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| **World Meteorological Organization**  **Inter-Commission Coordination Group On WIGOS/Task Team on WIGOS Metadata**  **Sixth Session** Zurich, Switzerland, 27-29 November 2017 | **TT-WMD-6/Doc. 3** |
| Submitted by: Secretariat  23.11.2017  **DRAFT 2** |

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# 3. RELEVANT OUTCOMES from ICG-WIGOS-6 and EC-69

(Submitted by the Secretariat)

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| **Summary and purpose of document**  This document provides relevant outcomes from ICG-WIGOS-6 and EC-69. |

**Action proposed**

The session is requested to take into account the relevant outcomes from ICG-WIGOS-6 and EC-69.

**References:**

1. [Sixth session of the Inter-Commission Coordination Group on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (January 2017)](http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/WIGOS-WIS/reports/ICG-WIGOS-6-Final-Report_2017.docx)
2. [Sixty-night session of the WMO Executive Council (Geneva, 10 - 17 May 2017)](https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3645)

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**3.1 RELEVANT OUTCOMES FROM ICG-WIGOS -6 (January 2017)**

3.1.1 It was agreed that some flexibility for external partners to provide WIGOS metadata will be required and that strict enforcement of the WIGOS Metadata Standard (WMDS) must not become a barrier to the contribution of useful data. The case of some existing JCOMM data contributors was identified as an example where full compliance is unlikely to be achieved; in this regard, JCOMM was asked to identify which metadata parameters were unlikely to become available. The update of metadata from JCOMMOPS will improve significantly when machine-to-machine interface is available for uploading metadata to OSCAR/Surface. ICG-WIGOS reminded the importance of metadata for knowledge of data quality; there is some flexibility built into WMDS and it should be used. The ICG-WIGOS Task Teams on WIGOS Data Partnerships (TT-WDP) and on WIGOS Metadata (TT-WMD) were requested to work together to develop the relevant guidance that balances the target of full compliance with real-world practicality.

3.1.2. A further issue is the fact that the research community tends to rely on different file formats from those stipulated in WMO regulatory and guidance material, e.g. NetCDF instead of BUFR. Since WMO is not in a position to enforce compliance with its file formats toward external partners, conversion tools are needed.

3.1.3 OSCAR/Surface was launched into operations in May 2016. While the system is now being used regularly by many Members, efforts need to be made on capacity development combining in-class and e-learning material, and the implementation of an API (Machine 2 Machine interface) in order to ensure that the system is taken up by all Members. For this, monitoring of the transition phase as well as the quality of the metadata will be crucial. Quantitative monitoring information from WDQMS can now be added to the station record and will provide valuable additional information. The Aircraft Based Observing System module is expected to be added in 2017. Regarding the further development, ICG-WIGOS requested:

a) Implementation of a machine-to-machine interface, allowing automated ingest of metadata into OSCAR/Surface by April 2017, and demonstration of its functionality at EC-69 side-events,

b) Quantitative monitoring information from the WDQMS to become part of the station report in OSCAR/Surface,

c) Inclusion one or more indicators measuring the degree of compliance of a station metadata to the station report,

3.1.3. Regarding the seamless linkage between WIGOS metadata and WIS discovery metadata, ICG-WIGOS requested the TT-WMD to advise on this issue by (deadline - asap). It further recognized the need to hold a joint WIGOS and WIS metadata meeting in 2017 to resolve any outstanding issues.

3.1.4. There was consensus that TT-WMD should continue and finalize its work during 2017, so it was decided to keep the team active until ICG-WIGOS-7; a new Task team on OSCAR/Surface Development will be established.

**3.2 RELEVANT OUTCOMES FROM EC-69 (May 2017)**

3.2.1 EC-69 adopted the updated Appendix 2.4 and the attachment to Appendix 2.4 and the updated Section 8 of the *Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* (WMO-No. 1160), with effect from 1 January 2018.

3.2.2 The Council further decided that the attachment to Appendix 2.4 will be extracted from the Manual and be processed separately as a stand-alone attachment in order to facilitate frequent updating of its technical content, and that the code tables from the current annex to the attachment to Appendix 2.4 be removed and included in the *Manual on Codes* (WMO-No. 306).

3.2.3 The Council noted that entries in Table 1 on the topic of atmospheric composition were not mature enough to publish formally and that ongoing maintenance of the code tables would be simpler and more reliable if they were placed in a simpler tree structure on [codes.wmo.int](http://codes.wmo.int) than that recommended by CBS at its sixteenth session. The Council decided to approve the WIGOS code tables specified in the annex to the resolution 10 (EC-69) for inclusion in the Manual on Codes, Volume I.3 and authorizes the Secretary-General to amend as specified in the annex to the resolution 10 (EC-69) the Manual on Codes and the Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System, to make consequent editorial adjustments as required and to arrange publication of the code tables on <http://codes.wmo.int>.

3.2.4 The Council decided to adopt the initial version of the *Guide to the WMO Integrated Global Observing System* with effect from 1 July 2018; EC-69 requested the Inter-Commission Coordination Group on WIGOS to finalize the initial version of the Guide with additional guidance material. The Council requested the ICG-WIGOS to further develop and enhance the Guide with additional material as it becomes available in accordance with Resolution 2 (EC‑68).

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