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| **World Meteorological Organization &**  **Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (of UNESCO)**  **JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY**  **Ship Observation Team Ninth Session** London, United Kingdom, 27-31 March 2017 | Image result for ioc logo unesco  **SOT-9/Doc. 9.1.1** |
| Submitted by: Rebecca Cowley  14.02.2017  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 9.1: SOOP PROGRAMME ACTIVITY REPORTS (INCLUDING IMPLEMENTATION STATUS)**

**AGENDA ITEM 9.1.1: Report by the SOOPIP Chairperson**

# SUMMARY

This document provides a Report by the SOOPIP Chairperson including recommendations to the panel for approval and actions/decisions required.

### A. DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

**B. DISCUSSION (Draft text for inclusion in the final report):**

(example guidelines)

* + - Introduction
    - Highlights of the intersessional period
    - Specific challenges of the intersessional period
    - Proposed work plan

The SOOPIP continues to be part of the sustained ocean observing system, with a history of XBT transects over many decades. The SOOPIP network (consisting of XBTs, XCTDs, CPRs and soon, pCO2), contributes to many and various climate studies, along with other components of the global ocean observing system such as Argo.

XBT deployments are maintained along fixed transects, many of which have been in operation since the early 1980s, making the observations invaluable for multi-decadal studies. Transects are operated in frequently repeated or high density modes, depending on their scientific goals for the area.

The SOOPIP has participation of 12 institutions globally, with data distributed in real time via the GTS in BUFR and jjvv formats. There is a strong international partnership within the SOOP network, with institutions supporting each other in supply of probes and support for logistical operation of lines that typically originate from their countries.

The ships of opportunity used in the SOOPIP program are very often also platforms for deployment of other instruments such as drifters and profiling floats, data collection platforms for TSGs, pCO2 systems and CPRs. SOOPIP supports data acquisition from other programs such as VOS and GOSUD on many of the ships used for XBT deployments.

Meetings held during the year include the 5th XBT Science Team meeting in conjunction with the 4th IQuOD meeting, in Tokyo, October, 2016. In addition the GTSPP meeting held in Belgium, November, 2016.

Highlights from these meetings and other intercessional highlights include:

* An XBT Science review paper
* Continuation of XBT fall rate investigations
* Incorporation of the pCO2 group into the SOOPIP.
* Recommendations from the XBT Science Team to the IQuOD project.
* Review and update of the XBT transects recommended at Ocean Obs’09.
* Review of the metadata formats and content supplied to JCOMMOPs yearly.
* Participation of the SOOPIP Chair in the OCG roundtable meetings.

Challenges for the intercessional period

* Reduction/changes in shipping for many lines
* Reduction in support for some lines and for the XBT program overall

# C. BACKGROUND INFORMATION (not to be included in the session report):

### References (if any):

1. 5th *XBT Science workshop report, available from the XBT Science webpage:*

<http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/phod/goos/xbtscience/meetings.php>

2. 4th IQuOD meeting report: <http://www.iquod.org/index.php/documents>