

**27<sup>th</sup> EMS Council Session**

9 September 2012, Łódź, Poland

Minutes of 02 November 2012

**Participants:** (voting councillors underlined)

Dominique Marbouty (EMS President)

Liz Bentley (RMetS, UK)

Constanta Boroneant (SMR, Romania) – from 10:30

Jean-Pierre Chalon (SMF, France)

Ksenija Cindric (HMD, Croatia)

Sven-Erik Gryning (DaMS, Denmark)

Guy Schayes (SRBA, Belgium)

Heinke Schlünzen (DMG, Germany)

*Mieczyslaw S. Ostojki* (Director-General IMGW, observer for the NMHSs)

*Horst Böttger* (Chair EMS Committee on Meetings)

*Tanja Cegnar* (Chair EMS Media Team)

*Tomas Halenka* (EMS Project Team Education)

*Joanna Wibig* (guest, PTG-Meteorological Section)

*Ekaterina Batchvarova* (guest - BMS, Bulgaria)

7 Council representatives were present, 8 from 10:30 (decisions on agenda item 7) – the quorum is 7.

*Minutes: Martina Junge, Executive Secretary*

**1. Opening of the 27<sup>th</sup> Session**

The EMS President opened the 27th Session of the EMS Council by welcoming all participants. He thanked the local hosts, in particular Joanna Wibig and the Department of Meteorology and Climatology, University of Łódź, for hosting this Council Session and the General Assembly and making all the pleasant arrangements.

**2. Acceptance of Agenda**

The proposed agenda was accepted as proposed (Annex I).

**3. Implementation of decisions taken at the 26th Session of the EMS Council**

The minutes of the 26th Session of the EMS Council had been distributed to all participants of this meeting. Revisions that were put forward to the Executive Secretary within four weeks after distribution have been implemented. The minutes were then distributed to EMS Members. The minutes are held adopted (Rules of procedure 57) and are available from [www.emetsoc.org/governance-and-structure/council/council-meetings](http://www.emetsoc.org/governance-and-structure/council/council-meetings). The implementation of actions recorded in the minutes has been detailed in paper C27\_03, provided in Annex II. No further comments were made on this document.

**4. Report of the President**

The EMS President reported on his activities since the last Council Session as well as on initiatives of the EMS Bureau (Annex III).

In particular he drew attention to his actions in preparation of the EMS Annual Meeting in September 2013 in Reading in the UK. In addition to the interview in the AME bulletin mentioned in Annex III, he also reported on a similar interview he gave for the journal of the French Member Society SMF earlier this year.

The EMS Bureau at its quarterly meeting (audio-conference) conducts a mid-term review of actions and activities.

The Report of the Bureau was approved by the Council (Resolution C161: 7:0:0).

## **5. Report of the Executive Secretary**

The Executive Secretary reported on the activities and actions of the secretariat since the last Council Session (Annex IV).

The office of the secretariat has now moved within the premises of the Institute for Meteorology. The EMS Council is grateful that the Institute continues to host the EMS secretariat.

## **6. Report of the Treasurer**

The Financial report, as given by the Treasurer to the EMS Council, is provided in Annex V.

### ***Financial Accounts 2011 and audit***

The financial accounts 2011 were presented at the Council Session in spring 2012. The revenue and expenses statement of the financial accounts 2011 had been compiled by the tax advisor B. Hoffmann, Berlin, and audited by C.Kucklick, Berlin. The audit report was provided to the Council, it certifies that the revenue and expenses statement complies with the legal requirements as well as additional rules fixed in the constitution of the EMS. Payments made by the EMS are supported by invoices or other vouchers related to the association's purpose.

### ***Forecast of the Financial Accounts 2012***

The forecast for the accounts at the end of 2012 was noted by the Council. Based on the expected number of participants at the EMS Annual Meeting and ECAC, the expected overall income is lower than set out in the EMS budget for 2012.

### ***Approval of the report***

The Report of the Treasurer was approved by the Council (Resolution C162: 7:0:0).

### ***Free Reserves (Freie Rücklagen)***

The EMS Council decides to allocate 15.302,10 Euro of the income-expenditure result 2011 to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage) (C163: 7:0:0)

## **7. EMS Meetings**

The Chair of the EMS Committee on Meetings (CoM) reported on the activities of the committee (Annex VI). He informed Council about preparations for the imminent EMS & ECAC in Łódź, and the planned Annual Meetings in 2013 and 2014. A proposal for a venue in 2015 was made, and a number of issues such as remote presentations at conferences were brought to the attention of the Council.

