

Minutes of the 3rd Council Meeting

Parson's Room, St. John's College, Cambridge, UK, 10 July 2000

Minutes approved by the Fourth Council Session

Note: All votes are denoted as (x/y/z) wherein x is the number of votes cast in favour, y is the number cast against a point voted upon and z is the number of abstentions. These minutes follow the points of order according to the agenda.

Present: Tanja Cegnar (SMD, Ljubljana), Stanley Cornford (EMS Treasurer and Vice-President, RMS, Bracknell), Brian Hoskins (President of the RMS, for welcome address), Luigi Mariani (AIAM, Milano - deputy for Councillor Sabino Palmieri, SMS, Rome [from item 4b onwards]), René Morin (EMS President, SMF, Paris), Fritz Neuwirth (EMS Vice-President, ÖGM, Vienna), Werner Wehry (DMG, Berlin), Jon Wieringa (EMS Vice-President, NVBM, De Bilt).

Apologies: Tage Andersson (SMS, Norrköping), Miroslav Ondras (SMS, Bratislava).

In attendance: Arne Spekat (EMS Executive Secretary).

Beginning: 10:00 End: 16:00

After a welcome address by the President of the Royal Meteorological Society, Brian Hoskins, the Meeting was officially opened by René Morin thanking all participants for their initiative in travelling to Cambridge. In his opening remarks he underlined the timeline of EMS, in which after its foundations EMS will begin to live (this phase will last until 2001) and subsequently will begin to act (this phase will follow the initial stages of EMS, and will possibly start before 2003). Activities will then comprise running the EMS Annual Meetings, being active in fields like accreditation, education and conference organization. Before that, EMS will have to approach and admit Associate Members thus facing less obstacles when starting to live.

1. Acceptance of the agenda

The proposed agenda was accepted with specifications of the point 15 (Miscellaneous), namely *EMS Newsletter, European Meteorological Calendar, EUROTORNADO Conference, Symposium on '150 Years of Maritime Meteorology'*.

2. Minutes of the 2nd Council Meeting in Vienna

The Minutes of the Vienna Council Meeting, held on 3 March, 2000 were accepted (7/0/0).

3. Results of the votes by correspondence

The EMS Secretary reported about the three votes by correspondence held among Councillors before the Meeting in Cambridge

a) **Vote with respect to the Constitution Changes necessary to introduce Associate Members**

This vote was called on 16 May. 9 replies came in, of which 8 were in favour and 1 was against

Tage Andersson (SMS) yes

Tanja Cegnar (SMD) yes

Stan Cornford (RMS) yes

Rene Morin (SMF) yes

Fritz Neuwirth (ÖGM) yes

Miroslav Ondras (SMS) yes

Sabino Palmieri (UNIMET, AGI) yes

Werner Wehry (DMG) yes

Jon Wieringa (NVBM) no

b) **Vote with respect to new EMS Members**

This vote was called on 16 May 2000. 9 replies came in, all were in favour. Council underlined this fact by voting (7/0/0) with respect to Resolution 5.

c) **Vote with respect to the Society's taxation and dissolution regulations in its Constitution**

This vote was called on 16 June 2000. 9 replies came in, of which 8 were in favour and 1 was against

Tage Andersson (SMS) yes
 Tanja Cegnar (SMD) yes
 Stan Cornford (RMS) no
 Rene Morin (SMF) yes
 Fritz Neuwirth (ÖGM) yes
 Miroslav Ondras (SMS) yes

Sabino Palmieri (UNIMET, AGI) yes
 Werner Wehry (DMG) yes
 Jon Wieringa (NVBM) yes

4. Activities of EMS Councillors and Officers

a) René Morin

The EMS President has sought contacts with the European Union and agreed to have a meeting with Christian Patermann of DGXII and several Commissioners from the fields of Research and Environment. The proposed time frame is end of August/September 2000. He has established contacts with potential Associate Members (in cooperation with other Councillors) and maintained contacts with the AMS, to whose Annual Meeting 2001 he is invited. A further invitation to present the EMS has come from the AMS Conference on Interactive Information Processing which is part of the Annual AMS Meeting. He underlined that the successful promotion of EMS in the USA should not leave behind the necessity to make EMS well-known in Europe.

b) Fritz Neuwirth

One of his tasks is to improve the mutual access to Societies' resources. To these ends Fritz Neuwirth proposed that the EMS web site will be the hub of information. The language barrier is, admittedly, problematic, though maintaining web sites in English (the EMS Secretary has assisted many Members with respect to their English Web representation) and publishing lists of national publications with short descriptions in English would be the road to take. EMS will encourage the exchange of journals and bulletins at a preferential rate, e.g. the basic price and 10%. He also suggested to introduce a chat room to the EMS web site.

