

Extract relating to codes and format from WMO documents

COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS
ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT
OF THE
EXTRA ORDINARY SESSION
Hamburg, 21 October – 1 November 1985
WMO - No. 654

GENERAL SUMMARY

7.2 Codes (agenda item 7.2)

Observations of wave height from automatic stations

7.2.32 The Commission discussed a proposal concerning the reporting of wave height from automatic stations taking into account the increased accuracy of instrumental devices as opposed to visual observations. It considered the improvement of accuracy to be of global significance and noted the particular value of accurate wave height data for satellite calibration and as a basis for the WMO wave programme.

7.2.33 The Commission agreed to introduce a new optional code group (70H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}) in Section 2 of the SYNOP/SHIP code and requested the Secretary-General to arrange for the necessary amendments to the Manual on Codes, in conjunction with several other changes to the above code forms.

7.2.34 Recommendation 10 (CBS-Ext. (85)) was adopted.

Rec. 10 (CBS-Ext. (85)) – WAVE HEIGHT IN REPORTS FROM AUTOMATIC SHIP STATIONS

THE COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS,

NOTING the greater accuracy in measurement of wave height in reports from certain automatic ship stations,

CONSIDERING the loss of this increased accuracy due to the limitations of the present regulations for the Code form FM 12-VII SYNOP and FM 13-VII SHIP,

RECOMMENDS that the amendments to regulations for Code form FM 12-VII SYNOP and FM 13-VII SHIP, given in the annex to this recommendation, be adopted for use as from 1 November 1987;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to arrange for the necessary amendments to be included in Volume I of the Manual on Codes.

Annex to recommendation 10 (CBS-Ext. (85))
 WAVE HEIGHT IN REPORTS FROM AUTOMATIC SHIP STATIONS
 (CODE FORM FM 12-VII SYNOP/FM 13-VII SHIP)

1. Change Section 2 of the Code form FM 12-VII/FM 13-VII as follows:

SECTION 2 222D_sV_s (0s_nT_wT_wT_w) (1P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}) (2P_wP_wH_wH_w)
 ((3d_{w1}d_{w1}d_{w2}d_{w2}) (4P_{w1}P_{w1}H_{w1}H_{w1}) (5P_{w2}P_{w2}H_{w2}H_{w2}))

({ 6IsEsEsRs
 or
 ICING + plain language }) (70H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}) (ICE + { c_iS_ib_iD_iz_i
 or
 plain language })

2. Make the following changes under Regulation 12.3.3

12.3.3

Groups (1P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa} (2P_wP_wH_wH_w) and (70H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa})

12.3.3.2

The group 1P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa} shall be used to report instrumental wave data in units of 0.5 metres.

12.3.3.6

The group 70H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa} shall be reported in addition to the group 1P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa} when the following conditions have been met:

- (a) The sea is not calm (e.g. P_{wa}P_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa} has not been reported as 0000);
- (b) H_{wa}H_{wa} has not been reported as //;
- (c) The station has the capability of accurately measuring instrumental wave height in units of 0.1 metre.

3. Changes to symbolic figures and figure groups

Add the following symbolic figure group to Section B in Volume I of the WMO Manual on Codes:

70 Instrumental wave height, in units of 0.1 metre, follows.

(FM 12-VIII Ext., FM 13-VIII Ext.)

4. Changes to specifications of symbolic letters

Add the following symbolic letters to Section C in Volume I of the WMO Manual on Codes:

$H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}$ Height of waves, obtained by instrumental methods, in units of 0.1 metre.

(FM 12-VIII Ext., FM 13-VIII Ext.)

(1) See Regulation 12.3.3.6 for the use of $H_{wa}H_{wa}H_{wa}$.

(2) See Note (1) under H_wH_w .