

Recommendation 10 (JCOMM-III)

AMENDMENTS TO THE WMO GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM MARINE BROADCAST SYSTEM

THE JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR
OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY,

Noting:

- (1) The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, in particular Chapter V (Safety of navigation), Regulation 5 (Meteorological services and warnings) of the 2003 amendments,
- (2) The 1988 amendments to SOLAS for the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS),
- (3) Recommendation 3 (CMM-XI) – New WMO GMDSS marine broadcast system,
- (4) Recommendation 2 (CMM-XII) – Amendments to the WMO GMDSS marine broadcast system,
- (5) The final reports of the first (JCOMM/MR-No. 15) and second (JCOMM/MR-No. 46) sessions of the JCOMM Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS),
- (1) Annex VI to the WMO Technical Regulations – *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558),

Recognizing:

- (1) The importance of meteorological warnings and forecasts to the safety of life and property at sea,
- (2) The obligations of countries that are signatories to SOLAS to provide meteorological services for shipping as specified in the Convention, including its 1988 amendments,
- (3) That the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System needs to be constantly reviewed and updated so as to best meet the requirements of users and the internationally agreed commitments under SOLAS,
- (4) That the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System also needs to be fully in harmony with navigational warning services for the GMDSS coordinated by the International Hydrographic Organization, and to respond to requirements for maritime safety services expressed by the International Maritime Organization,

Recommends:

- (1) That the amendments to the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System as detailed in the annex to this recommendation be adopted;
- (2) That the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services*, Volume I, Part I, be amended accordingly;

Urges WMO Members with forecast and warning preparation and broadcast responsibilities under the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System:

- (1) To continue to implement their responsibilities in full, in accordance with the specifications in the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services*;
- (2) To keep the WMO Secretariat closely informed of developments and changes in their operation of the system, including any changes in broadcast schedules;
- (3) To liaise closely with users regarding their requirements for and response to meteorological forecast and warning services under the GMDSS;

Requests the Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services to keep the implementation of and user response to the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System under review, and to develop proposals for amendments as necessary;

Requests the Secretary-General of WMO:

- (1) To provide appropriate technical advisory assistance to WMO Members concerned in the implementation of the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System;
- (2) To bring this recommendation to the attention of the International Maritime Organization, International Hydrographic Organization, International Chamber of Shipping, Inmarsat and other organizations and bodies concerned, and to continue to liaise closely with them in the operation of the system.

Annex to Recommendation 10 (JCOMM-III)

AMENDMENTS TO THE MANUAL ON MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (WMO-No. 558)

AMENDMENTS TO THE WMO GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM BROADCAST SYSTEM

Part I-bis: Section 1 shall be amended to read:

1. GENERAL
 - 1.1 Marine meteorological services for the high seas shall include:
 - (a) Provision of warnings and weather and sea bulletins;
 - (b) Marine meteorological support for maritime search and rescue;
 - (c) Marine climatological summaries scheme;
 - (d) Provision of special marine climatological information;
 - (e) Provision of marine meteorological information and expert advice.
 - 1.2 Marine meteorological services for the high seas should include provision of information by radio-facsimile or other means for the receipt on board ship of graphical data

Part I-bis: Section 2.2.4.7 shall be amended to read:

2.2.4.7 Warnings for other severe conditions such as poor visibility, severe sea states (swell), ice accretion, ice conditions, etc., shall also be issued, as necessary. Phenomena such as breaking seas, cross seas and abnormal/rogue waves could also be included, if feasible.

Part I-bis: Section 2.2.6.1 item (c) shall be amended to read:

- (c) A description of:
 - (i) Wind speed or force and direction;
 - (ii) Sea State (significant wave height/total sea)
 - (iii) Visibility when forecast is less than five nautical miles;
 - (iv) Ice accretion, where applicable
 - (v) Ice conditions, where applicable.

Part I-bis: insert sub-item (d) in Section 2.2.5.1. The new sub-item shall read as follows:

- (d) Ice conditions where applicable.

Part I-bis: insert a new paragraph 2.2.5.4 after paragraph 2.2.5.3. The new paragraph shall read as follows:

2.2.5.4 Concise description of ice conditions should be included in the synopsis (position of ice edge, total concentration, stages of ice development, etc.).

Part I-bis: insert sub-item (iv) under item (c) in Section 2.2.6.1. The new sub-item shall read as follows:

- (c) A description of:
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 - (iv) Ice conditions, where applicable.

