

EMS Education Committee Terms of Reference

1. An Education Committee is established in the European Meteorological Society.

2. The tasks of the Committee are:
 - (a) to define objectives and lines of action dealing with education in meteorology in Europe, as well as its applications and related sciences;
 - (b) identification of potential actors and bodies to be responsible for carrying out the Committee's tasks;
 - (c) identification of relevant bodies, individuals and programmes where meteorological education or a dialogue on meteorology or its applications is occurring or could occur;
 - (d) to draw up a plan, during the Committee's first year of existence, with deadlines and milestones of achievement, showing how (a) to (c) can be implemented;
 - (e) to maintain an ongoing plan, revised at two-year intervals, outlining progress.

3. The Committee should work to achieve a proper balance in actions towards the general purpose of education by the limited manpower in the joint societies. A basic purpose should be sensible division of societies' activity between areas of:
 - (a) primary school education;
 - (b) secondary school education;
 - (c) universities and other academic institutes;
 - (d) vocational training in government weather services and in private companies;
 - (e) education of the general public.

All these areas can be approached top-down or bottom-up. The Committee should evaluate where the EMS strengths lie and in which areas our means can be employed most cost-effectively, without belittling others. In this it may be unwise to try at all costs to cover all countries, since in some areas differences may be large.

4. The Committee should establish regular contacts with organizers of various European national education projects on meteorology and allied scientific subjects. Moreover, the Committee should make themselves well informed about existing EC activities on education, about various international projects such as Globe and Project Atmosphere, and about actors outside Europe such as the Education and Resources Commission of the American Meteorological Society.

5. EMS Member Societies and Associate Members will be invited by Council to nominate persons, who are both experienced in meteorological education and have sufficient time to be active in the Committee. Council will nominate a chairperson for the Committee.

Out of the nominations, the Chair will then select a compact group, between five and ten persons, who cover together the working areas reasonably well. For communication, at least one Committee member must be a member of Council.

6. As a rule, the Committee will exchange views by telecommunication, but it may request support by Council for an occasional business meeting. Such a meeting will preferably be at some conference or workshop for which most of the Committee members have already means to attend.

7. The Committee chairperson will provide a summary report for meetings of the EMS Council on the Committee's proceedings and on its conclusions about existing, possible and desirable EMS actions in the field of education.

8. At two-yearly intervals the Council will review and maybe revise the membership of the Education Committee. If during a two-year period a Committee member cannot continue to be active, the Committee will propose a replacement to Council for agreement.

Budapest, 27 September 2001
EMS Council Resolution C23