



# **Meeting of the Argos JTA-Executive Committee**

**ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates  
April 24 – 26, 2016**

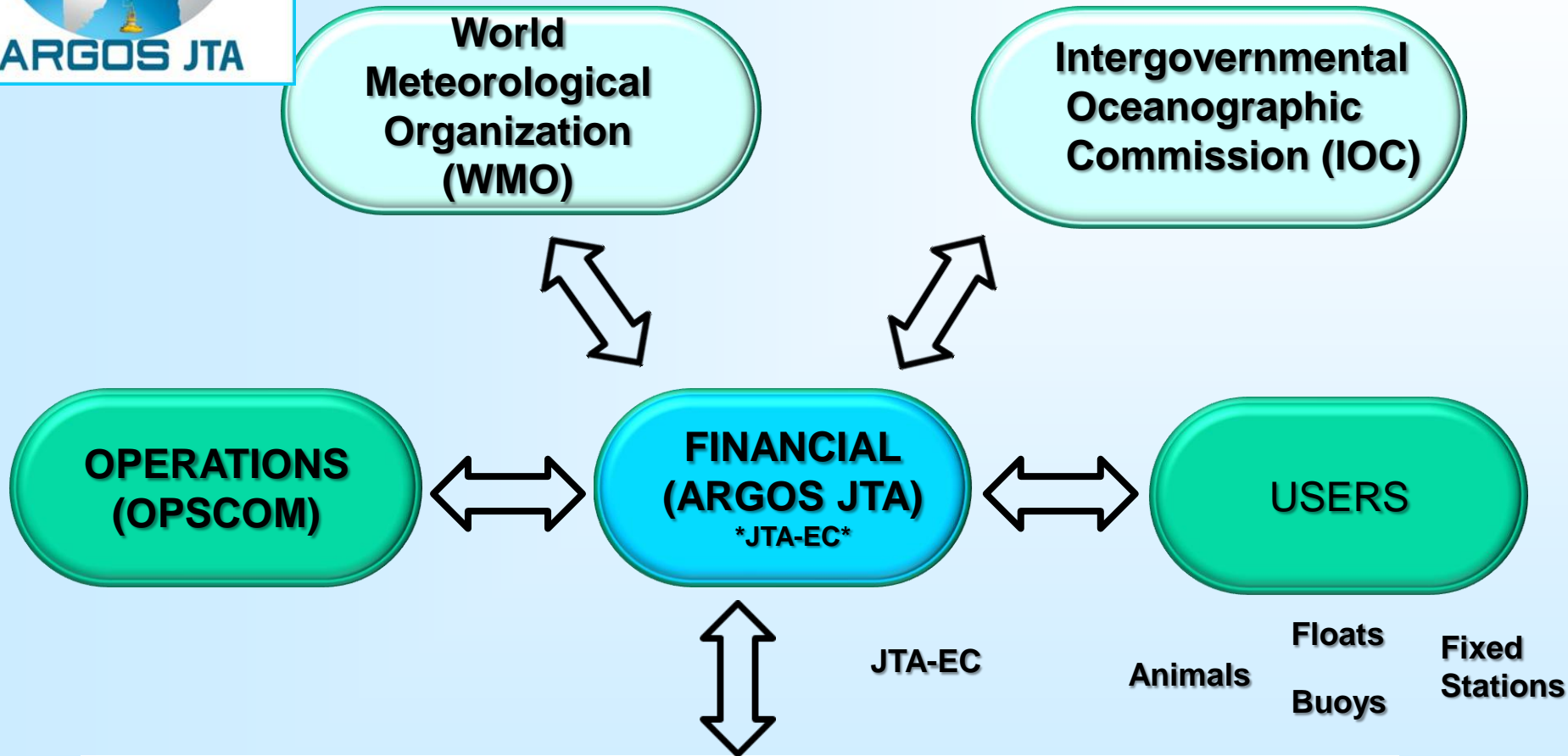
**Eric Locklear  
ARGOS JTA Chairman**

## **AGENDA ITEM SLIDES FOR DISCUSSION**

- 2.1 Overview of the JTA-EC**
- 2.2 Report of JTA Chair Activities**
- 11.2 JTA-EC to propose new structure of JTA**
- 11.3 JTA ROC/RUG Nomination Package**
- 11.4 Introduction to Operating Principles**
- 11.6 Reviewing the Intercessional workplan**



## 2.1 Overview of the JTA-EC



The JTA shall:

1. be responsible for negotiating on a yearly basis fair, cost-effective, and simple terms and conditions of the global agreement covering Argos user charges that are applicable to Argos programmes funded by national governments of WMO and IOC Members/Member states and/or other JTA approved organizations;



## 2.1 Overview of the JTA-EC

Specific tasks of the JTA-EC are to:

1. Assist the chairperson and secretariat in the preparation of reports, reviewing action items of previous JTA meetings, and their submission, if needed, to the IOC and WMO Secretariats for distribution.
2. Annually review the functions and duties of the JTA and recommend any changes to the Chairperson for discussion and approval at the JTA Session.
3. Review and facilitate the implementation of action items from previous JTA sessions;
4. Annually review the tariff structure and recommend changes to the chairperson.
5. Analyze the JTA administrative costs to be reimbursed by the JTA, and make recommendations to the Chairperson.



