

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC
COMMISSION (OF UNESCO)**

DATA BUOY COOPERATION PANEL

DBCP-XXVII/Doc. 3.1(2)
(9 May 2011)

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION

ITEM: 3.1

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
26-30 SEPTEMBER 2011

ENGLISH ONLY

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1 OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chairperson of the Panel, Mr Al Wallace, will open the Scientific and Technical Workshop with DBCP-XXVII at 0900 hours on Monday, 26 September 2011, at the Headquarters of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Geneva, Switzerland.

2 SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

This workshop is a key element of DBCP annual activities, in that it maintains and stimulates dialogue between the research and operational communities. This has proven crucial to the success of the Panel over the past years. The workshop will be held from 0915 to 1730 hours, and will be conducted in English only. The Panel will briefly review the results and recommendations arising from the workshop, and decide on the theme and structure for a similar workshop for the upcoming DBCP-XXVIII.

3 OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Chairperson will open the Twenty-seventh session of the DBCP at 0900 hours on Tuesday, 27 September 2011. The working language of the session will be English only.

3.1 Adoption of the agenda

Based on the provisional agenda, the Panel will be invited to adopt its agenda for the session.

3.2 Working arrangements

The Panel will decide on its working hours and other arrangements for conducting the session. The joint Secretariat will introduce the documentation in accordance with the provisional agenda.

4 REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS, AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons will present the Panel with reports on their respective activities during the intersessional period. The Chairperson will also present a report on the activities and decisions of the Executive Board during the last intersessional period, as well as plans and proposals for ongoing or future activities.

5 REPORT BY THE TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

The Technical Co-ordinator, Ms Kelly Stroker will present the Panel with the report on her activities since her recruitment during the last intersessional period.

6 REPORT BY THE TASK TEAMS

6.1 Task Team on Data Management (TT-DM)

Ms Mayra Pazos, Chairperson of the Task Team, will report on the Panel's Data Management activities undertaken during the last intersessional period and that need particular attention by Panel Members. She will make recommendations with regard to the Task Team on Data Management workplan for the forthcoming intersessional period. The Panel is invited to consider and advise on code developments, and distribution of buoy data.

6.2 Task Team on Instrument Best Practices and Drifter Technology Developments (TT-IBPD)

Dr Bill Burnett will report on the Panel's activities on Instrument Best Practices & Drifter Technology Developments during the last intersessional period. He will also address issues that need particular attention by Panel Members, and make recommendations on the workplan for the forthcoming intersessional period. The Panel is invited to advice on future requirements for platform, instrument evaluations, and developing assistance material for the best practice. The Panel, in particular, is invited to consider the actions to move forward the documentation on instrument calibration, best practices and standards for implementation of buoy networks, which will eventually benefit both global and coastal applications.

6.3 Task Team on Moored Buoys (TT-MB)

Dr Jon Turton will report on the Panel's Moored Buoy activities undertaken during the last intersessional period and that need particular attention by Panel Members. He will make recommendations on the workplan for the forthcoming intersessional period.

6.4 Task Team on Capacity-Building (TT-CB)

Dr Sid Thurston will report on Capacity-Building activities during the intersessional period, and particularly on the outcome of the second IOC-WMO Data Buoy Cooperation Panel In-Region Western Indian Ocean Capacity Building Workshop, held in Mauritius, 2-6 May 2011. He will then make recommendations on future priority for the Task Team, and propose a workplan for the forthcoming intersessional period.

7 REPORTS BY THE ACTION GROUPS

The Panel will be presented with reports from its action groups, including the Surface Marine programme of the Network of European Meteorological Services, EUMETNET (E-SURFMAR), Global Drifter Programme (GDP), International Arctic Buoy Programme (IABP), International Buoy Programme for the Indian Ocean (IBPIO), WCRP-SCAR International Programme for Antarctic Buoys (IPAB), International South Atlantic Buoy Programme (ISABP), DBCP-PICES North Pacific Data Buoy Advisory Panel (NPDBAP), and OCEAN Sustained Interdisciplinary Timeseries Environment observation System (OceanSITES), Tropical Moored Buoys Implementation Panel (TIP), and the International Tsunameter Partnership (ITP).

Proposals for formation of new regional or programmatic action groups of the Panel will also be considered.

8 PILOT PROJECTS

8.1 Drifter Iridium Pilot Project

The Panel will review the development of the Iridium Pilot Project, evaluate the effectiveness of the Iridium satellite data telecommunication system based on the results from the data collected from Iridium drifter deployed so far. The Panel at its Twenty-Sixth Session agreed that the collective experience gained from the Pilot Project should be recorded in a best-practice guide for the use of Iridium in drifters, and asked the Pilot Project steering team to investigate means for the production of such a guide. The Panel will review the status of this development. The Panel is invited to make recommendations to the Pilot Project Steering Team, as appropriate, on the workplan for the next intersessional period.

8.2 Pilot Project for the evaluation of Argos-3 technology

The Panel will review the development and current status of the Argos-3 pilot project implementation, in particular regarding an independent assessment of the new Argos-3 technology through the Pilot Project Steering Team. The Panel is invited to provide input to the PP steering team with users requirements, and make recommendations to the Pilot Project Steering Team, as appropriate.

