

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

COM/Circ.8
30 April 1964

**RADIOCOMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE OCEAN DATA SERVICE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION**

1. Further to COM/Circ.7 of 30 January 1964, on the same subject, attached are the comments formulated by the Maritime Safety Committee at its eighth session in connexion with the Recommendation of the IOC Group of Experts, on the IOC requirements for radiocommunication facilities.
2. These comments have been forwarded to the IFRB for circulation, in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of the Recommendation, to all Members and Associated members of the ITU and international Organizations concerned. They are also communicated to all Member Governments of IMCO for their information and for such action as they consider necessary in accordance with the last paragraph of the Maritime Safety Committee's comments.

Chancery House,
Chancery Lane,
London, W.C.2.

COM/Circ.8

Radiocommunication requirements for the Ocean Data Service
of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Comments by the Maritime Safety Committee

The Committee took note of the proposals formulated by a Group of Experts of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, for the use of certain frequencies, in the maritime mobile band, for the Ocean Data Service of the IOC.

The Committee having regard to the diversity of views expressed in relation to the IOC Recommendation considered that national authorities should give further study to establish in which portion of the high frequency spectrum these world-wide communication requirements could be most suitably accommodated both on an interim and on a permanent basis.

The Committee furthermore considered that the following factors should be taken into account in such a study:

- (a) In the absence of a plan outlining the geographical distribution of Ocean Data Stations, their type (permanent or temporary), scope of information to be transmitted and the number of transmissions during each 24-hour period, the Maritime Safety Committee found it difficult to assess the justification for spectrum space for the IOC and therefore cannot concur in the use of the maritime mobile band by the Ocean Data Service either on an interim or on a permanent basis.
- (b) Although there are some frequencies specifically assigned for maritime distress purposes the maritime mobile HF bands also contribute to the safety of ships and seafarers.

COM/Circ.8

- (c) The interim use of the maritime mobile frequencies for Ocean Data purposes on a national basis might interfere with international maritime radiocommunications.
- (d) The loading of the maritime mobile frequency bands is steadily increasing.
- (e) The hydrographical and meteorological information from Ocean Data Stations will not be of value to merchant ships until it has been processed ashore and therefore its assimilation into the meteorological services should be considered as a possible alternative.
- (f) Changes in frequency uses in other services, e.g. the aeronautical, meteorological, fixed etc., may provide a possibility of accomodating any IOC requirements in bands other than the maritime mobile bands.

The Committee further noted that, in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of the IOC Recommendation, the International Frequency Registration Board will circulate to all concerned all the comments received in relation to the IOC Recommendation.

The Committee requests the Secretary-General to bring these views to the attention of Member Governments as soon as possible in order that their national telecommunication authorities can formulate proposals in good time before any forthcoming administrative radio conference (e.g. aeronautical EARC 1965). Furthermore, the Secretary-General is requested to forward these views forthwith to the IFRB.
