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| WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION  COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS  -----------------------------  FOURTH MEETING OF  INTER-PROGRAMME EXPERT TEAM ON DATA REPRESENTATION MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING  GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 30 MAY - 3 JUNE 2016 |  | IPET-DRMM-IV / Doc. 11.3  (30. 5. 2016)  -------------------------  ITEM 11.3  ENGLISH ONLY |

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND TECHNICAL BODIES

CBS MG Task Team on representing upper air information in BUFR – Report to IPET-DRMM (May 2016)

*Submitted by* Stefan Klink (EUMETNET)

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**DISCUSSIONS**

The CBS MG Task Team on representing upper air information in BUFR has held its kick-off meeting as WebEx meeting on 21st April 2016, 13:00-14:20 UTC. The WebEx meeting was hosted by WMO-Secretariat (Steve Foreman).

The following table shows the participants of the kick-off meeting. There are a few more official nominations of experts to this Task Team (e.g. from Brazil, Canada and France). However, they haven’t been able to engaging actively in the work of the Task Team yet. The Task Team has asked Steve Foreman to motivating a few more persons to participate in this Task Team, e.g. representatives from RA III (South America) and RA I (Africa).

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| **Participants name** | **Organisation** | **Participants background** |
| Sasha | ROSHYDROMET | Data provider |
| Jitsuko | JMA | Data provider and member of IPET-DRMM |
| Ota | JMA | Data user, processing of conv. Observations for usage in NWP model |
| Pat | NRL | Data user, R&D support for operational NWP data preprocessing |
| Richard | UK Met Office | Member of IPET-DRMM |
| Warren | UK Met Office | Data user, NWP |
| David | UK Met Office | Data provider |
| Adam | UK Met Office | Data user, data assimilation software |
| Bruce | ECMWF | Data user, data assimilation |
| Tanja | EUMETNET | Observation data quality monitoring in EUMETNET |
| Weihong | CMA | Data user, observation data preprocessing at NWP centre |
| Weiqing | BoM Australia | Member of IPET-DRMM, message-switching unit |
| Steve | WMO | WMO Secretariat |
| Stefan | EUMETNET | Chair, EUMETNET Observations Programme Manager |

The Task Team discussed the Terms of Reference and with support from Steve Foreman got clarification on task descriptions, expected deliverables and corresponding deadlines. The latest status can be found in the following table.

The Task Team has started identifying who can contribute to which of the tasks. It was decided to establish sub-groups. The membership is shown in the following table. If names are given in parentheses the persons will engage in this group when not enough other members have been nominated.

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| **Tasks** | **Deliverable** | **Deadline** | **Sub-group members** |
| a1) to summarize general issues related to BUFR and requests on how to promote TDCF migration from the viewpoint of NWP centres and report them to IPET-DRMM; | Catalogue  (document or wiki page?). Pull all the information into one place to avoid duplication of effort |  | Sasha  Bruce  Ota  (Pat) |
| a2) to advise IPET-DRMM on a method by which NWP centres report every issue they find in BUFR messages; | Recommendation to IPET-DRMM  (short document) | Draft to DRMM by end July, draft changes to structures for CBS by end August | Bruce  Pat  Richard |
| a3) to advise to IPET-DRMM on the role of NWP centres in the process for checking the quality of BUFR messages. | Recommendation to IPET-DRMM  (short document) | End December | Warren  (Pat) |
| b) Coordinate with Members and their Centres to resolve identified problems. | Day-to-day monitoring and error tracking, contacting Members… | Continuous,  but identify how the work is going to be continued after the end of this group | Sasha (both globally and on behalf of RAVI)  Ota  (Pat) |
| c) Assess the additional costs to user centres of maintaining their systems to process upper air observations continuing to be being sent in TAC, and assess the costs of accelerating migration of observing systems to produce information in correctly formatted BUFR. | Document | For consideration by IPET-DRMM in May (?) 2017 alongside | Sasha (from observing systems’ prospect) |
| d) Summarize the benefits of using TDCF in preference to TAC from the perspective of NWP centres. Collate information into a (short) form that can be used in discussions with high level managers to help convince them of the need to migrate properly. | Document | End May 2016 | Stefan  Pat  Adam |

The sub-groups have started working by email on task a2 and d. The work on task d has almost been finished.  
A draft final version of the document to be drafted under task d will be submitted to IPET-DRMM on 30th May 2016.