

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

**COMMISSION FOR INSTRUMENTS AND  
METHODS OF OBSERVATION**  
OPAG-UPPER-AIR

Distr.: RESTRICTED

**JOINT MEETING**

CIMO/OPAG-UPPER-AIR/  
/ET-UASI-1/IOC-1/Doc. 1.2(2)

**CIMO EXPERT TEAM ON  
UPPER-AIR SYSTEMS INTERCOMPARISONS**  
*First Session*

(26.I.2004)

*AND*

ITEM: 1.2

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (IOC) ON  
UPPER-AIR SYSTEMS INTERCOMPARISONS**  
*First Session*

Original: ENGLISH ONLY

GENEVA (SWITZERLAND), 17-20 MARCH 2004

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM**

**1. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION**

**1.1 Opening of the session**

The first session of the CIMO Expert Team on Upper-Air Systems Intercomparisons (ET) and the first session of the International Organizing Committee on Upper-Air Systems Intercomparisons (IOC) will be opened on Wednesday, 17 March 2004, at 10:00 a.m. at the WMO Headquarters, Geneva.

**1.2 Adoption of the agenda**

The joint ET and IOC meeting will be invited to consider the provisional agenda with a view of its adoption.

**1.3 Working arrangements for the session**

The joint ET and IOC meeting will agree on details concerning the organization of its work including working hours. The documentation will be available in English only, and the meeting will be held in English. The joint ET/IOC meeting will agree on chairing the joint meeting.

**2. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

The chairman of the ET will brief the participants on the purpose and scope of the joint ET and IOC meeting based on the Terms of Reference of ET approved by CIMO-XIII and CIMO Management Group and based on the Terms of Reference of IOC defined in the Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation, WMO-No.8, Chapter 5, Annex 5.A. He will also submit a report on the activities carried out by the ET since its establishment.

**3. REVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS INTERCOMPARISONS AND TESTS**

The joint ET/IOC meeting will review the previous WMO intercomparisons. Participants will provide an information on recent national tests / comparisons, including the national progress reports on testing quality of new radiosondes and requirements for further tests and/or intercomparisons. ET

chair will brief the meeting on a progress of testing “universal” upper-air systems (flexible systems).

#### **4. REPORT ON RADIOSONDE COMPATIBILITY**

ET chair will report on radiosonde compatibility as prepared by Mr J. Elms (UK) and updated by Mr T. Oakley (UK). The meeting will be invited to suggest further steps and actions in monitoring radiosonde compatibility.

#### **5. PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH QUALITY UPPER-AIR MEASUREMENTS OF TEMPERATURE AND WATER VAPOUR**

Participants are expected to provide information on the progress made in the area of development of high quality upper-air measurements of temperature and water vapour and a possibility of using them for reference purposes. In this regard, participants will also be invited to consider possible means to minimize the impact on the cost of the continuous improvements of instruments.

#### **6. REVIEW OF RELEVANT GUIDANCE MATERIAL FOR NECESSARY UPDATES**

Participants are invited to provide their views and contributions to review and update relevant guidance material, such as WMO Technical Regulations, Guides and other materials with a special emphasis on Quality Management and standardization of upper-air observations.

#### **7. WMO INTERCOMPARISON OF HIGH QUALITY RADIOSONDE SYSTEMS WITH A PRIORITY GIVEN TO IMPROVED TEMPERATURE AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY MEASUREMENTS SINCE LAST WMO INTERCOMPARISON**

The joint ET and IOC meeting is expected to agree on the organization of the intercomparison, namely the main objectives, place, date and duration of the intercomparison, condition for participation, data acquisition, processing and analysis methodology, plans for the publication of results, intercomparison rules, and responsibilities of the host and participants. In doing so, the meeting would follow the Procedures of WMO Global and Regional Intercomparisons of Instruments and Guidelines for Organizing WMO Intercomparisons of Instruments as specified in Guide to Meteorological Instruments and Methods of Observation, WMO-No.8, Chapter 5, Annex 5.A and Annex 5.B respectively.

#### **8. WORK PLAN**

The ET meeting is invited to review and adopt the proposed Work Plan for 2003 - 2006.

#### **9. AOB**

Joint ET/IOC meeting will be informed on other activities related to the work of the ET, such as a proposal for the training programme for Regional Instrument Centres to perform intercomparison tests of new radiosonde systems for climate purposes

#### **10. DRAFT REPORT OF THE SESSION**

The joint ET and IOC meeting will agree on the draft Report of the Session. Members of ET and IOC are expected to provide their written inputs for the Final Report to the chair of the joint meeting.

#### **11. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION**

It is expected to close the meeting on Saturday, 20 March 2004, late afternoon.