

15th EMS Council
2 – 3 September 2006, Ljubljana,
Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia

Minutes approved by the 16th EMS Council

Participants: David Burridge (EMS President, RmetS UK), Janneke Ottens (KNMI, Chair Strategy Implementation Group), Dominique Marbouth (observer ECMWF), Howard Lyne (Chairman Accreditation Committee, RMetS), Bob Riddaway (Chairman Publications Committee, RMetS), Tanja Cegnar (SMD Slovenia, Chairwoman Media Committee), Rasmus Benestad (FM Norway), Sylvain Joffre (FMI, COST, invited expert), Raino Heino (GS Finland, EMS Vice President), René Morin (SMF France), Werner Wehry (DMG Germany, EMS Past-President), Fritz Neuwirth (ZAMG Österreich, observer for NMSs), Heleen ter Pelkwick (NVBM, The Netherlands), Evangelina Oriol-Pibernat (observer ESA), Tomáš Halenka (CMeS Czech Republic, Vice President and Treasurer).

Minutes: Martina Junge, Executive Secretary

Duration of meeting 2 September 2006 (14:00 – 18:30)
 3 September 2006 (13:00 – 14:00)

1. Opening of session

The President, David Burridge, opened the meeting and welcomed all the participants. This was followed by a one minute silence, observed in memory of Renato Carvalho who died in the spring. Renato had been the EMS Council member for APMG Portugal. David Burridge thanked Tanja Cegnar and the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for hosting and organising this meeting.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

The Agenda was accepted as proposed (see annex I)

3. Acceptance of Minutes of the 14th Session of the EMS Council

A minor correction, noting that Mikko Alestalo (Deputy Director, FMI) welcomed the Council to Helsinki, to the minutes of the 14th session of the EMS Council was accepted (annex II).

4. Reports of Bureau and Secretariat

4.1 The report of the President focussed on two issues, namely the precarious financial situation of the EMS and the status of the Meetings Committee which has been dormant for some time.

With regard to the financial situation he noted that an increase of Membership Fees and the financing of the EMS Annual Meetings would be discussed under later items on the agenda. And, the Strategy Implementation group had agreed to review the mission of, and the necessity for, a Meetings Committee. In the meantime, the EMS President will oversee the preparation of the EMS Annual Meeting in 2007.

4.2 The reports of the Vice Presidents focussed on attracting new member societies (Raino Heino) and working of the EMS Secretariat in Berlin (Werner Wehry).

Tomáš Halenka reported that he has been told, informally, that the EGU has no interest in a Memorandum of Understanding with EMS that would give EMS members the advantage of registering at reduced fees at the EGU General Assembly. The AMS has recognized the EMS as a cooperative organization and therefore EMS members can attend the AMS Annual Meeting at a reduced rate. After discussion, the Executive Secretary was asked to inform all member societies of this reduction and was asked to clarify with the AMS if the reduction could be claimed by Associate members.

4.3 The report of the Executive Secretary stressed that 70% of the work load is related to the preparation of the EMS Annual Meeting. In addition to administration and the preparation for Council Meetings and General Assemblies, support had been given to the Publications and Awards Committee.

5. Finance

5.1 Financial report

The financial situation of EMS has improved during the last year, owing to the net profit from the EMS Annual Meeting and ECAM, 2005. The income from membership fees fell short of the budget by more than 4000 Euro (paper 6).

The report of the treasurer was approved (Resolution C92: 7:0:1, acceptance:7-rejection:0-abstention:1).

Financial Prospects:

The treasurer presented the budget for the remainder of 2006 and for 2007 (paper 8).

Discussions on the budget for the remainder of 2006 yield the following points:

- The invoicing of the membership fees must be completed earlier in the year
- The presentation of the budget will in future have to include a fourth column, that shows the sum of the money already spent in 2006/the current year and the money expected to be spent in the remainder of 2006/the current year.

The proposed budget for 2007 foresees no change in income from membership fees but a modest increase in income from the EMS Annual Meeting. The discussion that followed focused on:

- the necessity for a balanced budget
- possible reduction of the funds allocated to the committees due to under-spending in recent years
- inclusion of increase in membership fee due to the proposed annual increase according to European consumer index (as proposed under item 5.3)

The Council then voted on the proposed budget for 2007 with the following amendments:

1. The funds allocated to all Committees were reduced by 500 Euro to 1500 Euro per Committee and the resulting 2500 Euro saving to be added to the travel item. In addition the budgets for the Committees should also be reflected in the book keeping/accounting. However, all committees are assured that they will have the support of the Council in their activities and that additional funds for new activities will be granted.
2. To insure a balanced budget the expected income from the EMS Annual Meeting has been increased to 9000 Euro.

