

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (OF UNESCO)**

JOINT WMO-IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR
OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY (JCOMM)
EXPERT TEAM ON MARITIME SAFETY SERVICES

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THIRD SESSION

ITEM 1.2

ST PETERSBURG, RUSSIAN FEDERATION
4 TO 8 OCTOBER 2010

Original: ENGLISH

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session

1.1. Opening

The third session of the Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS) of the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) will open at 0930 hours on Monday, 4 October 2010, at the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute of Roshydromet, in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation. Mr Henri Savina, chairperson of the Task Team, will chair the session.

1.2. Adoption of the agenda

The Team will be invited to adopt the agenda for the session based on the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat.

1.3. Working arrangements

The Team will agree on its hours of work and other practical session arrangements. The documentation will be introduced by the Secretariat. The documentation, and the meeting itself, will be in English only.

The chairperson or any other members of the Team may request the consideration of additional issues. In that case, they would be requested to prepare the relevant documentation and submit it to the Secretariat in due time. Possible such issues are listed below. Additionally, a number of sub-items will require separate discussions as identified.

2. Reports

2.1 ETMSS Chairperson, SFSPA Coordinator & Secretariat reports

The Team will be presented with reports by the Services and Forecast Systems Program Area (SFSPA) Coordinator, the chairperson of the Team and the Secretariat on the activities and actions taken since the second session of the JCOMM Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS-II, Angra dos Reis, Brazil, January 2007), including the outcomes of the JCOMM Maritime Safety Services Enhancement Workshop (MSSE Workshop, Melbourne, Australia, May 2010) and the ETMSS work plan as defined by the fifth session of the SFSPA Coordination Group (SCG-V). The Team will agree on outstanding actions to be completed in the lead-up to JCOMM-IV. Based on discussions under the preceding agenda item, recommendations for additional actions by the Team and suggestions for its future work plan should be considered. New and emerging requirements should also be outlined.

2.2 IMO report

The Team will be presented with a report by a representative from IMO on overall activities and actions in relation with the safety at sea. Focus will be given to information relevant for the GMDSS, SAR and response to marine pollution. Information on projects or activities like e-navigation, the modernization of the GMDSS, or other planned evolutions or emerging technologies with potential consequences for the NMHS issuing GMDSS MSI, will also be provided. If any, the IMO strategy regarding implementation of QMS among Members or services providers will be presented.

2.3 IHO report

The Team will be presented with a report by a representative from IHO on overall activities and actions in relation with the provision of MSI. Focus will be given to activities of the World-Wide Navigational Warning Services (WWNWS) Sub Committee and of the joint IMO/IHO/WMO Correspondence Group (CG) on Arctic Maritime Safety Information. A general presentation of IHO on standard S-100 publication will also be provided.

2.4 Inmarsat report

The Team will be presented with a report by a representative from Inmarsat on overall activities and actions in relation with the GMDSS. Focus will be given to information relevant for the Issuing Services, including the Arctic (identification of non-appropriate practises for met-ocean MSI prepared for SafetyNET, suggested improvements, new System Definition Manual).

3. Implementation of QMS for MSI

Quality Management Systems (QMS) for aviation have been undertaken within a global regulatory environment. If such regulations do not presently exist for marine services, IMO is moving in this general direction. In order to ensure the use of best practises and the improvement of value for mariners, JCOMM promotes the implementation of Quality Management Systems (QMS) within the NMS preparing MSI.

3.1 Review of outcomes of the training course and proposals for the way forward

A QM training, focussed on Internal Audit procedures, was provided to Issuing Services by a QM specialist supporting the Australian Bureau of Meteorology during the MSSE Workshop in May 2010.

The Team will review the outcomes of the Workshop and the proposals prepared by Bryan Boase, member of the Management Committee with specific responsibility for QMS, on the process for moving forward in the provision of support to developing countries in implementing QMS as they further developed their marine services and the guidelines for implementation of QMS by Issuing Services.

3.2 Users feedback and performance measurements

Metrics is an essential component of QMS. The measurement (or estimation) of the usefulness and impacts of the provision of MSI or other services is a complex and multi-faceted process, involving surveys and user feedback, through regular written questionnaires (as was now the case), future on-line surveys through the website, and direct feedback from ships masters, owners and agents, using the PMOs and other ship visitors.

The Team will review the present questionnaire in the light of the outcomes of the MSSE Workshop, with a view to develop with ETOOFS and IHO/WWNWS a complete survey methodology, to provide the feedback necessary for performance assessment of the system. The aim is to conduct a survey in 2011 in order to present the analysis during JCOMM-IV in 2012.

3.3 Review of self-assessment report template

In the light of previous discussions on QMS, the team will review the template for the self-assessment report, to be used annually by Issuing Services or METAREA Coordinator.

4. Implementation of the GMDSS in the Arctic Areas

4.1 Status of implementation (including NAVAREA)

The MSSE Workshop was pleased to note the progress being made by all three Issuing Services, covering the five new METAREAs, with a July 2010 date for extended testing of GMDSS broadcasts, and a target July 2011 implementation date, both likely to be met. Nevertheless, a number of common issues across the Arctic METAREAs were noted. Some were agreed as requiring wider discussion within the ETMSS, such as coordination and consistency across METAREA boundaries and the service gap over Hudson Bay. The Issuing Services for the Arctic will present the status of implementation of the system for their METAREAs, including progress within the Initial Operating Capability and outstanding issues, if any. The remaining issues raised during the MSSE Workshop will be reviewed, in order to be able to confirm the target for a fully operational service in July 2011.