### ***EMS Annual Meeting and ECAM 2013***

The contract for the venue at the University of Reading has been signed.

The Council approved the theme of the conference: "High Impact weather: working in partnership to deliver meteorological services that mitigate the risk to the public".

The membership of the Programme and Science Committee (PSC), tasked with the development of the conference programme, was approved by the Council as proposed.

### ***Procedures to establish the PSC for future EMS Annual Meetings***

Consistent with past practice, the CoM will provide a preliminary list of organisations that are proposed to be represented on the PSC for approval by the Council. With this mandate the EMS secretariat will then invite members to the PSC.

### ***EMS Annual Meeting and ECAC 2014***

The EMS & ECAC 2014 will take place 6-10 October 2014 at Clarion Hotel in Prague. A contract is imminent to be signed by Copernicus GmbH with the Czech PCO Czech-In on the organisation of the event.

**Venue EMS Annual Meeting 2015**

The CoM was tasked to investigate options for a venue in 2015. A report, proposal and suggestions for a line-up of venues 2016 – 2018 were provided.

The Council decided to select the Kempinski Hotel in Sofia as venue for the EMS Annual Meeting 2015. The conference will take place 07 – 11 September 2015.

**Remote presentations**

The Council discussed current and expected developments in the area of e-conferencing, and noted that the practice and expectations should be closely monitored.

For the moment the view is that allowing remote presentations for other than exceptional show-cases would counteract the intention of the conference to provide a meeting place for exchange and discussions. However, this position needs to be constantly reviewed.

**CoM Membership**

The Council noted the proposal to abstain from nominating a new Council representative on the CoM, as the communication is secured through the participation of the Chair of the committee at the Council Sessions. The CoM will make a proposal for revisions of the Terms of Reference for the CoM that reflects this procedure.

The Council thanked Olivia Morell for her commitment and work on the CoM during the last two years.

The President thanked the Chair of the CoM, Horst Böttger, and the entire committee, for their excellent work and concluded that the activities of the committee are in good hands.

**8. Awards**

On behalf of the Chair of the Awards Committee the Executive Secretary reported on the activities of the committee since the last Council session (Annex VII).

16 Young Scientist Travel Awards were assigned for participation in 6 events; two of them are funded by EUMETSAT. Reports of the awardees are provided on the emetsoc.org website.

The committee made a proposal to revise the terms of reference for the committee as well as those for the Young Scientist Award and the Young Scientist Travel Awards.

The EMS Council approved the proposed Terms of Reference (Resolution C164: 8:0:0).

The Council thanked the Awards Committee for their work, in particular related to the evaluation of the numerous Young Scientist Travel Awards and the Young Scientist Award.

**9. Europhotometeo competition – rights to use photos**

The Editorial Board, tasked by the 26th Council Session to consider how to deal with requests by Associate Members and WMO to use the photos submitted to the EPM in the same way Member Societies are allowed to do, provided a proposal to this Council (Annex VIII).

The discussion of the proposal concluded, that

- The procedure to allow submitters ticking boxes whether WMO or Associate Members are allowed to use the photos would add unnecessary administrative burden to the organisation; Thus:  
EMS, Member Societies, Associate Members and WMO Secretariat (i.e. excluding WMO Members) should all have the right to use the photos for non-commercial purposes. Any photo used via this mechanism for non-commercial publications must give appropriate credit to the photographer and the EMS by citing the name of the photographer and stating “EMS Europhotometeo ‘1x”.
- The rules of the competition must state that use of a photo for commercial purposes is only allowed with the specific agreement of the photographer. In this context, commercial purposes include the use of a photo in any publication or associated material for which there is a charge, or promotional literature about products for which there is a charge. If a person or organisation wants to use a photo for commercial purposes, they should get the contact details from the EMS and deal directly with the photographer. Any acknowledgement/payment is entirely a

matter to be agreed between the photographer and the user. However, there should be no acknowledgement to the EMS as this could give the impression that there is some kind of EMS endorsement.

These regulations will be implemented in the Terms & Conditions for the next EPM competition.

The EMS Council thanked AME for the organisation of this very successful photo competition which drew a large audience to the EMS website.

The Council also considered that the committee that pre-selects the photos for the final voting by the Jury should have a more international membership at the next competition. The public voting should also be kept for the next round.

## 10. Review of Projects

### **Professional Practices, Outreach, Media**

H. Schlünzen lead an investigation whether a COST action or other programmes could be instruments to provide the support that is needed to make the proposed project (to collect, provide and share examples of "best" practices) successful.

