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| WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION  COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS  -----------------------------  FIRST MEETING OF  INTER-PROGRAMME EXPERT TEAM ON CODES MAINTENANCE  GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 24 - 28 JULY 2017 |  | IPET-CM-I / Doc. 11.2  (19. 7. 2017)  -------------------------  ITEM 11  ENGLISH ONLY |

Collaboration with other Organisations and Technical bodies

**Implementation of the WIGOS Station Identifiers**

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**Summary and Purpose of Document**

This document will outline the concerns of data users (including certain members of the NWP Community), with the implementation of the WIGOS system of station identification.

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**ACTION PROPOSED**

That a recommendation be made to CBS through the ICT-ISS for the development of a framework to manage the transition to the new WIGOS system of station identification.

**ANNEXES:**

1.

**DISCUSSION**

The development and implementation of the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) was included in the agenda on the Sixty Eighth WMO Executive Council (June 2016).

The Abridged Final Report of the session[[1]](#footnote-1) shows agreement was reached on a framework of deliverables for WIGOS, with completion of the pre-operational phase of the project expected by the time of congress-18 in 2019.

The pre-operational phase requires members to be “WIGOS Ready” as per the plan for this stage of development and includes measures for the implementation of the new “WIGOS System of station identification”.

An element of this phase of the project sets out the development of a “National WIGOS Implementation Plan” which includes measures for the implementation of the new system of station identification (as outlined above). Unfortunately the means by which the new system will be will be delivered is left open to interpretation, and it is this shortfall which will be addressed in this proposal.

**PROPOSAL**

Within much of the NWP community there is agreement that a change to the current system of station identification has the potential to impact all systems tasked with the processing and storage of observational data. These include and are not limited to databases, the processing and assimilation monitoring and verification of observational data. Extensive changes to software will be needed in all of the systems outlined above to accommodate the new identification system.

The meeting is asked to discuss and consider the development of a framework for the delivery of data utilising the new system of WIGOS station Identification. Included within this framework allowances should be made for the following:-

**Testing of the data**.

The new WIGOS identifiers will be represented within the data through the inclusion of BUFR D sequence 3 01 150 which will be placed at the start of the bulletin. Whilst this may be regarded as a minor change in BUFR encoding, it will change the structure of the data and should therefore be subject to testing as currently carried out under the Table Driven Codes Project.

**Notification.**

As with data introduced under the Migration to Table Driven Codes Forms[[2]](#footnote-2), any change to operational data sources should be subject to a reasonable period of notice. The adoption of the new station identification system falls within this category and as such should be subject to the same measures.

**Conclusion**

Plans for the preoperational phase of WIGOS do not stipulate the need for a coordinated and methodical approach to the implementation of the WIGOS station identification system. The deliverables included within the outline of the “National WIGOS Implementation Plans” specify the “operational implementation of WIGOS station identifiers”.

This definition should be expanded to include the measures outlined above.

1. <https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3166> (Annexe to Resolution2) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/WMOCodes/MigrationTDCF.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)