

COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY
ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION

Washington, 2 – 29 April 1953

WMO – No. 16.RP.7

GENERAL SUMMARY

6.5 Codes

6.5.1 Synoptic code forms

Discussions centered around the basic synoptic code form (SYNOP) as a result of the comments and proposals placed before the CSM during the course of several years by various bodies. The main problem was to reconcile existing divergent practices, where one group of countries considers it essential to have the five figure station index-number, while others are satisfied to work with a three figure index-number. In the first case dew-point is coded in the group $T_d T_{dapp}$, in the second dew-point is given in $iii T_d T_d$ with app in a drop-out group 6japp, which drop-out group is an essential requirement of the tropics. The solution found and unanimously adopted (Recommendation 1) involves some change for all Meteorological Services. Countries are called upon to make some sacrifice and some compromise in accepting the new form. These demands are however only justified if complete uniformity is obtained, that is if the code form is introduced on a world-wide basis. The tropics in particular are being asked to undertake an additional burden (the estimate average increase of the length of a report in the tropics is 6-15%), but with a compensating gain of additional data. Regional agreements on the use of certain code figures are necessary and the date of introduction should permit mature regional consideration.

The code form for reports from light-vessels was also considered. It was decided that the code form for land stations as well as that for ship stations could be used (Recommendation 8) without confusion. The necessary corrections to Fascicule IV, (Publication No. 9) are given in this recommendation.

Rec. 8 (CSM-I) – METEOROLOGICAL REPORTS FROM LIGHT-VESSELS

THE COMMISSION FOR SYNOPTIC METEOROLOGY,

CONSIDERING that at present various practices exist for reporting meteorological observations from light-vessels and ships;

RECOMMENDS,

- (1) That those members which consider light-vessels in the same category as land stations shall use land code form with index numbers to be published in Volume A of Publication No. 9. The reports shall be included in land report collectives;
 - (2) That those Members which consider light-vessels in the category of ships shall use ship code forms and include the reports in ship collectives;
 - (3) That group (7RRjj) (in brackets) be added to FM 21;
 - (4) That note (7) on page I-A-1-16 of Fascicule I of Publication No. 9 be cancelled;
 - (5) That on page I-A-1-17 of Fascicule I of Publication No. 9 under FM 15 a new note (6) be inserted to read :
“ National Services may require reports from light-vessels in the AERO form with special groups added (e.g. AERO form with group 3TTT_sT_s). In these cases each special group must have an indicator figure and the reports are not to be included in international exchanges ”.
 - (6) That on page I-A-1-23 of Fascicule I of Publication No. 9 under FM 21 a new note (14) be inserted to read :
“ If the groups N_hC_LhC_MC_H and D_sv_sapp are not reported, 60 should be added to GG ”.
- Cf: (1) Res. 161, Note (g), (CD Washigton 1947), Publ. OMI No. 71
(2) Res. 4 (CMM-1) (London 1952), Publ. WMO No. 10.RP.2