

VOS Report for 2011

(Netherlands)

a. Programme description:				
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2011	Recruitments in 2011	De-recruitments In 2011	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	111	0	60	All ships will be VOSCLIM at the end of 2012
<i>Selected AWS</i>	0	0	0	
<i>VOSCLim</i>	1	0	0	
<i>VOSCLim AWS</i>	0	0	0	
<i>Supplementary</i>	0	0	0	
<i>Supplementary AWS</i>	0	0	0	
<i>Auxiliary</i>	0	0	0	
<i>Auxiliary AWS</i>	0	0	0	
<i>Other</i>	0	0	0	
National VOS Total	112			

National VOS Target	100
National VOSCLim Target	100

b. Data management:	
<i>Total number of ship observations (BBXX) distributed on the GTS in 2011</i>	60224
<i>Frequency of VOS data submitted to the GCC in Year</i>	12

g. Major challenges and difficulties:

Political: Budget cuts. Value of ship's observations for meteorological community not made very clear. This makes it hard to encourage people to fund the VOS-project. If we all find it necessary to maintain a VOS fleet to improve weather predictions, arrangement should be made that financial support by all countries is mandatory.

h. Research / development / testing:

Web based version of Electronic Logbook software: TurboWeb, including AMVER facility.

i. Other comments:

European SURFMAR project: tender for Shipborne Automatic Weather Systems will result in new Automatic Weather Stations. KNMI plans to replace the 100 manual VOS by 50 Automatic VOS gradually (from end of 2012).