

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

SHIP OBSERVATIONS TEAM (SOT)

EIGHTH SESSION

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FUNDING ISSUES (SOT TECHNICAL CO-ORDINATOR, TRUST FUNDS)

(Submitted by the Secretariat)

Summary and purpose of the document

This document provides information on the funding mechanism that sustains the post of SOT Technical Co-ordinator.

ACTION PROPOSED

The Team will review the information contained in this report, and comment and make decisions or recommendations as appropriate. See part A for the details of recommended actions.

SOT Members will be invited to contribute to the Trust Fund to support the Technical Co-ordinator post and thus ensure that current services are maintained while also allowing for future development in support of the VOS, ASAP and SOOP.

The Team will discuss whether there are opportunities to put in place common procurement arrangements for ship consumables, and thereby seek contributions to the JCOMM Trust Fund for Ship Consumables.

The Team will be invited to review and approve a statement of accounts for the ASAP Trust Fund, managed on its behalf by WMO. Future contributions to and expenditures from the Trust Fund should also be addressed.

- Appendices:**
- A.** ASAP Trust Fund Statement of account for 2013
 - B.** ASAP Trust Fund Statement of account for 2014
 - C.** Table of National Contributions to the DBCP Trust Fund for 2015

- A - DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE FINAL REPORT*Funding of JCOMMOPS and the SOT Technical Coordinator's position*

12.3.1 The Team recalled that during the last intersessional period the position of the SOT Technical Coordinator was occupied by Mr Martin Kramp (JCOMMOPS) on a part-time (30%) basis. The Team noted that the Ship Coordinator's position, including salary and missions are essentially supported by (i) the DBCP, (ii) GO-SHIP, and (iii) the SOT through voluntary contributions made to the DBCP and JCOMM trust funds at WMO. Contributions to the DBCP Trust fund in 2015 are provided in Appendix C. The national contributions to the SOT and GO-SHIP are made through the DBCP and JCOMM Trust Funds at the WMO, and total of USD 110,000 from these Trust Funds was committed to the 2015 budget as detailed below:

- JCOMM Trust Fund: USD 100,000 allocated to the Ship coordinator's position (US contribution for GO-SHIP and SOT)
- DBCP Trust Fund: USD 10,000 allocated to SOT activities

12.3.2 The Team recommended that actual expenditures for the SOT Ship Coordinator's position should be balanced with the contributions from other Panels contributing to JCOMMOPS, and that the total of SOT expenditures should not exceed the national contributions to the SOT in any case.

12.3.3 The Team agreed that contributions for the SOT TC would continue to be made to the DBCP and JCOMM Trust Funds at WMO, and that expenditures related to the SOT budgeted line in the DBCP Trust Fund should be authorized by the SOT Chair, noting that all DBCP TF expenditures have to be authorized by the DBCP Chair in any case per WMO financial regulation. The Team invited its members to contribute to the Trust Fund to support the Technical Coordinator post and thus ensure that current services are maintained while also allowing (i) to decrease the contributions of those countries contributing heavily to the SOT, and (ii) for future development in support of the VOS, ASAP, SOOP, and GO-SHIP.

JCOMM Trust Fund for Ship Consumables

12.3.5 The Team recalled and confirmed its decision at SOT-7 that the Ship Consumables Trust Fund¹ was no longer needed.

ASAP Trust Fund

12.3.6 The meeting reviewed the final statements of account for the ASAP Trust Fund for the period 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2013, and for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014. These statements are given in Appendix A and B respectively. The Team noted that some expenditures – approved by the SOT Chair – were made in support of (i) the Fifth Session of the JCOMM Observations Coordination Group (Silver Spring, USA, 5-7 September 2013), and the Seventh Session of the SOT (Victoria, Canada, 22-26 April 2013). A total of CHF 24,180 remained available in the ASAP Trust Fund as of 31 December 2014. The Team accepted both statements of accounts.

12.3.7 The Team agreed that no additional contributions to the ASAP Trust Fund were needed at this point.

12.3.8 The Team recalled that the ASAP Trust Fund consists of money owed to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) following the termination of the WRAP project. The Team also recalled the conditions proposed by SOT-5 regarding the use of the remaining funds within the ASAP Trust

¹ This common fund established through Recommendation 3 (JCOMM-2) is administered by WMO, and provides Member States with a mechanism to pool financial resources for international programmes, therefore being able to take advantage of increased purchasing power to deliver (i.) better price for consumables, and (ii.) increased quantity of consumables, thus enabling developing programmes to take advantage of any surplus consumables. Whilst the Trust Fund is initially focusing on XBT probes, other expendables could also be considered in principle.

Fund (i.e. SOT-5 final report, paragraphs I-7.2.3.4 and I-7.2.3.5). Since being deposited in the ASAP Trust Fund, the money has mostly been used to fund the travel of the Chair to attend sessions of the SOT and PMO Workshops. With the imminent retirement of the Chair and current SOT Focal Point for the BOM and the appointment of a new SOT Focal Point for the BOM, the control of the spending of the ASAP Trust Fund should transfer to the new SOT Focal Point for the BOM.

