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Paper for consideration by HSSC9

Report of the 5th meeting of the WMO-IOC Joint Commission on Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM-5)

Submitted by:	IHO Secretariat
Executive Summary:	This paper provides a brief description of items and topics of interest and relevance addressed at the WMO-IOC JCOMM-5 meeting and Technical Conference.
Related Documents:	None
Related Projects:	None

Introduction/Background

JCOMM, the Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology, is an intergovernmental body of technical experts that provides a mechanism for international coordination of oceanographic and marine meteorological observing, data management and services, combining the expertise, technologies and capacity building capabilities of the meteorological and oceanographic communities. The creation of this Joint Technical Commission results from a general recognition that worldwide improvements in coordination and efficiency may be achieved by combining the expertise and technological capabilities of World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

Analysis/Discussion

The 5th meeting of JCOM was held at WMO HQ in Genève, Switzerland, 25-29 October, it was preceded by a two day technical conference on 23-24 October.

The conference was organized to provide an overview of the advances in marine meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) observing systems, data management and services developed and continued during the JCOMM 5 intersessional period. The aim is to properly interface the JCOMM management and expert groups with the IOC-WMO Member activities and have them interact with a large community of stakeholders worldwide, gathered at the JCOMM-5 Session. The session of particular interest to the IHO and HSCC was Session 4 – *Integrated Meteo-hydro-marine-ocean services and methodological and implementation aspects of met-ocean state assessments* – which covered integrated observing and modelling systems developed to serve as a knowledge and operational basis for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Multi-Hazard early warning systems. Presentations covered observational needs, modelling challenges and experiences, as well as decision support systems stemming out of observing and modelling systems. The session also addressed the question of methodological and implementation aspects of met-ocean state assessments, including the regular process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment from both WMO and IOC. The IHO gave a presentation on the lack of global bathymetric coverage and the potential impacts of this lack of coverage has on WMO and IOC model forecasts results.

The JCOMM-5 meeting covered numerous topics concerning the governing bodies on the WMO and IOC; Climate research and services; Disaster Risk Reduction, early warning and operation services; Sustainable Development Goals; Marine Meteorological and Oceanographic services and forecasting systems; Data management, exchange and information systems; Integrated observing systems; and a review of technical regulations, which included WMO Manual 558 – *Marine Meteorological Services* - the manual for the delivery of services under the IMO/WMO World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS).

Of particular interest to the IHO and HSSC were the discussions on the WMO engagement with marine meteorological services, coastal inundation forecasting, the Global Multi-hazard Alert System (GMAS) and the implementation of the Met-ocean observing system.

Justification and Impacts
The continued close engagement and cooperation between IHO, WMO and IOC is essential for the progress of a number of IHO programmes and initiatives, such as Crowdsourced bathymetry (CSB), GEBCO, the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS) and provision of maritime safety information (MSI), global sea level observing and disaster risk reduction and management.

Conclusions and Recommended Actions
N/A

Action Required of HSSC
The HSSC is invited to:

a. Note this report.