



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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TEMPS – CLIMAT – EAU
WEATHER – CLIMATE – WATER

Our ref.: 11636-12/OBS/OSD/MAR/DBCP-CB

GENEVA, 6 June 2012

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: DBCP/NIOT/BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation (Chennai, India, 19-21 November 2012)

Action required: 1. To nominate a participant of your country to attend the Workshop;
2. To notify the WMO Secretariat of the name and contact details of the expert as soon as possible, **but preferably no later than 31 July 2012**

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that the Joint WMO-IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) is an official body of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO. The work of the Panel supports the Observations Programme Area, overseen by the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM).

During its twenty-seventh session (DBCP-27, Geneva, Switzerland, 26-30 September 2011) the Panel, drawing from the success of its First and Second DBCP In-Region Western Indian Ocean Capacity Building Workshops (South Africa, April 2010, and Mauritius, May 2011) recognized the value of continued efforts to hold in-region activities. The Panel also reaffirmed its desire to actively encourage the participation of developing nations in the Panel's activities, as a means for these nations to assist the Panel in achieving and sustaining its objectives for a globally distributed data buoy network. The DBCP therefore agreed to organize and convene a 3-day regional workshop on best practices for instruments and methods of ocean observation in 2012, with the aim to build capacity for Asian developing countries.

In this context, the DBCP is now pleased to organize and sponsor the Regional Workshop on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation to be held, at the kind invitation of the Indian National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) and the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO), in Chennai, India, from 19 to 21 November 2012. This Workshop is also a realization of the JCOMM PANGEA¹ (Partnership for the New GEOSS Applications) concept.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members of WMO RA II participating in JCOMM (limited distribution)

cc: Dr Wendy Watson-Wright, Executive Secretary, IOC)
Mr Al Wallace, DBCP Chairperson)
Dr Peter Dexter, JCOMM co-president) (for information)
Ms Candyce Clark, JCOMM OCG Chairperson)
Mr David Meldrum, JCOMM OCG Vice-chairperson)

¹ <http://www.jcomm.info/pangea>

The Workshop will be conducted in English only. Enclosed you will find a copy of the Workshop Goals (Annex II), for your information. The Programme, Local Arrangements (i.e., accommodation, visas, etc.); and any other information pertinent to the Workshop will be posted, in due course, on the JCOMM Website, under the dedicated web page:

<http://www.jcomm.info/dbcp-cb-asia1>

The Workshop is primarily designed for scientists, researchers, engineers and managers of Asian countries to receive information on current best practices regarding calibration and testing instruments for ocean observation systems.

I encourage you to nominate potential trainees using the attached Nomination/Registration Form (Annex I). The Workshop will offer an exceptional opportunity for participants both to learn new skills and to make significant and ongoing contributions to major international programmes.


Concerning the WMO General Regulations, please note that Regulation 36, which is consistent with the established procedure of the IOC, states that: *"Expenses of attendance of members of working groups of constituent bodies at sessions of these groups shall normally be borne by the Members to which those members belong."* I thus very much hope that you will be able to arrange funding for the attendance of your expert, from national sources. If however, this would not be possible, some limited funding may be available from the sponsors of the Training Workshop to support selected participants, in particular those from developing countries. Please identify any such requirements when submitting the nomination/registration forms.

Also, I should like inform you of WMO's insurance coverage for non-staff members, which reads as follows: *"The Organization accepts limited responsibility for compensation in the event of death, illness or injury attributable to the attendance at meetings or the performance of services, on behalf of the Organization, by non-staff members of the Organization who are authorized to travel at its expense and/or who are receiving a daily subsistence allowance. These persons are therefore fully responsible for any expenses incurred as a result of events which are not attributable to attendance at meetings or the performance of services on behalf of the Organization and for arranging such life, health and other forms of insurance as they consider appropriate."*

In order to allow sufficient time to consider all the nominations and complete the selection process in a timely fashion, it would be greatly appreciated if your reply could reach the WMO Secretariat, as soon as possible, **but no later than 31 July 2012**, preferably via e-mail, to the attention of Mr Etienne Charpentier, at: echarpentier@wmo.int. Also, it should be noted that selected participants will be required to present a valid passport (6 months beyond the date of travel), and obtain the necessary entry and/or transit visas, in due course.

Finally, I indeed look forward to the active participation of operators and scientists currently involved in this important and rewarding initiative. In this context, you are welcome, in your capacity of Permanent Representative of your country with WMO, to nominate experts from either your Meteorological Service, or any other national institutions specializing in the subject field.

Yours faithfully,



(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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ANNEX I

NOMINATION / REGISTRATION FORM

DBCP/NIOT/BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation

Chennai, India, 19-21 November 2012

The Government of:

proposes the following nomination:

NOTE TO THE NOMINATED PARTICIPANT:
PLEASE COMPLETE ALL THE QUESTIONS IN THIS FORM. PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY, AND
SUBMIT IT, PREFERABLY, IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT.

Mr /Mrs /Dr /etc	Mr / Ms	Dr / Professor / Eng / etc.
Family name		
First name		
Job title		
Professional specialization		
Graduation degree(s)		
ADDRESS:		
Dept/Div.		
Street		
Suite/Office/etc		
City /postal codes		
State/Province/etc		
COUNTRY		
Tel. number(s)		
Fax number(s)		
Email(s) - PLEASE WRITE YOUR E-MAIL(S) VERY CLEARLY		
E-mail (1)		
E-mail (2)		
Job responsibilities:		
Financial assistance is requested for: travel <input type="checkbox"/> per diem <input type="checkbox"/>		

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QUESTIONS TO THE EXPERT NOMINATED FOR THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

1. Please indicate the plans you may have in your country for;
- (i) initialization/maintenance ocean observing systems in the Western Indian Ocean region, and/or;
 - (ii) cooperation with international programmes regarding the implementation of such systems (e.g. through the provision of instrument deployment opportunities).

N.B.: Please use a separate sheet to provide a brief description on this question if needed.

2. What do you expect from this Training Workshop?

3. In your view, what would make the Training Workshop successful?

4. Do you have any questions or comments?

PLEASE NOTE, ONLY NOMINATION/REGISTRATION FORMS, SIGNED BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE (PR) OF YOUR COUNTRY WITH WMO, WILL BE CONSIDERED.

Name of PR with WMO:

Date:

(Signature of the Permanent Representative with WMO)

Please return the completed form **before 31 July 2012**, preferably by e-mail, to the attention of Mr Etienne Charpentier, at echarpentier@wmo.int, and/or to the WMO Secretariat, at:

World Meteorological Organization
Observing and Information Services Department (OBS)
P.O. Box 2300
CH-1211 GENEVA 2
Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 730 8021

GOALS

DBCP/NIOT/BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Best Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation (Chennai, India, 19-21 November 2012)

1.0 Background and Rationale

The Joint WMO-IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) is an official body of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO and of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The work of the Panel supports the Observations Programme Area, overseen by the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM). During its twenty-seventh Session (DBCP-27) in Geneva, Switzerland from 26-30 September 2011, the Panel drawing on the success of the NIOT/BOBP-IGO Regional Workshop on Establishing a Cooperative Mechanism for Protection of Met-Ocean Data and Tsunami Buoys in Northern Indian Ocean Region held in Chennai, India from 6-7 May 2011 recognized the value of continued efforts in holding in-region activities. The Panel felt that such Regional initiatives will further involvement of countries to utilise available data from buoys and to permit research activities in a coordinated and systematic way to understand the importance of scientific instruments calibration, validation, data collection, etc. The Panel also reaffirmed its desire to actively encourage the participation of developing nations in the Panel's activities, as a means for these nations to assist the Panel in achieving and sustaining its objectives for a globally distributed data buoy network. The Panel therefore decided to continue its efforts to build and sustain utilisation of buoy data and to build capacity in the Bay of Bengal region.

In this context, the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), Chennai under Ministry of Earth Sciences-Government of India, in association with the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP – IGO), Chennai and the Joint WMO-IOC Data Buoy Cooperation Panel (DBCP) have planned to organize a ***Regional Workshop on The Best of Practices for Instruments and Methods of Ocean Observation*** in Chennai India from 19 to 21 November 2012. This Workshop would be one of the first efforts in bringing together researchers, oceanographers and engineers from the Bay of Bengal region to interact with the R&D Managers of reputed manufacturers involved in development of instruments related to ocean observation systems (OOS).

2.0 The Regional Workshop

The Regional Workshop is being jointly organized by the Capacity Building team of the DBCP, the NIOT and the BOBP-IGO.

NIOT: Considering the importance of the oceans, the Ministry Earth Sciences (formerly known as the Department of Ocean Development), established the NIOT in 1993 as an autonomous society to develop reliable indigenous technology to solve the various engineering problems associated with harvesting of non-living and living resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which is about two-thirds of the land area of India. Of the many technology groups and programmes/projects that the NIOT runs, the OOS is an important Operational Programme. This Programme is mandated with the important task of developing technologies for OOS and their operation and maintenance.