## 2.2 Report on JTA Chair activities since the JTA-35 Meeting & Upcoming Meetings

### 1. SATCOM INTERIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 23 Feb 2016

- Develop Agenda for Satcom 1 in September 2016 in Madrid, Spain
  - Tom Gross (in person) Johan Stander (in person) Eric Locklear (Webex) Michel Guigue (Webex)
- Meeting will be coupled with CIMO Teco (Teco 2016) and the Meteorological Technology World Expo 2016 (Meteo Expo).



## 2.2 Report on JTA Chair activities since the JTA-35 Meeting & Upcoming Meetings

### 2. ARGOS Operations Committee Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, USA 7-9, June, 2016

- Action Item for JTA: *JTA Executive Committee to evaluate and propose a new construct for annual meetings. Action: E. Locklear Due: O/C 50 June, 2016*
- Recall Our Discussion from the 2015 EC meeting in Silver Spring, MD
- 2016 EC ARGOS JTA Construct Proposal By Chairman



## 11.2 JTA-EC to propose new structure of JTA 2015 EC Discussion

1. The JTA-EC addressed the Action 49-5-J from OPSCOM “JTA Executive Committee to evaluate and propose a new construct for annual meetings.” Mr. Locklear began the discussion with a display of the JTA nations’ usage by PTT years, and pointed out the largest 5 users of each family type (Buoys & Others, Floats, Wildlife, and Fixed Stations).
2. The idea presented was that the top users of the Argos system tended to have ROCs consistently attend the annual JTA meetings, and might a better approach be to create an Argos JTA committee composed of the top user nations, plus representatives for the other nations, and meet bi-annually instead of annually.
3. This would ensure maximum representation of the maximum number of users, as well as representation of all others. Equity and openness is maintained. Also, there would be a JTA-EC meeting in-between the Argos Committee meetings, thus ensuring continuity, yet becoming more efficient and economical.
4. The JTA-EC discussed these issues and scheduling methods available, including alternating years for JTA and JTA-EC meetings. But given the nature of the JTA’s work, an annual meeting schedule was agreed to be the best option for JTA to ensure problems and issues were quickly addressed, and the principles of openness and fairness were maintained.
5. The issue of cost of secretariat support for the JTA meetings was discussed. These costs should not be confused with the UN approval of JTA process. National reporting of Member State views is an important part of the JTA and is enabled by the convening power of the UN organizations. The utility of the current arrangement for IOC and WMO Secretariat support was noted.



## 11.2 JTA-EC to propose new structure of JTA

### 2016 EC ARGOS JTA Construct Proposal By Chairman

1. ARGOS JTA Meetings Bi-Annually

2. ARGOS JTA Executive Committee Meetings Bi-Annually

#### POSITIVES:

- Cost Savings
- Consistent with Satcom ToR
- Still Maintain Strong JTA Continuity
- Shows efforts to be efficient and cost conscious

#### NEGATIVES:

- Cost Savings
- Consistent with Satcom ToR
- Still Maintain Strong JTA Continuity
- Shows efforts to be efficient and cost conscious



## 11.3 Agenda item ROC & RUG Nomination Package

### Nomination Package

1. Letter from ARGOS JTA Chairman to ROC/RUG Candidate making offer.
  - Use ARGOS JTA Letterhead
2. Acceptance letter, email, etc. back to ARGOS JTA Chairman
3. Letter from ARGOS JTA Chair to IOC & WMO Secretariats on the ROC/RUG nomination.
  - Use ARGOS JTA Letterhead
4. Letter to Member State(s) on WMO/IOC letterhead on the ROC/RUG nomination
5. Letter From Member State(s) accepting the nomination





# 11.4 Agenda Item

## Writing an introduction to the operating principles

### ANNEX XVII : Argos JOINT TARIFF AGREEMENT (JTA) VISION AND MISSION

#### 1. Introduction

The JTA provides for an international mechanism to provide for cost-effective location and data processing of data collected through the Argos system. [The vision is to provide a fair and affordable mechanism to monitor the environment. See appendix ANNEX XVII of the Argos-JTA 35 Report.](#)

The JTA is functioning through stakeholders whose roles are mainly to negotiate the Argos service level and tariff, and ensure appropriate coordination amongst Argos users in order to represent their collective interests with regard to Argos tariff and requirements. Stakeholders include:

- i. Representatives of Country (ROCs) representing a country or a group of countries from responsible government organizations using Argos;
- ii. Responsible Organizations (ROs) representing an agreed set of Argos user programmes;
- iii. Representatives of Users Groups (RUGs);
- iv. Representatives of the Argos satellite system operator and service provider;
- v. Representatives of the Argos Operations Committee (OPSCOM);
- vi. Representatives of the WMO and IOC Secretariats.

Proposed  
additions/comment  
s to the Workplan in  
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