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ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

CO-ORDINATION OF ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

I. WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

1. Much information about the environment is made available through the main WMO programmes, notably the World Weather Watch (WWW). The land-based stations, the satellites and other facilities of the WWW Global Observing System provide regular observations of the atmosphere; these include measurements of the atmospheric pollution at the "background" level, i.e., at remote stations which are not unduly affected by local sources of pollution. The observations are processed at the centres of the WWW Global Data-Processing System and both the observations and processed data are exchanged internationally through the WWW Global Telecommunication System.

2. For environmental studies, it is necessary to process the WWW observations in the form of such values as monthly, annual and long-period averages and extremes. Many of these values for the whole world are published regularly by WMO or under WMO auspices by member countries of WMO. The main such publications are:

Climatological Normals (CLINO) for CLIMAT and CLIMAT SHIP Stations for the Period 1931-1960 (published by WMO)

Atmospheric Turbidity and Precipitation Chemistry Data for the World (published by the United States of America)

Monthly Climatic Data for the World (published by the United States of America)

Monthly Ozone Data for the World (published by Canada)

Results of Ground Observations of Atmospheric Electricity (published by the USSR)

Solar Radiation and Radiation Balance Data (published by the USSR).

II. INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

3. IMCO does not itself compile statistics on the physical environment, although it does have sources from which certain information can be and is being obtained. Data which the organization utilizes at present for its environmental activities include:

(a) The tonnage and numbers of vessels comprising the world's merchant fleet and their countries of registry;

(b) The tonnage of specific types of vessels such as oil and chemical tankers comprising the world fleet;

(c) The world production of crude oil and chemical products and the quantities of those commodities transported by sea.

4. The organization also has access to limited information and data on the quantities of oil entering the sea as a result of maritime accidents and has collected some details of casualties to ships, which have been supplied by the member Governments. There are a number of organizations and institutions collecting similar information and data, and IMCO encourages and supports those activities.