As for the EMS Newsletter he suggested to print additional copies of issue #6 to be distributed to individual members in the Member countries by the individual Societies (see also item 15, Miscellaneous).

c) Tanja Cegnar

The weather presenters community will be the focus and target of an EMS forum on public presentation of weather forecasts. SMF agreed that this is an EMS action. Council voted (7/0/0) in favour of Tanja Cegnar starting such a forum and presenting Terms of Reference for approval at the next Council Meeting. Tanja is going to contact Inge Niedek of the Broadcaster's Association.

d) Jon Wieringa

On 30 and 31 March 2000 a redraft meeting of a working group for the COST 721 proposal met in Vienna. EMS was represented by Jon Wieringa, Fritz Neuwirth and Arne Spekat. In May 2000 the results were presented to the COST Technical Committee (TC) at its meeting in Volos (Greece). Owing to its response and recommendations, a further redraft will be necessary, leaving out the accreditation part (a proposed field of activity for EMS itself) and focusing on the school education aspect of the proposed action. Sylvain Joffre as Chair of the COST TC will be present at the redraft meeting. Links to the EWOC Conference 2003 in Spain will be established by incorporating Aguada Benito Capa into the working group. The resulting document will be submitted to the COST TC prior to its Meeting in October 2000 in Brussels. As a side effect of this process it turned out that EMS is entrusted with the competence to be a focal point for accreditation.

5. 1st EMS Annual Meeting

EMS will have its first Annual Meeting in conjunction with the upcoming European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM). The sessions will be taking place on 24 September 2001 afternoon and 25 September 2001 morning. The 1st EMS Annual Meeting will cover three aspects: I Demand

(probably one speaker on the future of Meteorology; suggestion: John Zillmann), II Technology (probably two speakers) and III Structure (probably 6-10 speakers). Maybe there could be a forum on data access. A group of Councillors consisting of S. Cornford, R. Morin, W. Wehry and F. Neuwirth will set up a list of potential speakers and approach them.

6. Status of Associate Members

Resolution 8 was put to a vote - result: (7/0/0) in favour of it - after a few changes had been made to the text version which was used in the vote by correspondence (see agenda item 3a).

Council then discussed the practicalities of the common future of Associate Members within EMS. It will be restricted to organizations or companies active on a Europe-wide level, though too rigid rules for electing Associate Members might be undesirable. They will be present as observers in the General Meeting (*NB: at the time of the Council Meeting the term "General Assembly" was proposed to be used instead of "General Meeting", so for the sake of consistency in these minutes the old name will be used when referring to the Meeting of all EMS Members*) and a selection will have observer status in Council, though the number of those should not exceed the quorum (which at the moment is 7). It is foreseen that at least two bodies will have permanent observer status: ECMWF and EUMETSAT, for an annual fee of 5000 Euros and others (National Meteorological and Hydrological Services - perhaps represented by EUMETNET, industry, private sector, broadcasting, users) will be represented as groups by one observer each, for an annual fee of 1000 Euros. EGS may have the status to attend General Meetings, provided EMS has a reciprocal status in EGS.

7. Other Meteorological Societies in Europe

a) Denmark

The Danish Meteorological Society withdrew its Membership in EMS shortly after joining and is currently not seeking re-entrance. Nevertheless, EMS will see its chance in this country to reach people who are interested in EMS matters by other means.

b) Norway

The Norwegian Meteorological Society has not formally decided to do so at the recent Nordic Society Meeting, but may be joining EMS soon.

c) Poland

No changes with respect to the Polish Meteorological Society. They have the status of "informal relations" with EMS.

d) Bulgaria

A Bulgarian Meteorological Society is being founded.

8. Changes to the EMS Constitution

a) Concerning formal requirements for the registration and taxation in Germany

Resolution 7 was put to a vote - result: (7/0/0) in favour of it - after a minor change in §10 with respect to the text from the vote by correspondence (see agenda item 3c).

b) Concerning the renaming of the General Meeting

Resolution 9 was put to a vote - result: (7/0/0) in favour of it.

9. Rules of Procedure for the Council

The First EMS General Meeting in Norrköping passed a resolution to the effect that the EMS Council should prepare its own set of Rules of Procedure. They were drafted by Stan Cornford, discussed at the 2nd Council Meeting in Vienna and presented in their modified form at this 3rd EMS Council Meeting in Cambridge. Council voted (7/0/0) in favour of resolution 10.