The Treasurer was also asked to look into the possibility that separate funds are provided to assure the participation of Committee Chairs at the Council Meetings, and that for the budget of 2008 the results of 2006 will be taken into account.

The budget with the suggested amendments was approved (Resolution C93: 8:0:0, attached in annex III).

5.2 Audit 2005

The audit for 2005 had been carried out by Mr. Lucas (Berlin). The auditor had only minor comments - requesting clearer evidence of EMS mission for travels paid for by EMS and a timely presentation of the settlement for the EMS Annual Meeting in order to include this result in the audit of the appropriate calendar year.

For the presentation of the Financial Accounts and the Audit of 2006 the treasurer was asked to show the correlation between the audit (that only takes into account the items on the bank account in the calendar year) and the Financial Accounts that additionally take into account items relating to 2006 but only being paid or spent in 2007.

The Audit 2005 would be presented to the General Assembly on 3 September 2006 for approval of the Treasurer's report.

5.3 Increases in Membership Fees

Following the decision of the 14th Council Meeting, a proposal for the increase of Annual Membership Fee has been prepared and distributed to all EMS Member Societies, to be voted on at the General Assembly.

Whilst it was considered that the increase by roughly 2% might not improve the current financial situation of the EMS, it was also considered impractical now to change the proposal since member societies needed to have the change well in advance of Council meetings. The proposal for the General Assembly will remain as distributed. However, if approved by the General Assembly, annual increases in the fees will, in all subsequent years, follow the relevant European inflation index.

The proposed increase applies to the Fees of Member Societies only, for the Associate Members it was considered more useful to seek one-off increases from time-to-time.

6. EMS Meetings

6.1 Report on preparation of EMS6

The Executive Secretary reported on the preparation of the EMS/ECAC meeting 2006 (paper 11).

- More than 400 participants are expected and 310 oral presentations and 260 poster presentations are scheduled during 25 sessions
- Twelve exhibitors have rented exhibition booths
- An Icebreaker party is scheduled for Monday and a conference dinner for Wednesday

6.2 Report on preparations of EMS7

- The EMS and ECAM conference 2007 will take place in El Escorial, Spain, with INM and AME acting as local hosts
- A preparatory meeting to establish a conference committee will held in Ljubljana during the conference week
- It is intended to attract the WMO THORPEX project to hold a meeting during EMS07 and establish EMS meetings as forum for their annual meeting
- The President has held talks to secure support of the AMS (see the President's report)
- A Special satellite session will be organised (with no other parallel sessions)

6.3 EUMETSAT conference

The President represented the EMS at, and participated in, the 2006 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference which took place in Helsinki, Finland, on 12 – 16 June 2006. During this meeting the relationship between the EMS and EUMETSAT and cooperation on future scientific meetings involving both organisations were discussed and cooperation on a more routine basis at conferences was envisioned.

6.4 Composition of Meetings Committee

The activities of the Meetings Committee have lapsed somewhat over the last few years, however it is clear that a meetings committee is required both to plan the annual meetings and to develop the EMS meetings programme.

For the next year it is proposed that:

- i. For the seventh annual meeting (in Madrid), the President convenes a planning group which will include the Chair of the current Meetings Committee, representatives of ECAM, the Instituto Nacional de Meteorología (INM), the Asociación Meteorológica Española (AME) and the AMS.
- ii. The Strategy Group considers the future role of a Meetings Committee.

EMS Committees – reports

7.1 Accreditation

The new Chairman, Howard Lyne (RmetS, UK), has taken over after David Axford retired from this post at the spring council (see minutes 14th Council Meeting). He noted that since accreditation is primarily a national matter, the role of EMS is likely to be limited to giving advice and making recommendations to its member societies. A possible exception is the accreditation or certification of forecasters for civil aviation. This arises from two sources: the adoption of the guidelines in WMO 258 by ICAO as the required standard for forecasters for international civil aviation, and the implementation of the regulations concerning the Single European Sky (SES) within the European Union. These could require the establishment of some form of European certification in which the EMS would play a part (See also discussion under agenda item 9: collaboration with Eumetcal college).

7.2 Awards

The amount that will be spent on Awards by the end of the year is 5600 Euro (of the 6000 Euro allocated). Of the agreed YSTAs, those for the Eumetsat- conference in Helsinki and the EWOC conference in Boulder were not awarded due to a lack of applicants. Instead one additional YSTA (300 €) was awarded for the Mountain Met Conference (Santa Fe). COST financed three additional YSTAs and one YSA, so that 7 YSTAs and 2 YSA could be awarded at the EMS Annual Meeting and ECAC conference in Ljubljana. In addition, as last year, Kipp&Zonen awarded one YSA for Boundary Layer Meteorology.

International Weather Forum (FIM) - due to legal issues concerning the dedication of FIM, the Media Award and trophies can not be given this year.

For 2007, ten Young Scientist Travel Awards (YSTA) and one Young Scientist Award (YSA) were proposed (see Annex IV).

A discussion focussing on the purpose of the awards given by EMS resulted in the following points:

- Instead of viewing the YSTA as additional travel support, the award should be given for good, innovative scientific work
- In order to give prestige to an EMS Award this should be given to a well-known person for a very specific achievement: this could be given in the form of an annual award presented at the EMS Annual Meeting.

The Awards Committee is asked to present a paper on the future policy on EMS Awards at the spring EMS Council Meeting.

Notwithstanding these considerations, the list of suggested awards (YSA and YSTAs) was approved by the Council (8-0-0).

7.3 Education

The Chairman reported on his activities related to the preparation of the “Education Session” at EMS6, new collaboration with the ACCENT project (FP6 Network of Excellence on the composition of the atmosphere that also considers educational aspects), participation at the EWOC conference in Boulder (USA) and new developments of ECTOM2.

EWOC: Prague has applied to hold the EWOC meeting 2009, and has now been selected

ECTOM2: the catalogue on training opportunities in Europe is now available, but problems exist in actually filling the data base

The discussion focussed on the suggestion that a number of EGU activities exist in the field of education and that the EMS committee should investigate possibilities of collaboration.

7.4 Media

The main activity of the Media Committee, and in particular the Chairperson (Tanja Cegnar), has been the preparation of the Media session at the 6th EMS Annual Meeting, which had a new concept this year and also attracted interest from the UK Embassy in Slovenia, who is financing simultaneous translation for that session. In collaboration with WMO a press release for the EMS6 and ECAC6 has been formulated.

The Media Committee chairs invite ALL EMS Societies to nominate interested, active new members to give fresh impetus to the work of the committee. The Media committee will contribute to the Awards paper to be presented at the 16th Council (see 7.2) with a suggestion how to realise a trophy award for a best video-clip.

7.5 Publication

The Chairman reported on the experiences in publishing the 9th edition of the EMS Newsletter, including the disappointing feedback, and the development of a concept for a re-launch of the EMS web site.

He sought decisions from the Council in 6 issues

- i. Frequency of EMS NL publication
- ii. Suggestions for the style and content of the newsletter:
- iii. Support of members of Council in the production of the newsletter
- iv. Particular issues that the Publications Committee should be addressing
- v. Membership of the Publications Committee
- vi. Agreement on general structure of the EMS web page and provision of funds for the implementation

In connection with discussions on the annual report and on the EMS web site it was concluded that the Newsletter will henceforth appear once a year, preferably early in the year and will contain the Annual Report of the EMS (i and iv). In the production of this Annual report, the President and the EMS Secretary will be the main authors, but will be supported by the committee chairs and the treasurer (iii).

The Web site will be considered as an online dynamic newsletter, the main point of information and discussion for all members and associate members, so some urgency is placed on its development (vi) (see below). To develop the contents of the web site more man and woman power is required. The chairman of the publications committee will suggest and invite new members to the committee and they will be approved by the Bureau provisionally (and by the Council at its next session) (v).

Re-launch of Website

The redesign of the EMS web site and the proposed concept was welcome by the council. Suggestions by the Treasurer to host and develop the web site in Prague have to be investigated as to its feasibility by the EMS Secretary and the Treasurer. The EMS Council agreed to budget 2000Euro + VAT for the implementation of the site (8:0:0). A special effort should be taken to inform people about the EMS website and its possibilities

7.6 Strategy Implementation Group

Analysis

The current EMS mission and objectives are still valid, but are difficult to achieve with the present resources of EMS. The EMS does not, at the moment, provide an attractive “meeting place” and there is not much involvement of the Societies and its individual members.

Actions

A number of concrete tasks have been identified and categorized into short-term, medium- term and long-term issues.

Short-term issues

- Web site development
- Continue to organise meetings – providing visibility and a platform
- Accreditation.

Medium-term issues

- Collecting best practices on the EMS website – for example, educating the general public, citing of quality reports etc.
- Publicize meeting facilities between different bodies
- Set up database containing information about available fields of expertise among members for joint EU research projects
- Sell the concept - importance of EMS for the community in the long run for example: peer reviews, translating meteorological merits into advantages for administrators & businesses etc.

Long-term issues

- Link up organisations active in communicating science and technology
- Connect to social/economic sciences/societies/organisations
- Establish an enterprise committee to investigate the needs of members and associated members and commercial bodies – initiate surveys to establish what the EMS can offer etc.
- Link EMS committees to strategic goals

It is clear that a new web site is essential if there is to be any improvement in the communication of EMS activities and the implementation of the Executive Secretaries' new design should be achieved as quickly as possible.

The role of the EMS committees has to be strengthened and the President and the EMS Secretary agreed to present a proposal to the next Council on new working methods for the Council in which the role of the Committee Chairs is strengthened. In addition they will review the composition of, and the need for, a Bureau and the length of terms of office for Council members etc.

The Strategy Working Group was asked to continue its work, in particular to summarize its proposals in a paper that will be presented to the 16th EMS Council in spring.

8. Annual Report

See discussions under report of the publications committee (item 7.5)

9. Collaboration with Eumetcal College

Howard Lyne presented a proposal, formulated by David Bennetts, for a Eumetcal College in which the European Meteorological Society is asked to endorse the establishment of a certification scheme for aviation forecasters aimed primarily at Meteorological Service Providers working in Europe (paper 22).

The discussion that followed raised a number of issues.

- i. What is the position of EUMETNET on EUMETCAL College and the certification scheme?
- ii. The certification scheme appears premature
- iii. Does the demand for a European certification scheme exist?
- iv. Does the endorsement of the scheme by EMS imply more (financially and work wise) than just giving the EMS name ("Rubber stamp")?

The Accreditation Committee was asked to analyse the proposal and give a recommendation to the Council whether EMS should accept this proposal and at what level of responsibility. The Accreditation Committee will report to the Council at the spring meeting on the results. It will have to be the task of the accreditation committee to oversee the implementation of such an EMS activity.

10. Membership

10. 1 New Member Societies

Following a vote by correspondence the EMS Council welcomed the Associació de Meteorologia i Ciències de l'Atmosfera d'Andorra (A.M.A.C.A.) as a new EMS Member Society (Resolution C94: 8:0:0).

This EMS Council welcomed the Meteorological Section of the Polish Geophysical Society (PTG) as new EMS Member Society (Resolution C95: 8:0:0).

10.2 New Associate Members

The Hungarian Weather Service (OMSZ) through its director Zoltan Dunkel has declared its intention to apply for EMS Associate Membership, and is awaiting approval by the National Ministry (in the meantime approval has been given).

11. Composition of Bureau

11.1 Election of EMS Vice Presidents

The following were re-elected as Vice Presidents:

Tomáš Halenka (CMeS, Czech Republic)

Raino Heino (GS, Finland)

Werner Wehry (DMG, Germany)

In addition, Tomáš Halenka (CMeS, Czech Republic) was also re-elected as Treasurer.
(Resolutions C96, C97, C98: 8:0:0).

It is proposed that a rotation system for Vice Presidents be introduced (paper 23) and this is welcome by the Council.

René Morin informed the President that he will retire from the Council. The EMS President, David Burridge, thanked René for all he has done for EMS: René has been the founding father - and mother of the EMS, has acted as its first President and continued to drive forward the work of EMS with great enthusiasm and commitment as both a Vice President and a Councillor. In closing, David Burridge thanked him especially for his sense of humour and friendship.

René Morin informed the Council that the SMF has nominated Claude Pastre as their representative at the EMS Council.

12. Miscellaneous

13. Time and place of next Council Session: 17 – 18 April, Beograd, Serbia

Annexes

- I **Agenda**
- II **Minutes of 14th Council Meeting, Helsinki**
- III **Financial Budget 2007**
- IV **Awards proposed for 2007**
- V **Resolutions**

Annex I:

EMS Council, 15th Session, Ljubljana, 2-3 September 2006
Paper No. 1
Agenda Item 2
Original language: English
File name: C15_1_Agenda

**15th EMS Council
Ljubljana, 2-3 September 2006**

Proposed Agenda

1. Opening
2. Acceptance of the Agenda
3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 14th Session of the EMS Council
4. Reports of Bureau and Secretariat
5. Finance
 - 5.1. Financial Report
 - 5.2. Audit 2005
 - 5.3. Increase of Annual Membership Fees
6. EMS Meetings
 - 6.1. EMS Annual Meeting 2006
 - 6.2. EMS Annual Meeting 2007
 - 6.3. EUMETSAT: Cooperation on meetings and symposia
 - 6.4. Composition of Meetings Committee
7. EMS Committees and working groups – Reports and relevant topics
 - 7.1. Accreditation (Howard Lyne)
 - 7.2. Awards (Werner Wehry)
 - 7.3. Education (Tomáš Halenka)
 - 7.4. Media (Tanja Cegnar)
 - 7.5. Publications (Bob Riddaway)
 - 7.6. Strategy Implementation Group (Janneke Ottens)
8. Annual Report
9. Collaboration with EUMETCAL college
10. Membership
 - 10.1. New Member Societies
 - 10.2. New Associate Members
11. Composition of Bureau
 - 11.1 Election of EMS Vice Presidents
12. Miscellaneous
13. Time and place of next Council Session

Annex II

Minutes of 14th Council Meeting, Helsinki

**14th EMS Council Meeting
Helsinki, 9 – 10 March 2006
Finnish Meteorological Institute**

Minutes approved by the 15th EMS Council on 2 September 2006

Present:

Councillors:

David Burridge (EMS President, RMS), Rasmus Benestad (FM; Norway), Renato Carvalho APMG; Portugal), Tanja Cegnar (SMD; Slovenia; Chair of Media Committee) Tomas Halenka (CeMS, Czech Republic; Vice President and Treasurer; Chair of Education Committee), Raino Heino (GS, GL, Finland; Vice President), René Morin (SMF, France), Heleen ter Pelkwijs (NVBM, Netherlands), Werner Wehry (DMG, Germany; Vice President; Chair of Awards Committee)

Committee Chairs present:

David Axford (Chair EMS Accreditation Committee, RMS, UK), Bob Riddaway (RMS, UK; Chair Publications Committee)

Observers and guests present:

Con Carey (WNI, UK), Jan Hörhammer (Vaisala, Finland), Marian Koning-Klein (KNMI, Netherlands), Janneke Ottens (KNMI, Netherlands)

EMS Executive Secretary: Martina Junge (minutes)

Duration of meeting: 9 March 2006, 9:00 – 17:00
10 March 2006, 9:30 – 11:30

1. Opening

David Burridge welcomes all participants. He thanks the FMI for hosting this meeting and in particular Raino Haino for organising it. Mikko Alestalo, Deputy Director of FMI, welcomes the EMS Council at the new FMI building in Helsinki.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

With item 4.5 removed the Agenda is accepted as proposed.
(see Annex I)

3. Acceptance of Minutes of 13th Session of EMS Council

The minutes of the 13th Session of EMS Council are accepted (acceptance:9-rejection:0-abstention:0)

4. Reports of Bureau and Secretariat

EMS President and Vice-Presidents report on their activities in the period since the 13th Council Session, September 2005 (Paper No. 3a and 3b).

EMS President David Burridge reports that AMS has offered to support the organisation of 7th EMS Annual Meeting in 2007, in particular a strong weather prediction session embracing THORPEX activities.

The Executive Secretary reports on her activities since January 2006 when she resumed her post (Paper No. 4), which concentrated on the organisation of the 6th EMS Annual Meeting and the preparation of the Council Meeting.

The Council expresses his thanks to Arne Spekat, the first and former EMS Executive Secretary, for his dedicated work in building and developing EMS.

The President will send a letter to Arne Spekat to that effect, on behalf of the Council.

4.1 Confirmation of Committee Chairs

David Axford (RMS) declares that he resigns as Chairman of the EMS Accreditation Committee. All other Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs had declared that they were prepared to continue. (Paper No. 14)

David Burridge proposes Howard Lyne (RMS) as new Chair of the EMS Accreditation Committee. The Council approves this proposal (resolution C84: 9-0-0).

The Council confirms Werner Wehry (DMG) as chair of the EMS Awards Committee (C85:9-0-0).

The Council confirms Tomáš Halenka (CeMS) as chair of the EMS Education Committee (C86: 9-0-0)

The Council confirms Tanja Cegnar (SMD) as chair of the EMS Media Committee (C87: 9-0-0).

The EMS Council confirms Gerald Fleming (MET ÉIREANN, WMO) as vice chair of the EMS Media Committee (C88:9-0-0)

The EMS Council confirms Bob Riddaway (RMS) as chair of the EMS Publications Committee (C89:9-0-0).

The Meetings Committee is without Chair and the EMS President is at the moment provisionally filling this responsibility. This is not a practical solution in the long term and efforts will be put into nominating and electing a Chair of this Committee in the near future.

4.2 Rotation of Council members

The term of three councillors formally ends in autumn 2006, after the next Council Session (Paper 15).

Rasmus Benestad will explore the possibilities of Nordic Member societies representing on Council.

Heleen ter Pelkwick is prepared to continue as councillor for NVBM, Netherlands, and this is welcomed by the Council.

Southeastern member societies have difficulties meeting the financial obligations that go along with councillors' travels and the suggestion to hold the spring Council meeting in the country of the new councillor is welcomed by the Council. The Executive Secretary will approach again the respective societies conveying this suggestion.

4.3 EUMETSAT Meteorological Conference

EMS President David Burridge agreed that the EMS is represented at the organizing committee of the EUMETSAT Conference 2007, Amsterdam.

The future Chair of the Meetings Committee will have to take over that responsibility.

4.4 Website

The Executive Secretary proposes to re-design the EMS Website, to give it a clear structure and make information easily accessible.

Questions raised in the discussion were: who do we want to address with this web site, which purposes should it serve.

These issues should be discussed in the wider society and the Executive Secretary will send an inquiry to the member societies for their views and proposals.

The Executive Secretary will work together with the Chair of the Publications Committee to develop a concept of the EMS web site. The possibility to assign the implementation of the web site to a private company has been discussed and welcome.

5. EMS Annual Meetings

5.1 EMS5 Utrecht

The settlement for the 5th EMS Annual Meeting in Utrecht received from Copernicus Organisation has been presented to the Council. The conference resulted in a surplus of ca. 9000 Euro. Together with Donations from Kipp&Zonen, the City of Utrecht and COST the surplus amounts to ca. 25,600 Euro. This amount will be divided between EMS, KNMI and Meteo Consult BV (50%-25%-25%).

The suggestion to “earmark” the profits from Annual Meetings to build up a Meetings Fund has been raised, but not considered practical at the moment.

Discussion of the settlement raised a number of issues: was the reduced abstract handling fee agreed for ECAM abstracts realised? Was the taxation as discussed beforehand with Dutch Authorities realised ? Janneke Ottens will compile a list of issues which the Executive Secretary will then investigate.

For future EMS Annual Meetings the possibility to work with a different, possibly more economic service provider has been raised and will be investigated.

The EMS Council thanks the local organisers KNMI and MeteoConsult B.V. for hosting and organising this very successful conference.

Janneke Ottens, KNMI, organisation committee of the conference, gives a presentation on the evaluation of the conference and recommendations and issues that arose.

The main issues that have to be tackled are

- Involvement of users
- Cooperation between EMS and ECAM/ECAC
- More active involvement and support of ICWED, PriMet, Eumetnet
- Room for development and applications of science
- European Meteorological Society – who is this ?

- Professionalise EMS, involve more players

EMS President David Burridge thanks Jannecke Ottens for this important contribution. Ensuing is a discussion on *The role of EMS in Europe - can it be an umbrella for the meteorology community in Europe?*

The EMS Profile has to become more distinct, with a clear vision and strategy.

This discussion results in the appointment of a Strategy Working Group, consisting of the following members:

Janneke Ottens (Chair, KNMI)
Con Carey (WNI)
Rasmus Benestad (FM)
Jan Hörhammer (Vaisala)
Tomas Halenka (CeMS)

This group will develop an EMS strategy implementation plan, and report to the Council at its next session.

5.2 EMS6 and 5.3 EMS7

The Executive Secretary reports on the state of the preparation of the EMS6 Annual Meeting (See paper 16a and 16b).

- Call for paper issued 8 February 2006; for most sessions convenors are actively promoting the conference programme
- A Conference Committee with representatives of ECAC, EMS, local organisers and Copernicus was established, and held its first meeting on 8 March 2006 in Helsinki
- Copernicus is the local organiser and will sign the contract with the conference centre
- A contract between EMS and Copernicus will be drawn with the following content

- EMS is host of EMS6/ECAC6 meeting and carries the risk, responsibility and liability***
- Copernicus acts as local organiser***
- The reservation fee has to be paid by EMS***
- Copernicus invoices all participants and exhibitors & pays all remunerations and invoices***
- Copernicus will compile a complete account of income and expenditure: surplus will be transferred to EMS, deficit will be reimbursed by EMS***

Charges by Copernicus

- Per abstract submitted & accepted 35.00 €***
- Per abstract submitted & withdrawn 15.00 €***
- Per registration 15.00 €***
- Per participant (local organizing) 15.00 €***

The Council appreciates that the EMS President has to sign this contract with Copernicus and is aware of the risks involved.

The Budget for the conference is very tight and major efforts have to be put into getting many participants and exhibitors to Lubljana.

Special efforts have to be put into early registration (30% of participants)

The discussion on the preparation of EMS6 revealed that choosing expensive conference centres as Venue imposes the greatest financial risk. For future Annual Meetings, an approach that also investigates more economic premises such as university campus' has to be taken.

6. Finance

6.1 Financial Report

The Treasurer presented the EMS Account for 2005 (Paper 11a, 11b and 11c) and the Budget for 2006 and 2007 (Paper 12).

It was noted in the discussion, that

- a) the best possible estimate for future income/expenditure has to be used in the projected budget
- b) the presentation of the accounts should be given as annual assignments rather than in cashflow format.

The EMS Accounts for 2005 will be prepared in annual assignment format for the next Council Session.

It was noted, that EMS Membership fees have stayed constant since EMS was founded. For the next General Assembly a paper will be prepared, that suggests to link the increase of membership fees to a European inflation index. This paper has to be distributed to the member societies at least 6 weeks prior to the General Assembly convening.

6.2 Audit 2004

A translation of the Financial Audit for the year 2004 has been presented (Paper No. 14).

The auditor has certified that the accounting in 2004 is consistent with legal requirements and the requirements of the EMS constitution.

The audit clarifies that the determination of feasibility of travels on scientific grounds is beyond the scope of this audit.

In future, the Audit will be part of the Annual Report given to the General Assembly.

7. EMS Committees – Reports and relevant topics

7.1 Accreditation

David Axford reports on the activities of the EMS Accreditation Committee (Paper 5), in particular points out the new requirements for EC certification under the EC Single European Skies legislation.

7.2 Awards

Werner Wehry reports on the activities of the EMS Awards Committee (Paper 6) and presents an Awards Policy Paper(Paper 6b).

The Council approves a YSTA for the Mountain Meteorology Conference (300€) (9-0-0).

Media Awards:

One Media Award will be given at the EMS Annual Meeting 2006. (Annex III) (9-0-0)

Two EMS Forum Awards and Tropies will be given at the 3ème Forum International de la Meteorologie 2006 (FIM) (Annex IV) (9-0-0). The wording will be agreed with FIM and Werner Wehry is given the permission to modify the announcement accordingly.

Honorary Awards:

The suggestion for a named medal for a Young Scientist (under 32) for distinguished work is welcome by the Council. Jan Hörhammer suggests to contact an art school to design a medal. The decision is postponed to the next Council Session.

6th EMS Annual Meeting:

All Awards will be presented at the opening ceremony.

Kipp&Zonen Award (1000Euro plus expenses for travel and accommodation)

Vaisala considers presenting the WMO-VÄISÄLÄ Award at the EMS6 if the awardee is European; could be presented by the WMO representative present at the opening ceremony.

WNI is considering to launch a WNI Award at EMS6 and will prepare an announcement.

A methodology to determine the winner of an award in a more rigorous, quantitative way has been developed.

In future all awardees will be asked to supply an interesting contribution on their work to the EMS Newsletter.

7.3 Education

Tomas Halenka reports on the activities of the EMS Education Committee (Paper 7).

Werner Wehry introduces an inquiry, whether the EWOC Conference in 2009 or 2010 could be held in Berlin.

The view of the EMS Council is, that EMS co-organises EWOC meetings and only DMG can bid to bring the conference to Germany. EMS is happy should DMG be successful and Tomas Halenka will advance this bid, as any bid by any European society, at the forthcoming EWOC conference in Boulder. EMS as organisation will not apply.

7.4 Media

Tanja Cegnar reports on the activities of the EMS Media Committee (Paper 8).

A CD with the presentations in the media session at EMS5 is distributed.

In collaboration with the Award Committee three EMS Media Awards are established (see 7.2 and Annex III and IV).

The involvement of local media at the EMS Annual Meeting will be promoted.

The Media Committee is battling with the problem of having only a small circle of active members. As there exists some common ground for the Education, Accreditation and Media Committee a common committee is discussed, but not considered appropriate at the moment. A strong collaboration of the Accreditation and Media Committee is required on the accreditation of Media Meteorologists.

7.5 Publications

Bob Riddaway reports on the activities of the EMS Publications Committee (Paper 9).

EMS Newsletter: The 9th edition of the EMS Newsletter is in preparation. The ECMWF director has kindly offered to have the Newsletter typeset at ECMWF by in-house staff. EMS NL 9 will also appear online.

As it has been perceived as tedious to receive enough contributions, doubts are expressed as to the feasibility of having two editions a year.

Discussions under agenda point 7.2 and 10. indicate how further contributions can be won (contributions by awardees; Annual Report)

EMS Journal: A niche for an EMS Journal does not exist.

For the 7th EMS Annual Meeting 2007 paper submission will be encouraged with abstract submission, in order to develop an open access publication of Annual Meeting Proceedings. Bob Riddaway seeks advise on Open Access publication from Arne Richter (EGU).

7.6 EMS Development Group

The mission statement has been updated at the last Council Meeting and how this mission will be implemented the Council has to discuss and decide.

This issue, also having been raised in the report on EMS5 by Janneke Ottens under agenda item 5.1, is also looked at by the Strategy Working Group.

8. Membership

8.1 New Member Societies

Raino Heino reports that the Geophysical Society of Poland is in the process of forming a Meteorology Section. He is in contact with representatives to discuss the application of this section for EMS membership.

8.2 New Associate Membership

During the time between the 13th Council in DeBilt and this 14th Council the Instituto Nacional de Meteorología applied for EMS Associate Membership. A vote by correspondence in Council was in favour of that application (9-0-0). Council welcomed INM by passing Resolution C90 (9-0-0).

On 9 March 2006 the Finnish Meteorological Institute applied for EMS Associate Membership.

The Council welcomed the application of FMI (Resolution C91: 9-0-0).