4.2 Sea ice information in MSI

The Team will review the proposals developed by ETSI and the Arctic Issuing Services for the definition of the mandatory sea ice information (in particular the definition used for the ice edge for MSI) and the set of rules for its description in the context of GMDSS as well as details of what may be available to users as part of additional services to GMDSS if transmission is not restricted to SafetyNET and NAVTEX transmissions. The procedures to ensure cross-area coordination and consistency of GMDSS information across the Arctic METAREAs will also be presented.

5. Revision and re-issue of the WMO Documentation

5.1 Cross revision of publication WMO-No.558 & WMO-No.471

The guidance and regulatory publications, especially the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No.558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No.471), can be considered as ISO documents by NMHS. It was then of major importance to ensure that those publications were updated appropriately. A number of revisions to both the Manual and Guide, relating to the GMDSS, has been recommended by JCOMM-III and approved by EC-LXII in June 2010. These are now being promulgated to Members. At the same time, it was planned that a complete new edition of the Manual, to incorporate all amendments adopted over the past decade or more, but also to correct noted anomalies, errors and inconsistencies, be prepared over the twelve coming months. In this context, the Team will review both documents.

5.2 Other WMO publications

The Team will be presented with WMO-No.574 (sea-ice information services in the world) and will discuss possible methodology for update of WMO-No.9, Vol. D.

5.3 Presentation of the joint IMO/IHO/WMO documentation

The Team will be presented with the joint IMO/IHO/WMO reference documentation, including the *IMO Resolutions A705(17) on Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information* ([http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1287.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International%20Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1287.pdf)) and *A706(17) on the IMO/IHO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service* ([http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1288.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International%20Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1288.pdf)), the *joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information* ([http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1310.pdf](http://www.iho-ohi.net/mtg_docs/International%20Organizations/IMO/MSC1-Circ-1310.pdf)), the *International SafetyNET Manual* and the draft new version of the *International NAVTEX Manual* (<http://www.iho-ohi.net/english/committees-wg/ircc/wwwnws.html>).

The Team will also consider the IMO/WMO World-Wide Met-ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS), including Terms of Reference of METAREA Coordinators, and discuss the strategy for all those documents to become reference documents for NMS preparing or issuing MSI.

6. Strategy and work plan for development of enhanced MSI

6.1 WMO contribution to e-navigation and the review of the GMDSS

The Team will be presented with the IMO e-Navigation strategy, and the relevant input from WWNWS-II, and will make proposals for the contribution of WMO, including if feasible on the telecommunication systems (bandwidths).

6.2 Preparation of the catalogue of marine & oceanographic parameters/attributes

Since 1999, ETMSS has been working on the implementation of graphical/numerical Maritime Safety Information (MSI) broadcast within the GMDSS. The WMO Executive Council, at its sixty-first session (June 2009), encouraged WMO Members to investigate low-cost options for on-demand approaches that are compatible with Electronic Navigation Charts (ENC). In addition, the imminent increase of ENC systems on SOLAS vessels as regulatory material and the emergence of the e-navigation concept within IMO reinforce the priority given to this requirement. ETSI has already developed the *Sea Ice Objects Catalogue* in accordance with IHO standards. ETMSS has initiated the development of a catalogue on *Met-Ocean Object Classes and Attributes*. The Team will review and complete the draft catalogue.

6.3 Demonstration suite of products on the GMDSS web site

The Team will be presented with the GMDSS website and propose actions for the future.

7. Sea state information in MSI

There is a significant room for improving the provision of sea state, that should be considered as the most important parameter, in Maritime Safety Information (MSI). At the moment, the majority of Issuing Services preparing GMDSS MSI provide information on the significant wave height only, generally using the Douglas scale. This is very limited in comparison with data available from the NWP and certainly the constraints and needs of ships at sea. Many accidents occurred in coastal or open seas due to sea state, where significant wave heights were far below the thresholds fixed for the vessels, but in situations where the sea state was complex (e.g. cross seas) or unusual (e.g. steep sea, risk of abnormal or freak waves). Key parameters should be proposed to provide more useful information for the safety of ships, especially in complex and dangerous seas. The Team will review the proposal prepared by ETWS.

8. Tsunami-related MSI

There is no mechanism to ensure the coordination of the provision of tsunami-related MSI for SOLAS vessels. The Team will review the proposal prepared.

9. SAR and Marine Pollution

There is ample room for improvement in the emergency response both for search and rescue (SAR) and marine pollution. The services rely on trajectory models which in turn are dependent on surface currents from ocean models as well as sea state from wave models and wind from numerical weather prediction models. The services are thus dependent on a suite of computationally demanding forecast models. As most accidents and incidents occur near shore spatial resolution is a key factor in providing reliable forecasts of drift trajectories, whether for search areas or for mitigation of oil spills. The Team will review the status of MPERSS, make suggestions for enhancing the visibility of the system outside WMO. The Team will also discuss, as appropriate, the potential implication of e-Navigation in the provision of SAR and marine pollution assistance and the liaison with ETOOFS.

10. Rolling review of requirements (Observations)

The WMO Secretariat will provide an update on the status of this rolling review of requirements and the updated version of the Statement of Guidance for Ocean Applications. The Team

will be invited to review and revise as necessary, the stated requirements.

11. ETMSS ToRs

The Team will review its Terms of Reference and membership.

12. Any Other Business (AOB)

Under this agenda item, the Team may consider any other issues requiring actions or discussion by the Team.

13. Closure of the session

13.1 Adoption of the report

The Team will review, modify as necessary and approve the final report of the meeting.

13.2 Closure

It is expected that the meeting of the Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services will close by 17h00 on Friday, 8 October 2010.