10. Financial Matters

a) Report of the Treasurer

Stan Cornford presented to Council details of the EMS cash-flow and of its income and expenditure for the interval November 1999-June 2000 and forecast income and expenditure for the remainder of the year 2000. It will be difficult to estimate EMS' financial situation beyond 2000 because neither income through Associate Membership nor those through the European Meteorological Calendar or the EMS Annual Meeting nor the amount of travelling on EMS duty can be properly assessed.

Collection of annual fees will have to take into account that if EMS wants to keep its tax-favoured status only a small amount can remain in the EMS bank account by the end of a year; assets beyond that have to be earmarked for certain purposes.

It was reported the any work-related insurance for the Executive Secretary is covered by DMG.

b) Rules for financial management of the Society

At its founding meeting, the EMS General Assembly in 15 September 1999 Norrköping passed a resolution wherein a set of Rules for the financial management of the Society should be presented to the EMS Council. They were drafted by Stan Cornford, finalized at the 2nd Council Meeting in Vienna and presented in this form to the 3rd EMS Council Meeting in Cambridge. Council voted (7/0/0) in favour of resolution 6.

c) Travel on EMS duty

At the 2nd Council Meeting in Vienna, draft rules and tables for travel on EMS duty were presented by Stan Cornford and subsequently adjusted to accommodate EMS' financial situation. It was agreed that the EMS President decides which journeys are on EMS duty - including his own - and is responsible to Council for these decisions. Council voted (7/0/0) in favour of the adjusted rules and tables.

In order to enable as many Societies as possible to participate in Meetings three support alternatives were discussed: (i) Establishment of a Treasurer-administered travel fund (ii) Establishment of a key, according to which a Member can claim support (iii) Granting travel support on an ad-hoc basis.

11. Journal Subscriptions

As discussed in wider scope in the report of Fritz Neuwirth (see agenda item 4b), it is envisaged that Societies which publish journals or other media offer their products to members of other Member Societies at reduced rates. The EMS Secretary will conduct a survey as to which Societies would be participating in such an exchange, and which media would be included.

12. EMS Web Site

The EMS web site is now registered as www.emetsoc.org and is hosted on a server at ECMWF. Council thanked ECMWF for its helpfulness and the Executive Secretary for his initiative and activities. The web site features, e.g., all EMS Newsletters as web-based documents and a most comprehensive collection of hyper-links to other Meteorological Society in the world. The areas in which the web site will have to grow will include an improved Calendar of Events, enhanced information on media produced by the Members and a chat corner for those who informally want to exchange ideas.

13. New Council Members

It was determined that a Council Year begins on 1 October. As stated in the startup arrangement, in order to ensure continuity, three Councillors will have a one-year term, whereas three will have a two-year term. Therefore, Council decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Councillor of the Slovenian Meteorological Society should be followed by a Councillor from the Croatian Meteorological Society; a similar arrangement should apply for the Slovakian Meteorological Society, which should be followed by the Czech Meteorological Society and the Swedish Meteorological Society which should be followed by the Finnish Meteorological Society. The subsequent (4th) Council Meeting (see agenda item 16.) will convene in its new composition.

14. Election of Vice Presidents

All current Vice Presidents agreed to candidate for another term. Council voted as follows:

Stan Cornford: Vice President and Treasurer (6/0/1)

Jon Wieringa: Vice President (6/0/1)

Fritz Neuwirth: Vice President (6/0/1)

15. Miscellaneous

a) EMS Newsletter

Because it signifies the birth of EMS, and is therefore representative, as well as comprehensive with its compilation of addresses, the EMS Newsletter No. 6 is planned to be distributed to as many member of EMS Members as possible. A survey will be conducted by the EMS Secretary as to how many extra copies will be needed.

b) European Meteorological Calendar

The Meteorological Calendar, currently published by the DMG with contributions by SMF (in English, French and German for a number of years) will become the European Meteorological Calendar in 2001, adding RMS as partner and contributor. Each Calendar has a focus in its information content, which, in 2001, is *hydrometeors*. Werner Wehry reported that none less than Sir John Mason could be won as an author of texts on cloud physics. It is estimated that the Calendar will earn an amount between 2500 and 5000 Euros.

c) EUROTORNADO Conference

Initiated by the John T. Snow the next EUROTORNADO conference will take place 2002 in Prague. In July 2001 a European and African Wind Engineering Conference will take place in Eindhoven. EMS will have to determine if it would be feasible to participate in them or support them.

d) EMS and ECAC

EMS is seeking contact with European Conferences, among which the European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC) requires attention, a possible host seems to be Belgium (Gaston Demarée). Luigi Mariani offered to establish contacts with the ECAC organizers. Further contact can be established by Claude Pastre from EUMETNET.

e) 150 Years of Maritime Meteorology

In 1853, the very first Meteorological Conference took place in Brussels. The planning of a symposium to commemorate the 150th anniversary of this event in 2003, which is in its early stages currently involves scientists from the UK and Belgium.