8.3 Pilot Project on Wave Measurement from Drifters (PP-WMD)

The Panel will be reported on the progress of the Pilot Project, and will review the work undertaken by Mr David Meldrum as requested by the last Panel Session at its previous Session in this regard (i.e. full desk study of the new literature; contacting the main players in the field; and proposing an action plan for consideration by the Executive Board and by the Panel). The Panel will be invited to make recommendations to the Pilot Project Steering Team, as appropriate, on the workplan for the next intersessional period.

8.4 DBCP/ETWS Pilot Project on Wave measurement Evaluation and Test from moored buoys (PP-WET)

The Panel will be reported on the progress of the Pilot Project, and the workplan for the next intersessional period that was agreed at the last Panel Session (see Annex XV of DBCP-26 final report. The Panel is invited to make recommendations to the Pilot Project Steering Team, as appropriate, on the workplan for the next intersessional period.

8.5 DBCP/GHRSSST Pilot Project for High Resolution SST (PP-HRSST)

At its Twenty-Sixth Session, the Panel concurred with the proposal to establish a “Joint DBCP/GHRSSST¹ Pilot Project to Upgrade Elements of the Global Drifting Buoy Fleet to Allow the Reporting of Higher Resolution SST and Position” as a means to enhance integration of *in situ* and satellite data and better understand the requirements of satellite products for SST data. The Panel requested Mr David Meldrum to proceed with the establishment of a joint DBCP-GHRSSST steering team for a Pilot Project for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature (SST) (PP-HRSST) to draw up a work plan and agree an evaluation methodology, in the recognition that high resolution SST, if proved beneficial, might in due course become a standard feature of the operational drifter fleet. The Panel will be reported on the progress of the Pilot Project. The Panel is invited to make recommendations to the Pilot Project Steering Team, as appropriate, on the workplan for the next intersessional period.

9 ISSUES FOR THE PANEL

1 : GHRSSST : Group for High Resolution Sea Surface Temperature

9.1 Information Exchange

The Technical Co-ordinator will report on DBCP information exchange issues, including, in particular, the operation of the DBCP web server, the updated DBCP brochure, and new DBCP Publications.

9.2 Deployment opportunities and strategies

The Panel will review the current status and discuss on how to improve buoy deployment strategies and new tools which might be developed and used in the future in this regard Panel members will be invited to report on the opportunities for the deployment of buoys they might be able to provide to other Panel members or other panels (e.g., Argo, SOOP). It will also be invited to discuss how to practically submit information on deployment opportunities to JCOMMOPS, as such information is not always made available.

9.3 GTS delays

The Panel will discuss present status, and possible future improvements in the network of delayed-mode (global) and real-time (regional) ground receiving stations for observations received via Argos. The present status of the GTS delays encountered by observations received by both Argos and Iridium will also be presented. The Panel will be invited to establish a set of recommendation in order to improve the current status, as required.

9.4 Vandalism

The Panel will review actions undertaken during the last intersessional period for preventing vandalism on data buoys (e.g., advertisement of data buoy use and education, vandalism-proof designs). The Panel will particularly review the report on ocean observing platform vandalism that was prepared the International Tsunameter Partnership at the request of the IOC Assembly (IOC Resolution XXV-13) and the WMO Executive Council (EC-LXII), and follow up actions by the small working group established by DBCP-26 to provide continuity of attention to this important issue, and to provide a focal point for follow-up action by the Panel. The Panel will further consider the effectiveness of currently available anti-vandalism measures and make recommendations as required.

9.5 Metadata

The Panel will discuss on progress regarding the collection of buoy metadata, including recommendations from JCOMM-III, and use of the JCOMMOPS metadata collection scheme. The Panel will then be reported on the legacy recommendations from the Water Temperature Metadata Pilot Project (META-T PP). Panel members are invited to encourage buoy operators and manufacturers to make use of the JCOMMOPS metadata collection scheme. The Panel will also be invited to discuss on ways to facilitate distribution of the metadata to the appropriate centres.

9.6 Technological developments in support of user requirements

The Panel will discuss recent technological developments or plans for new developments to support user requirements (NWP, ocean modelling, climate variability and predictability, climate forecast, ocean research). The aim is to optimize buoy design, deployment strategies and data management to maximize the usefulness of buoy data, in terms of both their impact on model forecasts and efficient use of resources.

9.7 Other issues to be discussed, as proposed by the Task Teams

Under this agenda item, the Panel may consider any other technical issues requiring international coordination or action. In particular, it will review issues proposed by the Task Teams in document 6 as required.

10 INFORMATION REPORTS

10.1 Argo

A report will be presented on behalf of the Argo Steering Team. This report will present the Argo latest scientific results. A report will also be presented on the activities of the Argo Information Centre (AIC) which is part of JCOMMOPS.

10.2 Buoy data management centres

The Panel will review the reports by the Responsible National Oceanographic Data Centre (RNODC) for drifting buoys, operated by the Canadian Marine Environmental Data Service (MEDS) and the Specialized Oceanographic Centre (SOC) for drifting buoys, operated by Météo-France.