BOBP-IGO: The BOBP-IGO is mandated to enhance cooperation among member-countries, other countries and organizations in the region and provide technical and management advisory services for sustainable coastal fisheries development and management in the Bay of Bengal region. The BOBP was initially established in 1979 as a field Project of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation. In April 2003, the BOBP became an IGO. The Headquarters of the Organisation

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are located in Chennai and presently Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka are members of the IGO. The Organisation works very closely with the governments as also the fishers and their associations in the BoB region.

Objectives:

The aim of the Workshop is aimed at capacity building of scientists, researchers, engineers and managers on best of practices on calibration and testing instruments for ocean observation systems.

The Workshop will act as a platform and will unveil insight to new meteorological and oceanographic observational systems, moorings, subsea cables, batteries, telemetry and brings together scientists, engineers, technicians and key manufacturers of marine instruments and prospective vendors who utilise/ work on ocean observational systems. The Workshop will also provide an opportunity to understand the perennial, design and development issues faced by the user community. Experts from relevant industry will be invited to provide solutions on technical issues and interact with the participants.

The Workshop will offer an exceptional opportunity for participants both to learn new skills and to make significant and ongoing contributions to their own programmes. Further the Workshop will also concentrate on present and future trends in OOS, methods, standards that are followed worldwide and the calibration techniques offered by OEM's. The expected outcome of this Workshop will generate awareness on new OOS and shall bring up new ventures and business solutions.

Further, this Workshop is also likely to contribute to the recent initiative of Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India on the establishment of a National Centre for Atmospheric Technology (NCAT) which would lead to technological developments for an end-to-end, integrated and inter-operable network of Indian atmospheric observations, data communications, management and delivery systems, supported by comprehensive user-oriented software utilities for various applications. The NCAT is expected to emerge as a world class institution with calibration and testing instruments of global standards as a WMO Regional Instrumentation Centre.

New Users: This Workshop will attract participants from all the eight countries surrounding the Bay of Bengal – Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand apart from DBCP and BoBP representatives.

Some of the major outcomes of the Regional Workshop would be:

- Best practices adopted globally in handling meteorological and oceanographic equipments;
- Common practices, training on calibration and troubleshooting techniques;
- New observation systems and Data loggers;
- Hands on experience on various sensors, observational systems; and
- Information sharing and networking among the countries within and outside the region;

Date and Venue:

*The Regional Workshop will be organized from **19 – 21 November 2012** at the NIOT Campus, Velachery – Tambaram Main Road, Narayanapuram, Pallikaranai, Chennai – 600 100, Tamil Nadu, India (Tel: +91- 44- 66783300, Fax: +91- 44- 22460275; Email: postmaster@niot.res.in ; Website: www.niot.res.in).*

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Format of the Workshop:

The Regional Workshop shall include 09 technical sessions, training on calibration and troubleshooting sensors followed by brief presentations by OEM's on their new products. Thereafter, the participants will have a hand on experience, resolution on problems faced in handling sensors etc. Copies of the technical presentations shall be distributed to the participants prior to the Regional Workshop. The Provisional Annotated Agenda and Timetable set up for the Workshop will be posted on the event's website¹ in due course.

Conduct of the Workshop:

The National Workshop will be conducted in English.

Participation

The Workshop participants shall include representatives from the (i) Ministries/Departments of Oceanography, Meteorology, Fisheries and Research Institutions working on oceanography or marine sciences. Other related organizations/agencies such as Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration will also be invited to participate in the Workshop at their own cost.

Coordination of Workshop

The BOBP-IGO will coordinate the Regional Workshop arrangements with assistance from Dr R Venkatesan, Head-Ocean Observation Systems, NIOT.

For any further information, please contact:

R Venkatesan Head - Ocean Observation Systems National Institute of Ocean Technology Ministry of Earth Sciences Chennai- 600 100, Tamil Nadu, India Ph: +91 44 66783532; +91 44 66783535 +91 44 22460678 Fax +91 44 22460661 Email: venkat@niot.res.in	Yugraj Singh Yadava Director Bay of Bengal Programme Inter- Governmental Organisation 91, St Mary's Road, Abhiramapuram Chennai- 600 018, Tamil Nadu, India Tel: +91 44 24936188(O); Cell: +91 9841042235 Fax: +91 44 24936102 Email: yugraj.yadava@bobbigo.org
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¹ <http://www.jcomm.info/dbcp-cb-asia1>