

## Third Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-3)

20-23 July 2015  
Nuku'alofa  
The Kingdom of Tonga

### **[ADD1] Agenda Item 7.3: Marine Weather Services and Ocean Issues - Marine Weather Services in the Pacific (SPREP)**

#### **Purpose**

1. To provide information on the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17) decisions and recommendations on Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme (MMOP) and Joint WMO- Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO (IOC) Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM).

#### **Background**

2. Cg-17 was held from 25 May to 12 June, Geneva Switzerland. It adopted WMO Strategic Plan (2016-2019), including disaster risk reduction, Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS), aviation meteorological services, polar and high mountain regions, capacity development and WMO governance.

3. Cg-17 reaffirmed MMOP as key operational programme to assist Members to provide global and regional coverage of data, products and services to satisfy sustained and emerging requirements of met-ocean communities for accurate, timely and reliable information and services. Cg-17 maintained its Resolution 24 (Cg-XVI) on WMO Marine Meteorology and Oceanography Programme.

4. Cg-17 adopted Resolution on Competency Requirements for Marine Weather Forecasters, and requested JCOMM to develop guidance and advice to Members/Member States to ensure effective and harmonized implementation of MWF competency requirements. Congress encouraged Regions to promote implementation of MWF competency requirements in respective regions by training of competency assessors.

5. Cg-17 acknowledged achievements of the JCOMM in bridging met-ocean community for coordinated and integrated observations, data management, and services development and delivery. Noting financial constraints of the IOC of UNESCO, Congress encouraged IOC to give priority and support to JCOMM and emerging issues. Congress welcomed on-going efforts of JCOMM to improve its strategy and requested its effective implementation.

6. Cg-17 recognized close collaboration of WMO with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) in provision of updated,

standardized and coordinated service and information for safety of life and property at sea, such as the World-Wide Met-ocean Information and Warnings Service (WWMIWS) as integral part of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) Marine Broadcast System.

7. Congress appreciated work of JCOMM in development of implementation strategy and plan for coordinated support in marine environmental emergencies to ensure coordinated actions of Marine Pollution Emergency Response Support System (MPERSS) for the high seas, including Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR).

8. Through work of JCOMM, MMOP contributed to the GFCS, such as the joint JCOMM-Commission for Agro-meteorology (CAGM) Task Team on Weather, Climate and Fisheries (TT-WCF) worked on improved understanding and capacities in marine climatology/oceanography to develop tools for Pacific Island countries and Territories (PICTs) in fishery assessment against climate variability. Congress also noted JCOMM contribution to GFCS in its development, improvement and delivery of climate services for the marine and coastal community.

9. Regarding the Marine Climate Data System (MCDS), Congress adopted resolution to establish the first Centre for Marine-Meteorological and Oceanographic Climate data (CMOC) in China, with a view to better address marine climate data requirements of GFCS. A parallel adoption was conducted in the Twenty-eight Session of the IOC Assembly (18-25 June, 2015, Paris, France).

10. MMOP through Observations Programme Area (OPA) of JCOMM for coordinated observational data to WIGOS. Congress encouraged MMOP and JCOMM to sustain and enhance observational programmes, including investigation of new methods and technologies. Congress acknowledged need to improve interoperability of marine meteorological and oceanographic data and metadata standards, ocean analysis and forecasting products standards in line with the WMO Integrated Observing System (WIGOS) and WMO Information System (WIS) requirements, and welcomed cross-cutting Task Team on Integrated Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic Services within WIS (TT-MOWIS), and encouraged coordinated data interoperability for improved ocean analyses and forecasting products.

### Recommendations

4. The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** the resolutions and recommendations of the Cg-17; and
- **Recommend** PMC, SPREP and NMHSs in the Pacific islands region to develop strategy and work plan in line with WMO guidance with full consideration of requirements of the Pacific region.

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### Attachments

Nil

15 July 2015