The outcome of these efforts so far is that the chances for a proposal that does not involve scientists in the area of communication and education to be successful are rather low. As the community involved currently includes scientists from the area of meteorology, hydrology, climatology and related areas, major efforts to build a respective network would be required.

The Council thanked Heinke Schlünzen for the analysis of options.

### **Education Team**

A proposal for a specific education project was provided by T. Halenka (Annex IX).

The Council agreed that

- The priority is to update the education portal on the website
- The ECTOM (training catalogue) should be revised and filled with content within the clear time frame of one year.
- Work on a COST proposal should start immediately with building of a small network of five.

### **Media Team**

A DVD with material from the Media Session at the EMS&ECAM 2011 and the workshop on communication skills in Berlin was prepared and was distributed in the conference bags of the EMS&ECAC 2012.

The concept of a second workshop on communication skills for climatologists (planned to be held on 14 and 15 September 2012 in Łódź) has been developed and the workshop announced. Due to the small number of registrations the workshop was cancelled.

The concept will be reconsidered; options on collaboration with the RMetS to organise a mini-workshop within the frame of the RMetS Annual Students Conference in September 2013 in Reading will be explored.

Contacts with the WMO Task Team on Media Communication have been further developed, however a joint meeting during the EMS Annual Meeting could not be arranged due to other commitments of its members during that period. The Media Team will meet in Łódź; among the topics that will be discussed is how to improve communication of seasonal forecasts and their uncertainty. Either a session or a small workshop at the EMS&ECAM 2013 will be considered.

## 11. Membership

**Benefits:** Following discussions on the main advantages of EMS and EMS Membership at the 26th Council Session, a revised compilation that explicitly specifies the benefits has been prepared by B. Riddaway and D. Marbouty.

With the additional benefit "Allowing the use of photos submitted to the EMS Europhotometeo competition for non-commercial purposes" this list (Annex X) will be distributed to all EMS Members

with the invitation to make this known to their membership through their website or other means of communication, and be published on the EMS website.

### **Epson Meteo**

An application for Associate Membership was received from the *Centro per il Clima e l'Ambiente Epson Meteo, Meteo Operations Italia srl*, <http://www.meteo.it/>

Epson Meteo, founded in 1995, is a private service provider with 25 staff.

Further information on Epson Meteo is available from the application letter (Annex XI).

This EMS Council welcomes the *Centro per il Clima e l'Ambiente*, Epson Meteo, Meteo Operations Italia srl as new EMS Associate Member. *Epson Meteo* will be assigned to the group of private service providers. (Resolution C165: 8:0:0).

Based on the number of 25 staff the annual Membership Fee is 600Euro.

### **AARU**

An application for Associate Membership from the Academic Association of Russian Universities in Hydrometeorology had been received shortly before the Council Session.

It was confirmed that AAU as organisation with interest in the aims of EMS is eligible for Associate Membership.

The Association has Universities/Departments as Members; in the discussion it was considered whether these Universities or the individual staff/members of the Departments should be the basis for the calculation of Membership Fees.

Given that the benefits will be available to staff of all Departments it was agreed that the fees should be calculated according to the total number of staff of all Departments.

The Executive Secretary is tasked to contact AARU with this decision and inquire whether on that background an Associate Membership is still sought. The decision on the acceptance of Membership will then be taken at the next Council meeting.

## **12. Long-term future of Permanent Membership Fees**

Following discussions on the long-term future of Membership Fee payments of Permanent Members at the 26th Council Session, a revised proposal has been put forward by the EMS Bureau (Annex XII):

In this document it is proposed:

- 1) To thank the Permanent Members for their voluntary contributions that were instrumental to enable the EMS to develop its activities and become established as an actor in the European meteorological community and beyond;
- 2) That from 2013 on the Permanent Member fee for RMetS, DMG and SMF be set at the level of 2,500€ annually;
- 3) That at this stage, this amount is not subject to any automatic inflationary increase, but any increase will be decided on an annual basis by the Council.

Such a decision implies that no reimbursements or open back-payments remain. This is particularly important for the planning of future EMS budgets.

The DMG representative declared that she supports this proposal, but for a formal vote has to await the agreement of the Extended Council of DMG that meets end of September. The President proposed that a formal vote is taken nonetheless at this Council Session, with the DMG representative voting “ad referendum”, and confirming this vote after the DMG Extended Council Session.

The Council agreed to the proposed decisions (Resolution C166: 7 + 1 “ad ref”: 0 : 0) that will enter into force once the vote from DMG is confirmed.

The DMG representative confirmed this vote ad-ref on 11 October 2012.

### **Associate Membership Fees**

In this context it was noted that Associate Membership Fees have remained constant since the establishment of Associate Membership (in 2003 additional levels for Members with a low number of staff were introduced), and an increase may be considered at some point.

