second in Budapest, Hungary (December 2017);
- (c) Oversaw the production of new guidance on the Utilization of AMDAR Data Benefits to the Environment and Society;

¹ See: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/GOS/ABO/documents/AMDAR_TF_ToR_Jan2013_Approved.pdf

² See: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/GOS/ABO/ABO_Work_Program.html

³ See WIGOS Technical Report 2013-4, Implementation Plan for the Evolution of Global Observing Systems (EGOS-IP): https://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/wigos/technical_reports.html

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

cc: President of CBS
President of CIMO
Chairperson CBS/ET-ABO
Chairperson CIMO/ET-AO

- (d) Continued with the development and implementation of Aircraft-Based Observations Regional Implementation Plans in collaboration with WMO Regional Associations;
- (e) Finalized publication of the new Guide to Aircraft-Based Observations (WMO-No. 1200);
- (f) Established a pilot project to derive aircraft-based observations over the Southwest Pacific and the Caribbean; and
- (g) Worked with the Network of European Meteorological Services (EUMETNET)/ E-AMDAR to provide supplementary AMDAR data over Africa.

Contribution to the AMDAR Trust Fund

In line with Resolution 22 (Cg-17), you are invited to make a contribution to the AMDAR Trust Fund in 2018 to support technical developments and capacity-building related to AMDAR, in particular for the following very important ongoing activities associated with the Aircraft-Based Observations Programme:

- (a) Consultancy for further development and technical coordination leading to the establishment of the WMO-IATA collaborative AMDAR programme;
- (b) Consultancy for technical coordination and project management for AMDAR global expansion and enhancement;
- (c) AMDAR communication costs in support of international AMDAR data provision over upper air data sparse areas, including Africa and the tropics;
- (d) Attendance at aviation standards forums and other meetings; and
- (e) Holding of technical workshops, seminars and meetings supporting national and regional AMDAR development.

Alternatively, you may wish to consider providing support for specific ongoing activities in the Aircraft-Based Observations work programme.

I would be most grateful for an indication of whether your country will contribute to the AMDAR Trust Fund for the period 2018 in support of Aircraft-Based Observations Programme activities and the related projects and initiatives. In the affirmative, an early indication of the amount that you may be able to contribute to the AMDAR Trust Fund or other support that you are prepared to offer, would also be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General