

World Meteorological Organization

CIMO-XIV/G/WP 9

**COMMISSION FOR INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS
OF OBSERVATION**

Submitted by:

President of CIMO

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Agenda item:

9

COLLABORATION WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Draft report of General Plenary on item 9

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APPENDIX:

Draft text for inclusion in the general summary on item 9

ACTION PROPOSED:

It is proposed that the draft text provided in the Appendix be included in the general summary of the work of the session.

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF CIMO-XIV

9. COLLABORATION WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (*agenda item 9*)

9.1 The Commission recognized that many of the recent CIMO achievements would not be possible without close collaboration with relevant international organizations, universities and scientific institutions. It also appreciated the work of its president and vice-president aimed at strengthening the relation with those organizations.

9.2 It noted that progress in the area of standardization and compatibility of instruments and methods of observation was also made through increased collaboration with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM), represented by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM), the Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry (HMEI), the Network of European Meteorological Services (EUMETNET), and the European Union Cooperation on Science and Technology (COST).

9.3 The Commission requested the CIMO Management Group (CIMO MG) to involve, as far as possible, the experts of the above international organizations in the work of the CIMO expert teams and requested Members to actively participate in the work of those organizations on behalf of WMO. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to maintain the high level of contact with the above organizations by participating, as an observer, in their constituent bodies meetings, as appropriate.

9.4 The Commission took note of the decision of the fifty-eighth session of the Executive Council to develop a formal working agreement with the ISO, with the objective to develop joint ISO-WMO technical standards based on WMO Technical Regulations, Manuals and Guides and requested the CIMO OPAGs to identify those CIMO technical standards that could benefit from promoting them as joint ISO-WMO technical standards.

9.5 The Commission recognized, in particular, the need to coordinate efforts of Expert Teams with ISO Sub-committee 5, Meteorology, of the ISO Technical Committee TC-146 "Air Quality", on the development of standards and guides related to instruments and methods of observation (including methods of assessing instruments and systems. The Commission further noted that ISO is establishing a Technical Committee, TC-180, with a Sub-committee SC-1 on "Climate" which will be chaired by a CIMO expert in this area.

9.6 The Commission took note of the offer from the CIPM for the WMO to become a signatory to the CIPM Mutual Recognition Agreement and requested the Secretary-General to consider this proposal as this would be of a benefit to Members. It noted the proposal of the BIPM to organize joint workshops to highlight the importance of traceable measurements in studies related to climate change and requested the CIMO MG to collaborate with the BIPM on traceability of measurements to the International System of Units standards.

9.7 The Commission welcomed the statement by the representative of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG). It noted the importance of good quality, long-term field data to the work of the IUGG and welcomed the words of endorsement and support for the work of CIMO and the invitation for collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

9.8 The Commission recognized major inputs of the HMEI members towards the organization of the WMO instrument intercomparisons and recalled that the fifty-seventh session of the Executive Council agreed that a solution should be found to provide partial support for the future intercomparisons from the regular budget thus avoiding undue dependence on extrabudgetary resources from instrument manufacturers.

9.9 The Commission further recognized the significant contributions of HMEI members,

particularly the smaller members, in supporting the radiosonde intercomparisons in Mauritius. The willingness of HMEI members to support CIMO intercomparison activities is vital to the significant improvements in upper-air measurements.

9.10 The Commission thanked those HMEI manufacturers who donated equipment to WMO Members under the Voluntary Cooperation Programme, and encouraged them to continue to do so in the future.

9.11 The Commission noted that HMEI had cooperated with ET-UASI in preparing an information document on interoperability. It also noted the different opinions of manufacturers that had been assessed by the chairman of the ET-UASI. Despite the different opinions the chairman produced a document acceptable to HMEI. Questions with respect to standardization of transmissions from the radiosonde to the ground-station would need further study in the next intersessional period.

9.12 The Commission noted the concern of some Members relating to obtaining timely responses regarding equipment inquiries to instrument manufacturers at the local representative level. The Commission therefore requested HMEI to consider all reasonable options for facilitating timely responses, for example the HMEI e-mail contact point and access to FAQ information through the HMEI Website.

9.13 The Commission noted the concern of Members related to incomplete technical documentation provided for some equipment. It further noted the importance to Members, in relation to climate and other studies, of having a detailed and complete understanding of the methods by which observations are generated. The Commission therefore requested HMEI members to fully document and inform equipment users of the required details, including algorithms, while finding other means of addressing intellectual property issues.

9.14 The Commission recommended collaboration between RICs and HMEI Members, especially in the area of research and development in order to enhance capacity building and manufacture of instruments that meet harsh environmental conditions. The Commission further noted that such collaboration will facilitate technology transfer and may lower the cost of production.

9.15 The Commission noted the continued strengthening of its relationship with EUMETNET. In particular, the WinProf and OPERA Programme work in developing and implementing standards for wind profiler and weather radar data compatibility and exchange were seen as highly relevant. In addition, the Commission welcomed the support EUMETNET offered via the EUCOS programme to the prospective AMDAR intercomparison studies for the forthcoming intersessional period.

9.16 The Commission noted the many relevant meteorological activities of the COST community in different actions, and that continued WMO representation in those actions would continue to facilitate the rapid transfer of results and knowledge to all interested parties. For example, WMO has already gained benefits from COST Action 727 in relation to Icing on Structures. The Commission further noted that COST had provided financial and scientific support to the WMO High Quality Radiosonde Comparison in Mauritius. A new COST project has been proposed addressing the design and evaluation of upper-air networks where ground-based remote sensing systems are integrated with in-situ measurements providing a network suitable for both weather forecasting and climate studies. The Commission encouraged Members to further support the United Kingdom in preparation and promotion of this proposal.