- B - BACKGROUND INFORMATION

ASAP Trust Fund

1. As agreed at the seventh Session of the ASAP Coordination Committee (ACC-VII, June 1995) and at the request of the Chairperson of the ACC, the WMO Secretariat is maintaining a Trust Fund on behalf of the ACC, and its successor the Automated Ship Aerological Programme Panel (ASAPP). As agreed at the Fourteenth Session of the ASAP Panel (ASAPP-XIV, SOT-2, London, United Kingdom, 2003), this Trust Fund was used to support the Worldwide Recurring ASAP Project (WRAP) – terminated in April 2005 –, including the contract for project leader.
2. At SOT-5, the BOM Representative proposed to leave the unspent Australian funds (i.e. CHF 46,115) in the ASAP Trust Fund, provided these could be used for the benefit of the BOM as deemed appropriate by the incumbent BOM SOT Focal Point. The ASAP Panel agreed with these conditions. SOT-5 agreed that no additional contributions were needed at this point.
3. Since SOT-7, a total of CHF 9,782 have been spent from the Trust Fund in 2013 and 2014 to provide financial assistance for (i) Graeme Ball (Australia) and Paula Rychtar (USA) to attend the Seventh Session of the SOT (Victoria, Canada, 22-26 April 2013), and (ii) Graeme Ball to attend the Fifth Session of the JCOMM Observations Coordination Group (Silver Spring, USA, 5-7 September 2013). These expenditures have been approved by the SOT Chair, and the incumbent BOM SOT Focal Point for Australia, Mr Graeme Ball. A total of CHF 24,180 remained available in the ASAP Trust Fund as of 31 December 2014.
4. Regarding the remaining funds in the ASAP Trust Fund, after subtracting the BOM contribution, the ASAP Panel also agreed at the SOT-4 to use the residual money for the design, editing, printing, and distribution of the new ASAP brochure. The ASAP Panel had also agreed that the remaining funds in the trust fund, after the expenditures for the new ASAP Brochure, could be spent as possibly recommended by the Chairperson of the new ASAP Task Team. Noting that no expenditures had been made during the previous intersessional period in this regard, SOT-5 agreed again with these decisions.
5. Through Resolution 2 (JCOMM-3), *Observations Programme Area*, JCOMM terminated the ASAP Panel and all of its outstanding and proposed future activities were passed to the SOT Task Team on ASAP. Decisions regarding the management of the ASAP trust fund were transferred to the SOT.

Appendices: 3

APPENDIX A

ASAP TRUST FUND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR 2013



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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ASAP Trust Fund

Statement of income and expenditure

For the period 1 January to 31 December 2013

Amounts in Swiss Francs

1. Balance of fund at 1 January 2013			33,946
2. Income			-
3. Funds available for the period			33,946
4. Expenditure			
4.1 Direct costs			
4.1.1 Travel	9,074		
4.1.2 Total direct costs		9,074	
4.2 Indirect costs			
4.2.1 Support costs (7%)	635		
4.2.2 Bank charges	41		
4.2.3 Unrealized loss on exchange difference	32		
4.2.4 Total indirect costs		708	
4.3 Total expenditure			9,782
5. Balance of fund at 31 December 2013			24,164

Certified correct:

Luckson Ngwira
Chief, Finance Division
12 March 2014

APPENDIX B

ASAP TRUST FUND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR 2014



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ASAP Trust Fund
Statement of income and expenditure
For the period 1 January to 31 December 2014
Amounts in Swiss Francs

1. Balance of fund at 1 January 2014		24,164
2. Income		
2.1 Unrealized gain on currency exchange	17	
2.2 Total income		17
3. Funds available for the period		24,181
4. Expenditure		
4.1 Bank charges	1	
4.2 Total expenditure		1
5. Balance of fund at 31 December 2014		24,180

Certified correct:

Luckson Ngwira
Chief, Finance Division
4 March 2015

APPENDIX C

TABLE OF NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DBCP TRUST FUND FOR 2015

Budget Country	JCOMMOPS	DBCP	OceanSITES	SOT	JTA	COMMENT
Australia	EUR 11,700		USD 5,000			JCOMMOPS: including DBCP (50%) and SOT (50%)
Canada	CAD 30,000					JCOMMOPS, including DBCP and SOT
CLS					USD 50,000	USD 30,000 for the JTA-Executive Committee USD 10,000 for the IOC Secretariat (paid directly to IOC) USD 10,000 for the WMO Secretariat
E-SURFMAR		EUR 40,000				Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom
Germany		EUR 3,600				Support to DBCP
India		USD 5,000				
New Zealand	Eur 1,800					JCOMMOPS, including DBCP (50%) and SOT (50%)
South Africa		EUR 4,000				
USA	USD 59000	USD 70,000	USD 30,000	USD 100,000		Contribution to TC-DBCP and SOT made to WMO as of 2012 SOT contribution includes SOT TC (USD 40,000), Ship Coordinator (USD 50,000), and GO-SHIP Coordination (USD 10,000)