### 13. Scientific Publications

A Paper on Open Access Publishing and the impact on Professional and Learned Societies has been put forward by the RMetS (Annex XIII), and the Council discussed whether the EMS could have a role in representing the concerns of its member Societies with the European Commission. The EC and a number of national funding agencies are preparing to mandate that publicly- funded research is published in Open Access journals and in national or international e-repositories.

The issues in the current discussion are:

- *Green Open Access* (no review process, no costs for authors) versus *Golden Open Access* (sound review process, authors pay page charges)
- Drastic reduction of the embargo period for subscription-based journals.

The EMS would naturally be the organisation that could inform the EC about the role of the review process and the relevance of Learned Societies in this process, as well as the implications of the various possible approaches to Open Access Publishing.

It was agreed that a draft position paper – for the purpose to approach the EC – will be prepared by L. Bentley, H. Schlünzen and J.-P. Chalon for distribution and discussion by the Member Societies. It needs to be established which EC Directorate would be best approached with a position paper.

### 14. 2013 Budget

The Treasurer presented the proposal of the Bureau for the EMS Budget 2013, taking into account the decisions and considerations of the 26<sup>th</sup> Council Session. In particular it was stressed that the budget has to be balanced.

The Budget for 2013 was unanimously approved as proposed (Annex B) (Resolution C167: 8:0:0).

### 15. Proposal to the GA: Council Composition term 2012 – 2014

Following the criteria for new Council representatives discussed at the 26th Council Session, the Executive Secretary approached the respective societies in the agreed order.

The Council proposes to the 14th EMS General Assembly to invite Shimon Krichak to represent the Israel Meteorological Society, Joanna Wibig to represent the Meteorological Section of Polskie Towarzystwo Geofizyczne and Paul Halton to represent the Irish Meteorological Society on the EMS Council for the term autumn 2012 – autumn 2014.

The President thanked the three outgoing representatives, Constanta Boroneant (RMS), Olivia Morell (MeteoMak) and Dagmar Kotlarikova (SMS) for their commitment and contributions to the work of the EMS Council during the last two years.

### 16. Next Council Session

The 28th Session of the EMS Council will convene on Thursday, 14 and Friday 15 March 2013, at the kind invitation of the Danish Meteorological Society, either in Copenhagen or in Roskilde, Denmark.

Martina Junge

**ANNEX A:** Resolutions 27th Session of the EMS Council

**Resolution C161**

This EMS Council approves the report of the EMS Bureau.

**Resolution C162**

This EMS Council approves the report of the Treasurer.

**Resolution C163**

The EMS Council decides to allocate 15.302,10 Euro of the income-expenditure result 2011 to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage).

**Resolution C164**

This EMS Council approves the revised Terms of Reference for the Awards Committee, the Young Scientist Award and the Young Scientist Travel Awards (as attached).

**Resolution C165**

This EMS Council welcomes the *Centro per il Clima e l'Ambiente*, *Epson Meteo*, *Meteo Operations Italia srl* as new EMS Associate Member. *Epson Meteo* will be assigned to the group of private service providers.

**Resolution C166**

This EMS Council thanks the Permanent Members for their voluntary contributions that were instrumental to enable the EMS to develop its activities and become established as an actor in the European meteorological community and beyond.

From 2013 on, Permanent Member fees for RMetS, DMG and SMF are set at the level of 2,500€ annually.

At this stage, this amount is not subject to any automatic inflationary increase, but any increase will be decided on an annual basis by the EMS Council.

**Resolution C167**

This EMS Council approves the Budget 2013 (as attached, Annex B).

**ANNEX B: Budget 2013**

Carried forward from 2012 (prospect)	<b>81 500 €</b>
<b>Income 2013</b>	
Income from Members	19 000 €
Income from Associate Members	38 200 €
Annual Meeting	40 000 €
VAT Annual Meeting 2013	2 800 €
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 000 €</b>
<b>Expenditure 2013</b>	
Salaries	69 600 €
Committees, Project Teams	1 500 €
Europhotometeo Competition	0 €
Awards	10 700 €
Workshops	650 €
Publications	1 500 €
Honoraries, Fees	4 500 €
Travelling	8 000 €
Support Members' and topical meetings	150 €
Office costs	1 000 €
Banking charges	300 €
VAT Annual Meeting 2012	2 100 €
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>100 000 €</b>
<b>Income – Expenditure 2013</b>	<b>0 €</b>
<b>Account Balance expected on 31 Dec 2013</b>	<b>81 500 €</b>