WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC **COMMISSION (OF UNESCO)**

JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY (JCOMM) SHIP OBSERVATIONS TEAM (SOT)

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ITEM: 9.1.4

SEVENTH SESSION

VICTORIA, CANADA, 22-26 APRIL 2013

Original: ENGLISH

VOSCLIM DATA ASSEMBLY CENTRE (DAC) REPORT

(Submitted by Eric Freeman (USA))

Summary and purpose of the document

This report, by the National Climatic Data Center - NCDC (acting as the DAC for the VOS Climate Fleet), provides information on the present status of the DAC activities in accordance with its Terms of Reference. It includes information on the status of the project website, including the collection and provision of real-time and delayed-mode observation data, metadata, ship listings and other project information.

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.

Appendices: A. Screen Captures from the updated VOSClim Fleet DAC Website

- A - DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE FINAL REPORT

9.1.4.1 The National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), acting as the DAC for the VOSClim fleet, reported on the present status of the DAC activities in accordance with its Terms of Reference. The DAC reported on the status of the project website, including the collection and provision of real-time and delayed-mode observation data, metadata, ship listings and other project information. In the coming years, the MCDS will replace the MCSS and at that time it is expected that the VOSClim DAC will be upgraded to the VOSClim Global Data Assembly Centre (GDAC).

Data Assembly

- 9.1.4.2 The Team noted that the NCDC maintains several archives in support of the VOSClim Fleet and hosts a web presence¹ for access to fleet information and data. The archive consists of three data streams:
 - GTS near-real time collection of ship observations
 - BUFR ship observations plus model fields
 - GCC Global Collection Centers delayed mode ship observations
- 9.1.4.3 VOSClim observations from all streams are captured based on the most current ship list² available. GTS ship observations are transmitted over the GTS under a variety of WMO headers. BUFR ship observations are transmitted daily via GTS under WMO abbreviated header IZZX40 from the UK Met Office.
- 9.1.4.4 The Team further noted that the DAC continues to report quarterly to the GCCs on the number of delayed mode VOSClim observations parsed from the delayed mode files distributed to Responsible Members (RM). This information is used in the GCC annual reports.
- 9.1.4.5 All observations are decoded into the International Maritime Meteorological Archive (IMMA) format³ and placed on the project web site¹.

VOSClim Web Page and Data Access

- 9.1.4.5 NCDC reported that the VOSClim web page was significantly modified in 2011 to represent the upgrade of VOSClim from a project to its own class within the VOS Scheme. New VOSClim Fleet logos were added to the website, replacing the Project logo, and the site was downsized in order to focus primarily on VOSClim-related material and move all extraneous VOS Scheme materials/links to the official International VOS website ⁴. A screen shot of the new VOSClim Fleet home page is provided in Appendix A.
- 9.1.4.6 The Team recalled that the data access website⁵ allows viewing of the data directly by any browser. For an automated download, the data is available on an anonymous FTP site⁶. In either location, separate folders exist for each year beginning with 2001. Also available for download from the FTP site is the VOSClim Ship List in MS Excel format; award pictures; ship pictures; and the statistics and suspect ship reports.

VOSClim Ship List and Participation

9.1.4.7 The DAC noted with appreciation that the number of recruited ships was up to 432. Participation in VOSClim continues to increase. One hundred eleven (111) ships were recruited into the VOSClim fleet since SOT-VI (April 2011, inclusive) while 39 vessels were withdrawn during

¹ http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclim.html

² http://www1.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/vosclim/vosclimshiplist.xls

³ http://icoads.noaa.gov/e-doc/imma/R2.5-imma.pdf

⁴ http://www.bom.gov.au/jcomm/vos/vos.html

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclimdata.html

ftp://ftp.ncdc.noaa.gov/pub/data/vosclim

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the same period, providing a net gain of 72 VOSClim vess	the sa	same period.	providing a	net gain of	72 VOSClim	vessels
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9.1.4.8 The DAC commends International Port Meteorological Officers (PMO) for timely updates and notifications of new VOSClim recruits/withdrawals.

Appendix: 1

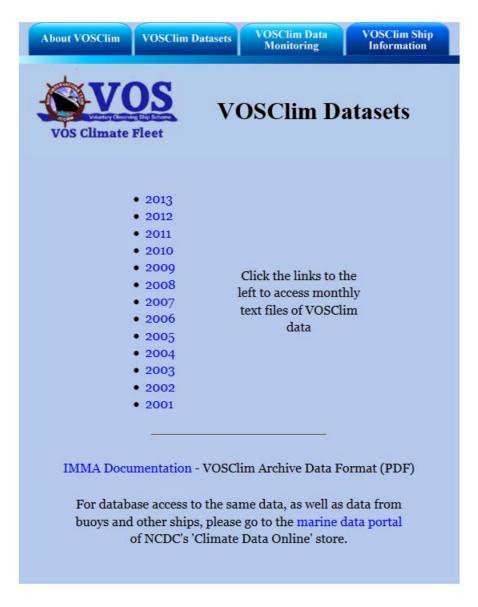
APPENDIX A

SCREEN CAPTURES FROM THE UPDATED VOSCLIM FLEET DAC WEBSITE



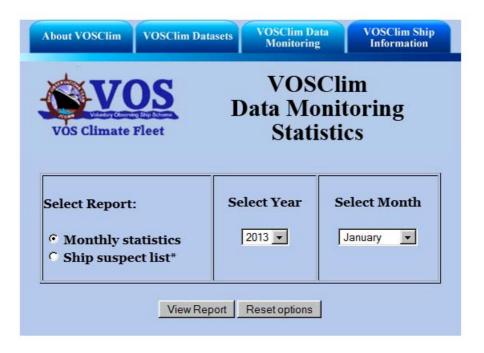
A.1) VOSClim home page:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclim.html



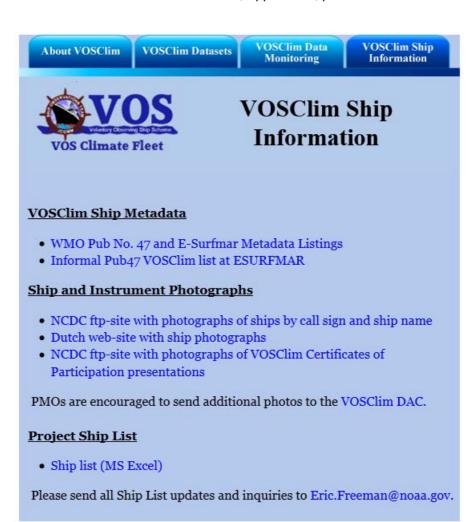
A.2) VOSClim data access:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclimdata.html



A.3) VOSClim monitoring statistics:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/vosclim-stats.html



A.4) VOSClim ship information:

http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/climate/vosclim/shipinfo.html