

**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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8 June 2021

Subject: Eleventh session of the Ship Observations Team (SOT-11) (virtual),
13–16 September 2021

Action required: To inform the WMO Secretariat of representatives participating in SOT-11
(virtual) session, as soon as possible, but not later than **15 July 2021**.

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, the Ship Observations Team (SOT) was created to build on synergies between the three groups involved in coordinating global ship-based observing programmes, i.e. the Voluntary Observing Ship (VOS) Scheme, the Ship-of-Opportunity Programme (SOOP), and the Automated Shipboard Aerological Programme (ASAP), with a view to working towards a full-integration of ship-based observing systems on commercial and research vessels, within a multi-platform global ocean observing system.

Membership of the Team is open, and comprises operators of VOS, SOOP and ASAP networks, as well as representatives from other groups using ships as observing platforms. It also includes representatives from: monitoring centres; data management centres; telecommunication providers; manufacturers; scientific advisory bodies; and data users.

On behalf of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, I have the pleasure to inform you that the eleventh session of the Ship Observations Team (SOT-11) will be held as a virtual session from 13 to 16 September 2021.

The SOT-11 will take the format of a 3-hour session each day, from 0900 to 1200 UTC during 13–16 September 2021 using the Microsoft Teams meeting platform. Meeting information will be posted on the meeting website at www.goosoocean.org/SOT-11 as it becomes available. SOT-11 will consist of a national reports session, partner/industry presentations, data/metadata status, standards and best practices, capacity development and a breakout session for the SOOP Implementation Panel (SOOPIP) and ASAP implementation discussion. The session will be conducted in English.

I have the pleasure to invite you to designate representatives to attend the SOT-11 session. To take advantage of this virtual session, you can nominate more than one representative from your country/organization to attend. Please let us know the name of the

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Dr Vladimir Ryabinin, Executive Secretary, IOC/UNESCO
Ms Estelle Grueter, Chairperson, Standing Committee on Earth Observing Systems and Monitoring Networks (SC-ON)/INFCOM
Dr David Legler, Chairperson, OCG/GOOS
Mr Darin Figskey, Chairperson, SOT
Mr Henry Kleta, Chairperson, VOS Panel
Dr Rebecca Cowley, Chairperson, SOOPIP

leading delegate of the Member county/territory. I kindly request you to send us this information before **15 July 2021**. I further request designated representatives to self-register for the session through www.goosocean.org/SOT-11. If required, please contact Ms Champika Gallage, Scientific Officer, Earth System Monitoring Division, Infrastructure Department (cgallage@wmo.int) at the WMO Secretariat for further information or assistance.

I wish to thank you for your continued support to the WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang
for the Secretary-General