

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC  
COMMISSION (OF UNESCO)

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JOINT WMO/IOC TECHNICAL COMMISSION FOR  
OCEANOGRAPHY AND MARINE METEOROLOGY (JCOMM)  
EXPERT TEAM ON MARINE CLIMATOLOGY

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ETMC-II/Doc. 8.3  
(15.II.2007)

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SECOND SESSION

ITEM 8.3

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 26 TO 27 MARCH 2007

Original: ENGLISH

## **MANUALS, GUIDES AND OTHER TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS**

### **Guide to climatological practices**

*(Submitted by Mr Scott Woodruff, Chairperson of the Expert Team on Marine Climatology (ETMC))*

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#### **Summary and purpose of document**

To inform the Team regarding the current status of the *Guide to Climatological Practices* (WMO-No. 100, (1983)), which is still being revised by the WMO and the Commission for Climatology (CCI), as well as issues regarding input previously requested from the JCOMM and the ETMC.

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#### **ACTION PROPOSED**

The Expert Team on Marine Climatology is invited to:

- (a) Advise on any further input required to the *Guide to Climatological Practices*, as necessary and/or appropriate.
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## DISCUSSION

### 1. Status of the Second and Third Editions of the *Guide*

Parts of the Second Edition of the *Guide to Climatological Practices* (WMO-No. 100, (1983)) have become outdated due to changes in instruments and technology, vast improvements in the availability of remotely-sensed data, and the availability of sophisticated operational software for data management, statistical calculation, and for analysis and presentation of climate information. Therefore, the WMO and CCI are to develop a fully-revised Third Edition of the *Guide*. The Second Edition will, however, remain the official *Guide* until the Third Edition is approved in full and published.

Originally, it had been planned to develop the Third Edition in two parts, with the first part to cover basic principles and practices, including an introduction; climate observations, stations and networks; climate data management; and services and products, and the second part to cover methodologies and techniques, including network design methods; quality control tests; data handling methods, statistical techniques and packages; climate products including mapping, downscaling methods including interpolation techniques; climate summaries and sample publications.

However, the CCI-XIV (Beijing, China, 3-10 November 2005) endorsed the plan to integrate the materials, under the chapter titles: Introduction; Climate Observations, Stations and Networks; Climate Data Management; Characterizing Climate; Climate Data Analysis; Climate Services and Products and National Climate Services Programmes, and further decided that the highly useful materials on climate statistics would be retained. The Third Edition is currently being developed in close consultation with the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) Project office, and with the WMO Technical Commission on Instruments and Methods of Observation (CI-MO) on matters related to climate observations and networks, and instrumentation. For details regarding the status of development of the Third Edition of the *Guide*, please see the document section on the CCI-XIV Expert Team 5.2 page (which currently links to WMO 1985).

Note: status information on the Second and Third Editions was obtained from the following websites: [www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.2e.shtml](http://www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.2e.shtml) and, [www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.3e.shtml](http://www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.3e.shtml)

### 2. JCOMM and ETMC Involvement

At its First Session, the JCOMM (Akureyri, Iceland, 19-29 June 2001) agreed with a recommendation from the former CMM Subgroup on Marine Climatology, that the JCOMM should contribute, as required, to the revision being undertaken by the CCI of the *Guide*. Later, at its First Session (Gdynia, Poland, 7-10 July 2004), the ETMC was informed regarding the status of the preparation of said revision, which was envisioned at that time by the CCI (as discussed above) in the form of two parts - subsequently unified by the CCI-XIV (1985) into a planned single volume.

In consideration of the related contributions the ETMC was already making through updates to the "Dynamic" part of the Guide to the Applications of Marine Climatology, WMO-No. 781 (WMO, 1994) through organizing a series of workshops (see ETMC-II/Docs. 7 and 8.1), the ETMC-I proposed only a review of what then formed Section 2.7, "Climatological Summaries", in view of the Marine Climatological Summaries Scheme. Dr Mietus was tasked by the ETMC-I to review this section, if the text of 2.7 was made available. At this time, the status of that review is still unavailable.

### References:

JCOMM, 2004: Expert Team on Marine Climatology, First Session, Gdynia, Poland, 7-10 July 2004, Final Report. JCOMM Meeting Report No. 32.

WMO, 1983: *Guide to Climatological Practices* (2nd edition). WMO-No. 100, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva (scanned version available from website: [www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.2e.shtml](http://www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/guide/guide.2e.shtml)).

WMO, 1985: *Proceedings of the Meeting of the CCI Expert Team on the Guide to Climatological Practices, Toulouse, France, 19-23 September 2005*. Final Meeting Report (27.10.05) (available from website: [www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/mg/ET5.2/docs/ETGCP\\_mtgrrpt\\_Final\\_271005.pdf](http://www.wmo.ch/web/wcp/ccl/mg/ET5.2/docs/ETGCP_mtgrrpt_Final_271005.pdf)).

WMO, 1994: *Guide to the Applications of Marine Climatology*. WMO–No. 781, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva.

WMO, 2001: *Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, First Session, Akureyri, 19-29 June 2001*. Abridged Final Report with Resolutions and Recommendations, WMO–No. 931, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, 157 pp.

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