Part I-bis: Section 2.2.6.1.1 shall be amended to read:

2.2.6.1.1 The forecasts should include expected significant changes during the forecast period, significant meteors such as freezing precipitation, snowfall or rainfall, and an outlook for a period beyond 24 hours. In addition, phenomena such as breaking seas, cross seas and abnormal/rogue waves could also be included, if feasible.

Part I-bis: insert a new paragraph 2.2.9 after paragraph 2.2.8.2, and rename existing paragraph 2.2.9 as 2.2.10. The new paragraph shall read as follows:

2.2.9 For visibility, the following descriptive terms should be used:

Very poor	Less than 0.5 nautical miles (nm)
Poor	0.5 nm to 2 nm
Moderate	2 nm to 5 nm
(Good)*	(greater than 5 nm)
* not mandatory	

Part I-bis: Appendix I-2 BIS – create a new table merging Table 1 and Table 2. The Column Area LES of Issuing Service to include only the satellite used, e.g. AOR(E), IOR, etc.

Part I-bis: Appendix I-2 BIS – add Australia as an Issuing Service in Metarea VIII(S) in table1, and the following note: "Tropical Cyclone warnings prepared and issued by Perth (area east of 90E) are also included in the regular bulletins issued by Mauritius". Following table 1, change the existing note to read: "Tropical Cyclone warnings prepared and issued by La Reunion (area west of 90E) are also included in the regular bulletins issued by Mauritius".

Recommendation 11 (JCOMM-III)

AMENDMENTS TO THE WMO TECHNICAL REGULATIONS, INCLUDING THE *MANUAL ON MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 558) AND THE *GUIDE TO MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 471)

THE JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR
OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY,

Noting:

- (1) WMO Resolution 1 (Cg-XV) – Technical Regulations of the World Meteorological Organization,
- (2) The *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558),
- (3) The *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471),

Considering the requirements for:

- (1) Fast-track procedures for the adoption of amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471),
- (2) Procedures for the adoption of amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* between sessions of the Commission,
- (3) Procedures for the adoption of amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* during sessions of the Commission,

Recommends that the procedures for amending the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* defined in the annex to this recommendation be applied as from 1 January 2010;

Requests the Secretary-General of WMO to arrange for the inclusion of these procedures in the introduction chapters of Volume I of the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* and in the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services*;

Authorizes the Secretary-General of WMO to make any consequent purely editorial amendments to the introduction chapters of the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services*.

Annex to Recommendation 11 (JCOMM-III)

PROCEDURES FOR AMENDING THE *MANUAL ON MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 558) AND THE *GUIDE TO MARINE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES* (WMO-No. 471)

1. General validation and implementation procedures

- 1.1 Amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471) must be proposed in writing to the

WMO Secretariat. The proposal shall specify the needs, purposes and requirements and include information on a contact point for technical matters.

1.2 The Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS), Expert Team on Marine Climatology (ETMC) or Ship Observations Team (depending of the nature of the change),¹ supported by the WMO Secretariat, shall validate the stated requirements (unless it is consequential to an amendment to the WMO Technical Regulations) and develop a draft recommendation to respond to the requirements, as appropriate.

1.3 A draft recommendation of the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT must be validated. A draft recommendation of the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT must be endorsed by the respective Programme Area (PA) Coordination Group. The ETMSS, ETMC or SOT should define a date of implementation in order to give sufficient time to the WMO Members to implement the amendments after the date of notification; the ETMSS should document the reasons to propose a time span less than three months.

1.4 Depending on the type of amendments, the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT may select one of the following procedures for the approval of the amendments:

- Fast track procedure (see section 2 below);
- Procedure for the adoption of amendments between JCOMM sessions (see section 3 below);
- Procedure for the adoption of amendments during JCOMM sessions (see section 4 below).

1.5 Once amendments to the *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 558) and the *Guide to Marine Meteorological Services* (WMO-No. 471) are adopted, an updated version of the relevant part of the Manual and/or the Guide shall be issued in the four languages: English, French, Russian and Spanish. The WMO Secretariat will inform all WMO Members of the availability of a new updated version of that part at the date of notification mentioned in section 1.3.

2. Fast track procedure

2.1 Fast track mechanism can be used for additions or changes to the WMO GMDSS Marine Broadcast System or to address requirements for maritime safety services expressed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

2.2 A draft recommendation of the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT must be validated in accordance with the procedures given in section 6 below. Draft recommendations developed by the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT must be endorsed by the Chair of the respective PA. The filling of reserved and unused entries in the existing IMMT format and MQCS are considered as minor adjustments, and will be done by the Secretary-General of WMO in consultation with the co-presidents of JCOMM. For other types of amendments, the English version of the draft recommendation, including a date of implementation, should be distributed to the GMDSS focal points for comments, with a deadline of two months for the reply. It should then be submitted to the co-presidents of JCOMM for its adoption on behalf of the WMO Executive Council.

