



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: 11663-12/OBS/WIGOS/OSD/DBCP

GENEVA, 7 September 2012

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Buoy Deployment Plans in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans, and Logistical Arrangements, in Regional Association I

Action required: To inform the DBCP about such plans, and potential contribution in terms of logistical arrangements

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you will recall, the Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) – established in 1985 – is a subsidiary body of the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM). The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO jointly sponsor JCOMM with a view to undertake international/intergovernmental coordination of marine observational networks for which both organizations are mandated. In particular, in accordance with the WMO and IOC Strategic planning, the DBCP addresses the requirements and needs for real-time and delayed mode data from buoys, both drifting and moored, coordinates buoy deployments worldwide, as well as maintenance and collection of data from instrumented oceanographic and meteorological drifting buoys and moored buoys on the high seas.

As part of the JCOMM Observations Programme Area (OPA) Implementation Goals, the DBCP aims are: (i) to sustain global coverage (each 5x5 degree region outside the near-equatorial band) of the drifting buoy array (total array of 1250 drifting buoys equipped with ocean temperature sensors), and obtain global coverage of atmospheric pressure sensors on the drifting buoys; and (ii) to complete implementation of and sustain the Tropical Moored Buoy network of 125 moorings in the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans. References to materials on the DBCP activities are provided in the Annex.

To: Members of Regional Association I (limited distribution)

cc: Dr Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary, IOC)
Mr Al Wallace, DBCP Chair) (for information)
Ms Kelly Stroker, Technical Coordinator, DBCP)

Following the PANGEA⁽¹⁾ concept, the Panel is also undertaking capacity building activities with the aim to build partnerships with developing countries. A series of successful training courses have so far been organized for countries of the Western Indian Ocean region (2010 in South Africa, 2011 in Mauritius, and 2012 in Kenya). The same type of training could be organized in other areas, as the need and interest arises.

To assist achieving its objectives, the Panel, at its Twenty-seventh Session (Geneva, Switzerland, 26-30 September 2011), requested the Secretariat to approach selected Members of Regional Association I to: (i) collect information on their data buoy deployment plans; and (ii) identify any opportunities they could offer to assist other Members/Member States to deploy drifting buoys, and/or moored buoys in the Atlantic and Indian oceans (e.g. deployment opportunities by ship or by air, logistical facilities such as storage rooms, contact points in ports, etc.).

In view of the above, I kindly invite you to consult nationally with the relevant agencies, and provide feedback directly to the Technical Coordinator of the DBCP, Mrs Kelly Stroker, whose contact details are provided in the Annex.

On behalf of the IOC and WMO, I wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to your country for its contribution to the WMO activities. Finally, I look forward to a continued and prosperous collaboration in the marine meteorological and oceanographic observations activities.

Yours faithfully,



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General

(1) The Partnership for New GEOSS Applications (PANGEA) – <http://www.jcomm.info/pangea-concept>

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11663-12/OBS/WIGOS/OSD/DBCP, ANNEX

REFERENCES TO MATERIALS ON DBCP ACTIVITIES

Material	URL
DBCP Website	http://www.jcommops.org/dbcp/
DBCP Session Reports	http://www.jcomm.info/jcomm-mr
DBCP Publications, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DBCP Annual Reports• Proceedings at DBCP Scientific and Technical Workshops)• Best practices and standards	http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/amp/mmop/dbcp_reports.html
DBCP Operating Principles	http://www.jcommops.org/FTPRoot/DBCP/meetings/2011/dbcp/DBCP-Operating-Principles-2011.pdf
DBCP Implementation Strategy	http://www.jcommops.org/doc/DBCP/DBCP_Impl_Strategy.pdf
National Focal Points for Buoy Programmes	http://www.jcomm.info/dbcp-nfp
Members of DBCP Task Teams	http://www.jcomm.info/index.php?option=com_oe&task=people&Itemid=18

For more information, please contact the Technical Coordinator of the DBCP:

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