10.3 Argos operations and developments

The Panel will review the operation of the Argos system over the past 12 months, including, in particular: (i) status and plans for Argos satellite constellation; (ii) Global and regional network of receiving stations; (iii) recent developments with regard to the Argos GTS sub-system; (iv) Argos developments and the future Argos GTS data processing system. The Panel will be invited to adopt a common position for buoy operators with regard to the forthcoming Argos Joint Tariff Agreement meeting.

10.4 Iridium operations and developments

The Panel will be presented on an overview of the current status with regard to the operations and development of the Iridium satellite telecommunication system.

10.5 Additional reports, as required

The Panel will review additional reports as required.

11 ORGANIZATIONAL ISSUES

11.1 Recruitment of the new Technical Coordinator

The Panel will recall the discussion at the previous DBCP Session regarding the recruitment of the new Technical Coordinator of the DBCP following the resignation of Ms Hester Viola in 2010. The Panel will review the subsequent actions undertaken by the Chairperson, the Executive Board and the Secretariats to evaluate the candidates for the position and select the current incumbent.

As a regular process, the Panel will review and propose revision as necessary to the current Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Technical Coordinator, and the arrangements for overall supervision, guidance, training, evaluation and promotion, both now and in the future. This will be also considered for the DBCP Operating Principles, under agenda item 12.2.

11.2 JCOMM activities, including JCOMMOPS

A report will be provided to the Panel on the activities of JCOMMOPS and on other JCOMM activities during the intersessional period. The Panel will be invited to provide comments and advice. The Panel, in particular, will review priorities for the JCOMM Observations Programme Area, and consider this in deciding the Panel's workplan under agenda item 12.3.

11.3 Report on decisions of WMO and IOC governing bodies

The Joint Secretariat will report on the results of the IOC Forty-Fourth Executive Council (Paris, France, 21 June 2011), the Twenty-Sixth Assembly (Paris, France, 22 June – 6 July 2011), the WMO Sixteenth Congress (Geneva, Switzerland, 16 May – 3 June 2011), and the WMO Sixty-Third Executive Council (Geneva, Switzerland, 6-8 June 2011) that have been held during the intersessional period, with highlight on the relevant decisions and issues to the Panel.

11.4 User Requirements

The Panel will review the GOOS activities during the intersessional period in view of its contribution to meet the GOOS goals and objectives, and review the requirements expressed by the GOOS / GCOS Ocean Observing Panel for Climate (OOPC), as required. The Panel will also discuss the WMO Rolling Review of Requirements and how non-climate requirements can be addressed.

11.5 WMO Integrated Global Observing Systems (WIGOS)

The Panel will review the outcome and guidance from the WMO Sixteenth Congress with regard to the implementation of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) during the period 2012 to 2015, and discuss the role that the DBCP should play in this regard in line with the legacy recommendations from the JCOMM Pilot Project for WIGOS.

11.6 Financial reports

The Panel will review the status of the DBCP accounts being managed by the joint Secretariat on behalf of the Panel. The Panel, after review, will be invited to approve the financial reports on the DBCP Trust Fund.

12 REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Executive Board will report on the outcome of its discussions in separate session and make recommendations to the Panel as appropriate. Based on the Executive Board recommendations and input from Panel Members, the Panel will be invited to discuss and adopt the revised implementation strategy, operating principles, work priorities for the Technical Co-ordinator, and the DBCP work plan for the next intersessional period.

12.1 DBCP implementation strategies

The Panel will review, and update as necessary, its Implementation Strategy. This review will include, inter alia, any modifications to global requirements for buoy data in support, in particular, of operational meteorology and oceanography, major research programmes including the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS), the WMO Integrated Global Observing Systems (WIGOS), and the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS).

12.2 DBCP Operating Principles

The Panel will review and update the DBCP operating principles which were adopted at the DBCP-XXVI, based on the precedent discussion during the session.

12.3 Review of action items from the previous DBCP Session

The Panel will review the action items from the previous DBCP Session, close those actions that have been completed, and update other actions to be included in the forthcoming intersessional workplan as appropriate.

12.4 Workplans and priority for the Panel and the Technical Coordinator

The Panel will discuss and agree on its priorities for the next intersessional period. Based on foreseen DBCP activities and priorities for the forthcoming intersessional period, the Panel will adopt a budget for the next year. The Panel will also review the Technical Co-ordinator's working priorities for the next intersessional period.

13 NATIONAL REPORTS

The Panel will review brief reports on current and planned buoy programmes presented by the Panel Member countries.

14 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON

The Panel will be invited to elect its Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons for the next intersessional period.

15 ADOPTION OF THE SESSION REPORT

The Panel will review the draft session report prepared by the Secretariat, make comments or provide suggestions, as appropriate, approve the report, as well as the decisions, recommendations, and action items that will be arising from this Panel Session.

16 DATES AND PLACE FOR THE NEXT SESSION

The Panel will decide on the dates and place of its Twenty-eighth session.

17 CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

The twenty-seventh session of the Data Buoy Co-operation Panel is expected to close on Friday, 30 September 2011 at 1700.