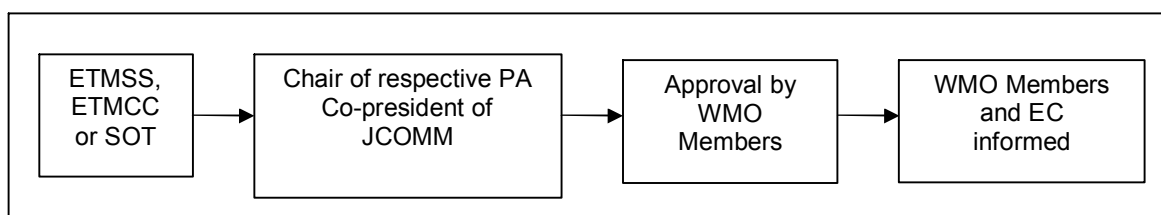
2.3 The implementation of amendments approved through the fast track procedure shall normally be limited to one per year. If the Chairs of ETMSS, ETMC or SOT, and the coordinator of the respective PA agree that an exceptional situation exists, a second fast track implementation can be initiated.

¹ The ETMSS, the ETMC and the SOT are the current bodies dealing with marine meteorological services within JCOMM: maritime safety services, marine climatological formats, and VOS, respectively. If they were replaced by other bodies performing the same function, the same rules would apply, by replacing the names of the entities appropriately.

3. Procedures for the adoption of amendments between JCOMM sessions

3.1 For the direct adoption of amendments between JCOMM sessions, as a first step, the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT submits its recommendation, including a date of implementation of the amendments, to the Chair of the respective PA and co-presidents of JCOMM. In a second step, upon approval of the co-presidents of JCOMM, the WMO Secretariat sends the recommendation in the four languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish), including a date of implementation of the amendments, to all WMO Members for comments within two months; WMO Members are invited to designate a focal point responsible to discuss any comments/disagreements with the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT. If the discussion between the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT and the focal point cannot result in an agreement on a specific amendment by a WMO Member, this amendment will be reconsidered by the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT. Those WMO Members having not replied within the two months following the dispatch of the amendments are implicitly considered as having agreed with the amendments. In a third step, once amendments are agreed by WMO Members, and after consultation with the Chair of the respective PA and co-presidents of JCOMM, the WMO Secretariat notifies at the same time the WMO Members and the members of the WMO Executive Council (EC) of the approved amendments and of the date of their implementation.

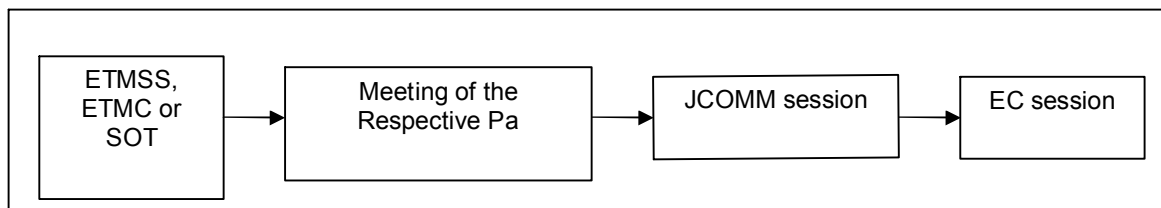
Figure. Adoption of amendments between JCOMM sessions



4. Procedures for the adoption of amendments during JCOMM sessions

4.1 For the adoption of amendments during JCOMM sessions, the ETMSS, ETMC or SOT submits its recommendation, including a date of implementation of the amendments, to the respective PA. The recommendation is then submitted to a JCOMM session and then to an EC session.

Figure 2. Adoption of the amendments through a JCOMM session



5. Procedures for the correction of existing entries in the IMMT format and MQCS

5.1 If an erroneous specification of an entry is found in an operational IMMT format and MQCS Element descriptor, a new descriptor should preferably be added or changed to the appropriate table through the fast track procedure or the procedure for adoption of amendments between JCOMM sessions. An appropriate explanation shall be added to the notes of the table to clarify the practice along with the date of the change. This situation is considered a minor adjustment according to subsection 2.2 above.

6. Validation procedures

- 6.1 The need for, and the purpose of, the proposal for changes should be documented.
 - 6.2 This documentation must include the results of validation testing of the proposal.
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