

VOS and VOSClm Report for 2017

Thailand

a. Programme description:		
Category	No. of ships at 31 Dec 2017	Comments
<i>Selected</i>	-	-
<i>Supplementary</i>	-	-
<i>Auxiliary</i>	-	-
<i>Other (specify)</i>	-	-
Total National VOS Fleet	-	

b. VOS:	
<i>Number of VOS vessels recruited in 2017</i>	-
<i>Number of VOS vessels de-recruited in 2017</i>	-
<i>Target number of ships in the national VOS Fleet</i>	-

c. VOSClm:	
<i>Number of VOSClm vessels at 31 December 2017</i>	-
<i>Number of VOSClm vessels recruited in 2017</i>	-
<i>Number of VOSClm de-recruitments in 2017</i>	-
<i>Number of VOSClm recruitments planned for 2017</i>	-
<i>Target number of ships to participate in VOSClm</i>	-

g. Major challenges and difficulties:

There is no VOS at all because we are lack of communication and cooperation between ships owner, Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) discuss with Marine Department who has authority and control about ship registration.

TMD has discussed and coordinated with the Marine Department about inviting the locally-registered ocean liners under its responsibility to become the members of the VOS Scheme and perform voluntary ships' weather observations. In order to respond the TMD's request, the Marine Department has forwarded such invitations to the owners of ocean liners.

In the past, the TMD's marine meteorologists had gained an experience to perform the ship's weather observation on a research ship in order to obtain additional data for the sea areas where no weather stations are available. In addition, the TMD's marine meteorologists had an opportunity to visit Hong Kong Observatory during 8th – 11th April, 2008 in order to observe its marine meteorological activities, particularly for the ship checking visits. The TMD's marine meteorologists learnt from the meteorological officers of the institute about the ship registration (including how to fill the enrolment forms to join the VOS Scheme) and checking visits procedures which has not been put into practice in Thailand before.

Currently, the enrolment to become the members of the VOS Scheme has just begun in Thailand. Since the TMD has been asked about the weather observation procedure on board from the owners of ocean liners it has planned to provide a training course on "Ships' Weather Observation" for those who have become the members of the VOS Scheme later on.

From what mentioned above, it can be clearly seen that the VOS Scheme in Thailand must be based on the close cooperation between 2 governmental units: the TMD (responsible on observing; analyzing; and forecasting the weather) and the Marine Department (in charge of the ships registration and control nationwide).

h. Research / development / testing:

i. Other comments: