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COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS
OPEN PROGRAMMME AREA GROUP ON
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ITEM: 4

**IMPLEMENTATION-COORDINATION TEAM
ON INTEGRATED OBSERVING SYSTEM
(ICT-IOS)**
Eighth Session

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REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF THE SURFACE-BASED COMPONENTS OF THE GOS
STATUS OF THE SURFACE-BASED SUB-SYSTEM OF THE GOS IN REGION III

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SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

The document provides information on the Status of the surface-based sub-system of the GOS in Region III.

ACTION PROPOSED

The Meeting is invited to note the information contained in this document when discussing how it organises its work and formulates its recommendations.

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- Appendices:**
- A. Availability of SYNOP reports from RBSN stations
 - B. Availability of TEMP reports from RBSN stations
 - C. Availability of CLIMAT reports from RBCN stations

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY OF THE STATUS OF THE SURFACE-BASED SUB-SYSTEM OF THE GOS IN REGION III

1. Status of the RBSN and RBCN in Region III

1.1 The RA III RBSN today comprises 440 surface stations, a small increase compared to 413 stations in 2010. About 40% of the stations are carrying out 8 observations a day. There are exchange of hourly observations from a significant number of stations. The number of upper air stations reached 53 stations. It was noted some discrepancies with Volume A.

1.2 A real-time monitoring carried out at RTH Brasilia in January 2014 indicated that data from 536 stations had been injected into the GTS, with an overall availability of 70%. While not part of the exchange program, data from around other 200 stations are being exchanged at least at regional level. The same monitoring showed the exchange of data from 59 stations from Antarctica, with availability of about 54%.

1.3 For the RBCN, a small decrease from 320 to 302 stations was detected, but some additions were not included in Volume A. A significant number of CLIMAT stations are disseminated using BUFR.

1.4 While improvements were observed in last years, there is a need to increase density of the upper air network, as many areas of RA III are not covered. A regional project is envisaged and the issue will be discussing in the coming Session of RA III in Asunción (September 2014).

2. GCOS

2.1 The RA III GSN comprises 94 stations. The following Table shows the percentage of messages received and correctly coded. It also shows quality parameters as reported by the monitoring center operated by DWD.

Region	No.	CR	CC	Quality (T)	Quality (R)
RA-III	94	94%	88%	91%	91%

2.2 The RA III GUAN comprises 18 stations. The following table below shows the performance of the GUAN stations considering the GCOS requirements of 25 launches up reaching 30 hPa. This percentage could be increased as a number of stations generate good quality data without reaching required 30 hPa.

RA-III	18 GUAN	67% meeting minimum GCOS requirements
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3. Automatic Weather Stations

3.1 There has been a significant increase in the number of Automatic Weather Stations. Part of these stations are injected into the GTS, while others are only available at national level. A WIGOS-related project is under way to improve this situation and increasing substantially the regional exchange of data from these stations. From about 600 AWS regularly operating in RA III, about 515 are injecting data into the GTS, most of them using BUFR. Fifty other AWS may soon start data exchange.

4. Meteorological Radars

4.1 A regional WIGOS-related activity is underway to inventory the meteorological radars operating in RA III and search agreement on a common format and procedures for regional dissemination of radar data.

5. AMDAR

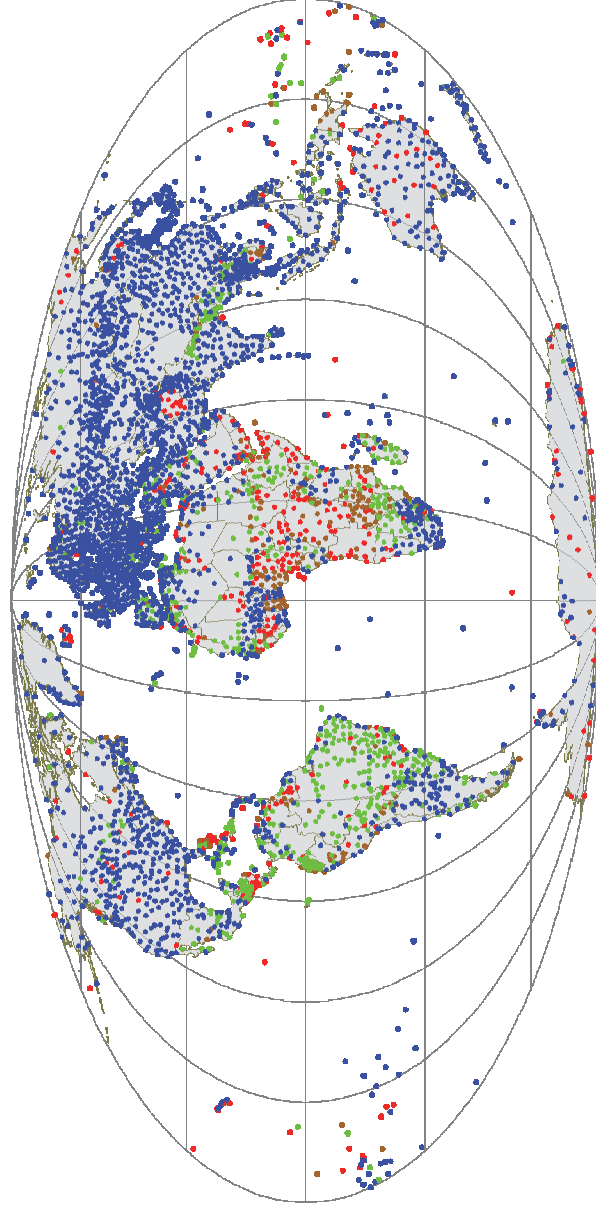
5.1 Few RA III Members are collecting AMDAR observations. Several attempts were made to bring regional NMHSs and airlines to participate in the AMDAR program. One country is planning to considerably improve AMDAR data collection. RTH Brasilia is injecting a number of AMDAR data into the GTS.

APPENDIX A

Availability of SYNOP reports from RBSN stations

Monitoring period: 1 to 15 October 2013

(the percentage of reports received is based on the main synoptic hours 0000,0600,1200 and 1800 UTC)

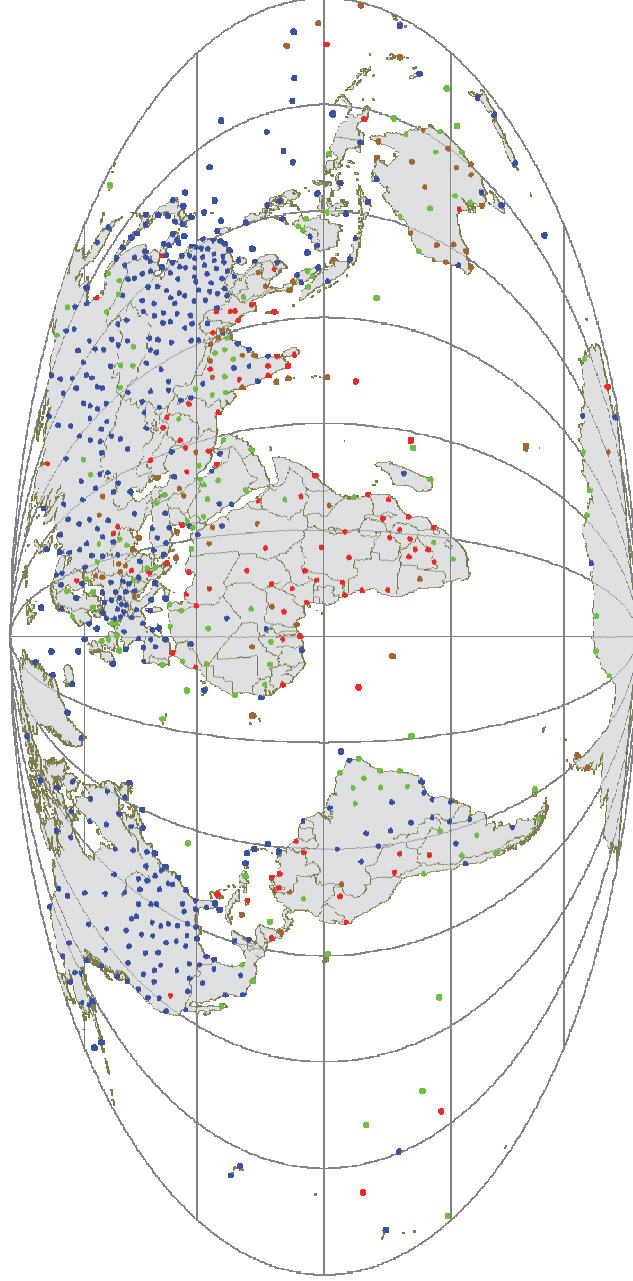


- 90% to 100% (3149)
- 45% to 90% (620)
- 1% to 45% (229)
- silent station (435)

APPENDIX B

Availability of TEMP reports from RBSN stations
Monitoring period: 1 to 15 October 2013

(the percentage of reports received is based on Part A for 0000 and 1200 UTC)



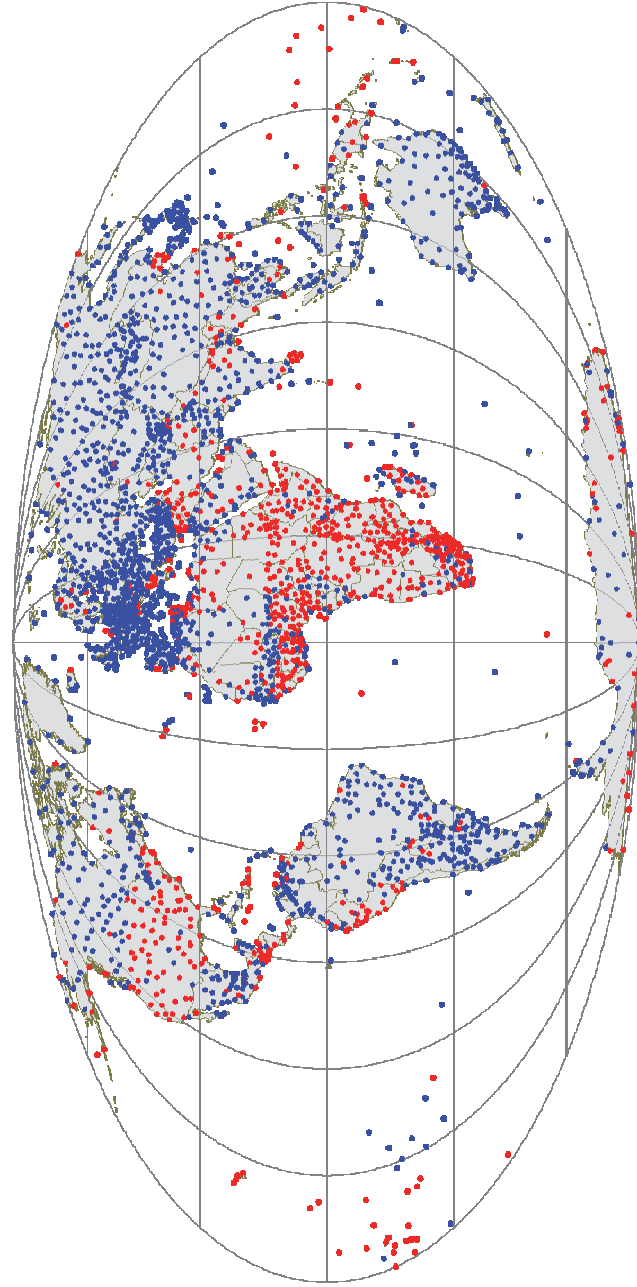
- 90% to 100% (458)
- 45% to 90% (132)
- 1% to 45% (71)
- silent station (97)

APPENDIX C

Availability of CLIMAT reports from RBCN stations

Monitoring period: 1 to 15 October 2013

(CLIMAT reports September 2013)



- report received (2018)
- no report received (900)