

Input from WMO to the report of the Secretary-General on Oceans and the Law of the Sea 2003

Salient issues arising in 2003

weather information broadcast via Inmarsat-C SafetyNET by all NMSs appointed as Issuing Services within the framework of the WMO Marine Broadcast System for the GMDSS.

- 4) The year 2003 marked the 150th anniversary of the First International Meteorological Conference (Brussels, 1853), which led to the establishment, 20 years later, of the International Meteorological Organization, the predecessor of WMO. A celebration of this anniversary, attended by nearly 150 people, took place in Brussels in November, under the high patronage of His Majesty, King Albert II of Belgium. It included historical reviews by current meteorologists and oceanographers of the development of operational marine meteorology and oceanography, leading to the Joint WMO/IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM) and the Global Ocean and Climate Observing Systems (GOOS and GCOS), as well as a future vision of operational oceanography and marine meteorology.