FMI is assigned to the group of National Weather Services, in the category of EMS Associate Members with more than 40 employees.

The Council will be pro-active to convince further National Weather Services (WMO Region VI) to become EMS Associate Member.

The suggestion to send letters to private companies and service providers inviting them to become Associate Member of EMS is welcomed; the discussion concludes that this initiative might better be delayed until the Strategy Working Group has developed a more distinct profile of EMS.

9. Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding

9.1 EMS-EGU

The EGU Council will consider reduced EGU conference registration fees for individual members of EMS member societies on its next Council Session in spring 2006.

9.2 EMS-IABM

A formal agreement is in preparation.

10. Miscellaneous

In the past the Annual Report has not been delivered regularly. For the next General Assembly the skeleton of an Annual Report will be developed: it will consist of the audit of the past year and reports of the EMS committees.

The Annual report will subsequently be published as autumn issue of the EMS Newsletter.

11. Next Session

It is foreseen that important issues will have to be dealt with at the next EMS Council session in Ljubljana. Half a day appears too short. Therefore the EMS President proposes that the Council Meeting will begin on Saturday 2 September 2006, afternoon (14:00) to continue on Sunday, 3 September 2006 until luchtime. The EMS General Assembly will take place at Sunday 3 September 2006, in the afternoon.

Tanja Cegnar offers to hold the Council Meeting and the General Assembly at the premises of the Environmental Agency of Slovenia.

**20.03.2006
Martina Junge**

Annex III
Financial Budget 2007**APPENDIX B****BUDGET 2007**Carried forward from 2006 **21505.79**

	Proposal (€)	Approved (€) by 15 th Council
INCOME		
Income from Members	25 000	25 000
Income from Associate Members	38 000	38 000
Other income	7 000	9 000
<u>Sub-Total Income 2007</u>	<u>70 000</u>	<u>72 000</u>
 EXPENDITURE		
Salary Secretary (3/4 +6hr)	46 000	46 000
Tax and social/health insurance		
Banking charges		
Travelling	5 000	7 500
Office costs	1 000	1 000
Honoraries, Fees	2 000	2 000
Awards	6 000	6 000
Printing publications	1 000	1 000
Newsletter (incl. Shipping)	1 000	1 000
Committees		
Accreditation	2 000	1 500
Education	2 000	1 500
Media	2 000	1 500
Meetings	2 000	1 500
Publications	2 000	1 500
Other costs		
<u>Sub-Total Expenditure 2007</u>	<u>72 000</u>	<u>72 000</u>
 TOTAL Available during 2007	<u>91505.79</u>	<u>93505.79</u>
 BALANCE at end of 2007	<u>19505.79</u>	<u>21505.79</u>

Annex IV
Awards in 2007

1 YSTA for each of the following Conferences:

- 6th UAQ, Urban Air Quality, Cyprus (27 – 29 March)
- 13th Mountain. Met. Conference in France (Chambery, 4 – 8 June)
- European Conference on Severe Storms (ECSS), Italy, (Trieste, 10 – 14 Sept.)
- Joint EUMETSAT & AMS Meteorological Conf. 2007, The Netherlands (24 - 28 Sept.)

1 YSTA for conferences, symposia or summer schools :

- WMO
- ESA
- ECMWF

for the EMS Annual Meeting, Spain: 3 YSTAs and 1 YSA

Annex V:
Council resolutions

EMS Council 15
Ljubljana, 2-3 September 2006

Resolutions:

- C92 Approval Report of Treasurer
- C93 Approval EMS Budget
- C94 Welcome of A.M.A.C.A. as EMS Member Society
- C95 Welcome of PTG, Meteorological Section, as EMS Member Society
- C96 Election EMS Vice President Werner Wehry
- C97 Election EMS Vice President and Treasurer Tomáš Halenka
- C98 Election EMS Vice President Raino Heino

Resolution C92

This EMS Council approves the report of the Treasurer.

Resolution C93

This EMS Council approves the Financial Budget for the year 2007. The Budget attached in Appendix III is part of this resolution.

Resolution C94

Following a vote by correspondence this EMS Council welcomes the Associació de Meteorologia i Ciències de l'Atmosfera d'Andorra (A.M.A.C.A.) as new EMS Member Society.

Resolution C95

This EMS Council welcomes the Meteorological Section of the Polish Geophysical Society (PTG) as new EMS Member Society.

Resolution C96

This EMS Council elects Werner Wehry (DMG-Germany) as EMS Vice-President.

Resolution C97

This EMS Council elects Tomáš Halenka (CMeS-Czech Republic) as EMS Vice-President and Treasurer.

Resolution C98

This EMS Council elects Raino Heino (GS-Finland) as EMS Vice-President.