

**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

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Subject: The International Cloud Atlas translated into official WMO languages
Action required: Disseminate this information to relevant services and organizations within your country

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to inform you that the *International Cloud Atlas - Manual on the Observation of Clouds and Other Meteors* (WMO-No. 407) was updated and made available as the first web-based WMO publication in 2017, in English only. The launch of this web portal was a success and it is still one of the most consulted parts of the WMO website.

Many Members have inquired about the possibility of translating the web portal to enable them to make best use of the information provided in it. I am pleased to inform you that the Atlas is now available in all of the WMO official languages and accessible from the following weblinks:

Arabic - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/ar/home.html>,
Chinese - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/zh-hans/home.html>,
English - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/en/home.html>,
French - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/fr/home.html>,
Russian - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/ru/home.html>, and
Spanish - <https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/es/home.html>.

The International Cloud Atlas is the world's reference for the identification and classification of clouds and other meteorological phenomena. Its use by WMO Members ensures consistency in reporting relevant cloud and phenomena observations throughout the world. The web-based portal contains hundreds of images of clouds and phenomena like rainbows, halos, snow devils and hailstones submitted by meteorologists, photographers and cloud lovers from around the globe. Many images are accompanied by supplementary information, such as thermodynamic soundings, synoptic charts, satellite images and more. In addition to serving as the world's reference, the web portal is also an essential training tool for professionals working in meteorological services and is very popular among cloud enthusiasts.

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

I would like to especially acknowledge the support of the Hong Kong Observatory by hosting the web portal, and that of MétéoSuisse for providing financial support for the translation, which enabled us to accomplish this major project.

I would like to invite you to widely distribute this information within your Services, as well as to other services, organizations and academia in your country.

Yours faithfully,



(W. Zhang)

for the Secretary-General