

**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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20 April 2021

Subject: Amendments to the WMO *Technical Regulations, Volume I - General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices* (WMO-No. 49) Part I, and Annex VIII, *Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160)

Action required: To provide the WMO Secretariat with your feedback on the draft documents by **7 June 2021**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following the decision of the Eighteenth World Meteorological Congress in 2019 to proceed with the transition of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System to its operational status commencing in 2020, and in accordance with [Resolution 34 \(Cg-18\)](#) – Global Basic Observing Network, the amendments to the WMO *Technical Regulations, Volume I - General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices* (WMO-No. 49) Part I – WIGOS, and the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160) were developed by the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems. All changes made in these drafts are summarized in the Revision Table of the documents.

The drafting of this new edition of the *Manual on WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160) is a result of a collaborative effort involving many experts, national focal points and the Secretariat Staff, and this marks a very important milestone on our way towards the operational status of WIGOS.

The First session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems, Part III (INFCOM-1(III)), was held from 12 to 16 April 2021, recommended to the Executive Council and Congress to adopt the draft amendments to the WMO *Technical Regulations, Volume I - General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices* (WMO-No. 49), Part I - WIGOS, and the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160), as provided in the document [INFCOM-1\(III\)-d05-1-1\(3\)-WIGOS-TECHREG-approved_en.docx](#).

I am pleased to inform you that these draft amendments are now available for your review. They may be accessed at the <https://community.wmo.int/key-pubs> or at the links provided above.

The review process is in accordance with the General Provisions of the *Technical Regulations* that any amendments to the *Technical Regulations* submitted by Members or by constituent bodies should be communicated to all Members at least three months before they are submitted to the constituent body session. Please, accept our sincere apologies that the review process is announced with such short notice, but this is due to a limited time available between the session of the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems and the session of the Executive Council, 14 - 25 June 2021.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

You are kindly invited to provide your comments or edits (as track changes in the document) to the WMO Secretariat: Dr Anthony Rea, Director, Infrastructure Department (area@wmo.int), with a copy to Mr Etienne Charpentier, Head, Observing Networks and Measurement Division (echarpentier@wmo.int) and Dr Igor Zahumensky, Scientific Officer (izahumensky@wmo.int) at your earliest convenience, but not later than **7 June 2021**. This timeline will allow the documents to be updated and submitted (as DRAFT 2) for the EC-73 session in June 2021.

Noting the size and technical content of the documents, you will need to call on relevant experts in your country to assist you in the review. Before your nominated experts start the review, they are strongly encouraged to make themselves familiar with the Introduction to the Manual that explains its purpose and scope, and with the General Provisions that provide explanatory material on the overall architecture and purpose of the Technical Regulations and explanation of types of Regulations.

I would like to thank you for your important contribution to this review. Should you or your experts require additional information or clarification about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the WMO Secretariat contacts listed above.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General