

To

EUMETNET Members

14th July 2014

**Observations Programme Management Team and E-ASAP Operational Service Management:
Stop of dissemination of traditional alphanumeric code (TAC) data (i.e. TEMPs) from E-ASAP units**

Dear colleagues,

As of November 2010 the BUFR exchange became standard WMO practice. The Commission for Basic Systems (CBS) agreed in an extraordinary session in November 2010 on the deadline of November 2014 to stop the parallel distribution of Traditional Alphanumeric Codes (TAC) and Table Driven Code Form (TDCF) data for the category 1 (SYNOP, TEMP, PILOT and CLIMAT) as well as for categories 2 (satellite observations) and 4 (marine data).

All ASAP units operated by the E-ASAP Operational Service Management and European NMHSes provide additionally TDCF (i.e. BUFR) data besides TEMPs since more than one year. In accordance with the CBS recommendation the E-ASAP Operational Service Manager and the European national ASAP operators are planning to stop the GTS dissemination of traditional TEMP messages from E-ASAP and national ASAP units on 3rd November 2014. An official WMO notification about this change will be released at least two months in advance of the effective date of the change. Please find more details about the proposed procedure in the attached Email.

We would very much appreciate if you could forward this letter and the attached Email to the GTS message switching section and the users of ASAP radiosoundings in your NMHS. In case that your NMHS is not ready for a stop of the E-ASAP TEMP message dissemination please inform us by Email to eucos@dwd.de and Rudolf.Krockauer@dwd.de as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Observations Programme Manager
GIE EUMETNET

Enclosure: Email "Termination of TAC messages" from E-ASAP Operational Service Manager, dated 1st July 2014

Klink Stefan

Von: Krockauer Rudolf <Rudolf.Krockauer@dwd.de>
Gesendet: Dienstag, 1. Juli 2014 10:54
An: stefan.klink@dwd.de (Stefan.Klink@dwd.de)
Cc: Eucos@dwd.de
Betreff: Termination of TAC messages

Dear Stefan,

At the 2nd E-ASAP ET Meeting in Hamburg on 20th June 2014 we discussed the WMO requirement to stop the distribution of TAC messages on the GTS as of November 2014. The outcome of our discussion is noted in the meeting minutes which are available in the Obs E-ASAP group (section 'Minutes') of the EUMETNET Portal.

Basically, we suggest following:

- The E-ASAP Regional Telecommunication Hubs (Offenbach and Toulouse) shall stop the the distribution of TEMP messages on Monday, 03rd November 2014. Only BUFR messages shall be ingested in the GTS.
- All ships in the E-ASAP fleet shall continue to transmit TEMP and BUFR messages from ship to shore.
- If there are no complaints from the users within a specified period the ships shall stop the transmission of TEMP's by and by.

I would appreciate it if you could notify the EUMETNET heads of observations or STAC delegates on this proposal. If there are concerns we can easily postpone the deadline.

Best regards

Rudolf

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