16. Informal Meeting

After the Council was closed there was an informal meeting with some representatives of possible Associate Members.

17. Time and location of the next EMS Council Meeting

The next EMS Council Meeting will take place at the end of February or the beginning of March 2001. The location is most probably Prague.

Arne Spekat, 11 October 2000

ANNEX
Resolutions

RESOLUTION 5

The Council decides to accept the following Societies as new EMS Members:

- Irish Meteorological Society (IMS)
- Société Royale Belge d'Astronomie, de Météorologie et de Physique du Globe (SRBA)

RESOLUTION 6

The Council decides to accept the set of Rules for the financial management of the Society, as presented by the Treasurer, following the instruction given on 15 September 1999 in Resolution 4.

RESOLUTION 7

The Council recommends that the General Meeting should decide to make the following changes to the EMS Constitution with respect to formal requirements for the Society's registration in Germany:

§ 1 "The name of the Society shall be European Meteorological Society e.V., abbreviated as EMS."

§ 4.3, second sentence: "It is to be registered at the Vereinsregister"

§ 5.1.1 add the word "in written form" on the first line, so it reads: „There shall be a General Meeting of Members, called in written form by the President...“

§ 5.1.1 After the last sentence add: "Minutes have to be prepared about the content of the meeting. The chairperson is to sign them."

§ 10, fourth sentence: "If the Society is dissolved, or if the Society changes its Constitution in such a way that the Society's purposes would no longer be tax-favoured, then its assets shall pass either to a charity recognized as a corporate body under the public law or to another corporate body which has tax-favoured status for the purpose of promoting geoscience."

In the German version of the Constitution, required for the registration, the modifications will read as follows:

§ 1 „Der Name der Gesellschaft ist Europäische Meteorologischen Gesellschaft e.V., abgekürzt EMS.“

§ 4.3 „Sie ist im Vereinsregister einzutragen.“

§ 5.1.1 first line, add the word „schriftlich“ to the first sentence, so it reads: „Die ordentliche Hauptversammlung der Mitglieder findet, schriftlich einberufen vom Präsidenten, mindestens...“

§ 5.1.1 After the last sentence add: „Über den Sitzungsinhalt wird ein Protokoll erstellt, das der Sitzungsleiter unterschreibt.“

§ 10 fourth sentence: „Bei Auflösung des Vereins oder bei Wegfall steuerbegünstigter Zwecke infolge Satzungsänderung fällt sein Vermögen an eine juristische Person des öffentlichen Rechts oder an eine andere steuerbegünstigte Körperschaft zwecks Verwendung für die Förderung der Geowissenschaften.“

RESOLUTION 8

as adopted by Council – 10 July 2000

The Council recommends that the General Meeting should decide to make the following changes to the EMS Constitution with respect to Associate Members:

3.5 In addition to Societies defined in 3.1 above, other bodies with an interest in the aims of EMS may be eligible for Associate Membership. Such bodies include non-European Meteorological Societies, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, companies with interests in meteorology, related sciences and their applications, and Europe-wide bodies with similar interests.

5.1.5 All Associate Members shall be eligible to attend General Meetings as observers.

5.2.7 Associate Members shall be represented at Council in one of two ways. Associate Members which are Europe-wide institutions shall be eligible for permanent observer status on the Council and pay an annual contribution in cash and kind agreed with the Council. Other Associate Members shall also pay an annual contribution in cash or kind agreed with the Council, but shall choose from amongst themselves one Associate Member to represent each of the categories of Associate Members which Council may designate from time to time. Associate Members elected to attend sessions of Council may, like other Representatives at Council, speak when invited by the Presiding Officer.

RESOLUTION 9

The Council recommends that the General Meeting should decide to adopt the title „General Assembly“ instead of „General Meeting“, as well as to introduce it into the EMS Constitution, sets of Rules and other documents.

RESOLUTION 10

The Council recommends that the General Meeting should decide to accept the modified Rules of Procedure of the Council as they were updated at the Council Meeting in Vienna, 3 March 2000.