

**JOINT WMO-IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION
FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE
METEOROLOGY (JCOMM)**

JCOMM-4/Doc. 5.1
Submitted by: WMO Secretary-General
and UNESCO/IOC
Executive Secretary

FOURTH SESSION
Yeosu, Republic of Korea,
23 to 31 May 2012

Date: 21.03.2012
Original Language: English
Agenda Items: **5.1**
Status: DRAFT 1

GOOS-GCOS REQUIREMENTS FOR CLIMATE OBSERVATIONS

SUMMARY

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

Updated requirements for climate observations defined by the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) through their Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC).

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

The Commission is requested to:

- (a) Request the Management Committee and the Programme Area Coordinators to address the 23 actions for JCOMM in the GCOS Implementation Plan (2010 update) in reviewing and assessing progress, in developing their work plans and in setting priorities;
- (b) Approve the draft text for inclusion in the general summary of JCOMM-4 given in the Appendix.

CONTENT OF DOCUMENT: see View -> Document Map

APPENDIX: DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF JCOMM-4

5.1 GOOS-GCOS REQUIREMENTS FOR CLIMATE OBSERVATIONS *(agenda item 5.1)*

5.1.1. The Commission recalled that observing system requirements for global climate research, monitoring, forecasts and projections for the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) were written into the Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in support of the UNFCCC ("GCOS Implementation Plan", 2004, GCOS-92). The Commission also recognized that the updates of the GCOS Implementation Plans in 2010 (GCOS-138, GOOS-184, WMO-TD/No. 1523) as well as its satellite supplement, which was updated in 2011 (GCOS-154), took into account the latest status of observing systems, recent progress in science and technology, the increased focus on adaptation, enhanced efforts to optimize mitigation measures, and the need for improved predictions of climate change. The Commission expressed its satisfaction, in particular, that the plans also formed the basis for an ocean observing system for global operational ocean forecasting. The Commission recalled that the ocean and marine meteorological portion of these plans were written by the GCOS-GOOS-WCRP Ocean Observations Panel for Climate (OOPC), which is the scientific partner of JCOMM in the development of an ocean observing system for climate. The Commission recognized the importance of implementing these plans to address the requirements of climate science, support the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), and to support informed decisions on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

5.1.2. The Commission noted that it is recognized in these plans as the Agent of Implementation for 23 actions in coordination of observing networks, data management systems, and development of products and standards, and agreed to this responsibility.

5.1.3. The Commission recognized the efforts of Members/Member States that had contributed to sustaining a number of components of the initial ocean observing network for climate that have reached their design goals (Argo, VOSclim, and the DBCP surface drifter networks), but noted that a number of others required increased contributions in order to reach their design goals. The Commission therefore urged Members/Member States to implement the actions, coordinated through JCOMM, called for in the GCOS Implementation Plan and satellite supplement updates. It asked the Management Committee and the Programme Area Coordinators to address the 23 actions for JCOMM in the GCOS Implementation Plan (2010 update) in reviewing and assessing progress, in developing their work plans, and in setting priorities.

References for Doc. 5.1 (Not to be included in the final Meeting Report):

1. Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in support of the UNFCCC (GCOS-92):
http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/Publications/gcos-92_GIP.pdf
2. Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for climate in support of the UNFCCC (2010 update), GCOS-138, GOOS-184, GTOS-76, WMO-TD/No. 1523):
<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/Publications/gcos-138.pdf>
3. Systematic observation requirements for satellite-based data products for climate (2011 update), GCOS-154:
<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/gcos/documents/SatelliteSupplement2011Update.pdf>