

COMMISSION FOR THE MARINE METEOROLOGY  
ABRIDGED FINAL REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION

Lisbon, 19-30 April 1993

WMO – No.792

GENERAL SUMMARY

7.3 OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO MARINE CLIMATOLOGY (agenda item 7.3)

7.3.6 The Commission recalled that, at its tenth session, it had proposed to the Sub-group on Marine Climatology to investigate the possibilities for introducing certain coding changes into both the SHIP code and the IMMT format, to enable the inclusion of additional information of relevance to marine climatology, in the data reports from the VOS. These proposals were considered by the sub-group at its sixth session, along with a number of other possible modifications, which had been recognized during the discussions on other agenda items for the session as being important for the reporting of information relevant to global climate studies (see paragraph 7.3.5 above). On the basis of these considerations, the sub-group had prepared a consolidated set of proposed modifications to the SHIP code (and also eventually to BUFR), which were submitted to CBS through its Sub-group on Codes. The actions taken by CBS on these modifications are noted under agenda item 6.7.

7.3.7 The Commission agreed that any changes to VOS reporting practices, whether via real-time SHIP reports or through logbooks – to allow reporting of additional information – necessitated corresponding changes to the IMMT format to allow this information to be exchanged through the Marine Climatological Summaries Scheme (MCSS) and stored in marine climatological data archives. In this context, the

Commission also noted that marine climatological data for archival were increasingly coming directly from the real-time SHIP reports or through electronic logbooks rather than the traditional manual logbooks. The Commission therefore agreed to adopt provisionally a revised IMMT format, to incorporate the new data to be recorded, which should be implemented in line with the SHIP code modifications adopted by CBS-X. Recommendation 13 (CMM-XI) was adopted to effect this.

### RECOMMENDATION 13 (CMM-XI)

#### MODIFICATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME METEOROLOGICAL TAPE (IMMT) FORMAT FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MARINE CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA

THE COMMISSION FOR MARINE METEOROLOGY,  
NOTING:

- (1) The abridges final report of the tenth session of CMM-X, general summary, paragraph 8.4.8,
- (2) The *Manual on Marine Meteorological Services*, Volume I, Part 1, Appendix I.12 – Layout for the International Maritime meteorological Tape (IMMT).
- (3) The final report of the sixth session of the CMM Sub-group on Marine Climatology,
- (4) Recommendation 9 (CBS-X) – Proposed amendments to FM 13-IX Ext. SHIP,
- (5) Results of the VOS Special Observing Project North Atlantic (VSOP-NA) – Marine Meteorology and Related Oceanographic Activities Report No. 26,

CONSIDERING:

- (1) The continuing and increasing importance of the Marine Climatological Summaries Scheme (MCSS) to both research and operational users of marine climatological data,
- (2) That all available information relating to meteorological and oceanographic observations from the voluntary observing ships should be exchanged and archived through the MCSS,

RECOMMENDS:

- (1) That the modified IMMT format for the exchange of marine climatological data, as given in the annex to this recommendation, should be adopted for inclusion as an Appendix to Volume I, Part 1 of the Manual on Marine Meteorological Services,
- (2) That the implementation date for the modified IMMT format should be the same as that for the SHIP code modification adopted by CBS-X, that is 2 November 1994.

Annex to Recommendation 13 (CMM-XI)

LAYOUT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME METEOROLOGICAL TAPE (IMMT)  
[version IMMT-1]