

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

IPET-SUP-4/Doc. 6.5
(20.1.2018)

COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS
OPEN PROGRAMME AREA GROUP ON INTEGRATED OBSERVING SYSTEMS

INTER-PROGRAMME EXPERT TEAM ON SATELLITE UTILIZATION AND
PRODUCTS

ITEM: 6.5

FOURTH SESSION

Original: ENGLISH

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 26 FEBRUARY – 1 MARCH 2018

Critical Satellite Data Position Paper

(Submitted by Stephen English)

Summary and Purpose of Document

This paper is to prompt discussion on the next steps for the Critical Satellite Data Position Paper.

ACTION PROPOSED

The second session is invited to:

- (a) Discuss next steps for the Critical Satellite Data Position Paper;

DISCUSSION

Introduction

1. The Critical Satellite Data Paper (IPET-SUP-3/Doc. 6.8 – for internal use) has been provided to groups in WMO for discussion, including ICT-IOS, CBS management, ET-SAT. The seven principles have been discussed in other forum. At the 21st International TOVS Study Conference the International Issues and Future Systems WG suggested three additional items for consideration, and discussion at IPETSUP. These are:
 - a. Data continuity and long-term planning is critical to operational centres
 - b. The new notification procedures will need to be respected if adopted by CGMS
 - c. New data needs to undergo a thorough scientific evaluation to demonstrate quality and impact for operational users prior to commercial sale
2. These points were specifically raised as users had concern about long term support from private sector providers, wanted them to engage with new notification procedures being considered at CGMS and that they would be able to perform the same very rigorous scientific evaluation that currently happens. At ITSC-21 it was not felt these points were strongly enough captured by the existing principles.
3. There has also been engagement with Erik Andersson from ECMWF, who has been responsible for development of ECMWF's policy with respect to use of observations from all sectors. He raised many valid points. The copy with his comments was circulated to IPET-SUP members. It is recommended to adopt Erik's proposed changes.
4. At ICT-IOS-10 in February 2018 the question of updating the Annex to WMO resolution 40 was considered. If this is the direction adopted, the principles of the IPET-SUP paper could be adopted in this Annex. General principles may be preferable to specific details, as it is more future proof as requirements change.
5. The next steps need to take account of the discussion at ICT-IOS-10 (5-8 February 2018).