

8th Meeting of the EMS Council
Berlin, Germany, 28-29 March 2003
Minutes approved by the 9th Council Session

Notes. A.: 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.

B: The quorum of 7 Councillors present was met. In fact 9 Councillors were present.

Present:

Councillors

Pal Ambrozy (MMT, Budapest), David Axford (EMS Treasurer and Vice-President, RMS, Reading), Renato Carvalho (APMG; Lisbon), Otilia Diaconu (SMR, Bucharest), Tomas Halenka (CeMS, Praha), Raino Heino (GS, Helsinki), René Morin (EMS Past President, SMF, Paris), Hans Richner (SGM, Zurich), Werner Wehry (EMS President, DMG, Berlin).

Observers/Experts/Guests

Dominique Marbouty (guest, chair of the EMS Meetings Committee), Evangelina Oriol-Pibernat (guest, ESA), John Thompson (Observer, WNI Oceanroutes, Aberdeen - for the companies), Jon Wieringa (Chair of the EMS Education Committee, NVBM, Wageningen).

In attendance: Arne Spekat (EMS Executive Secretary, Berlin)

Beginning: 11:00 End: 18:00

1. Welcome

Werner Wehry opened the Council Meeting, noting that it was a good sign to have all nine Councillors present, plus representatives of three Associate Members. He welcomed the new Councillors from Romania, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

2. Acceptance of the Agenda

Under 9. Miscellaneous, a change to the Rules of Procedure of the EMS Council was added. The modified Agenda then was adopted by a vote of (9/0/0).

3. Acceptance of the Minutes of the 7th Council Meeting

The Minutes of the 7th Council Meeting in Brussels need a modification: In the Rules of Procedure for the EMS Council, Rule 6 was re-formulated and adopted in Brussels so it reads:

Rule 6

6.1 Associate Members who do not have permanent observer status as defined in article 5.2.7 of the Constitution are assigned by a Council vote to one of the following Council categories :

- (1) national or regional weather services;
- (2) meteorological manufacturers and companies;
- (3) meteorological service providers in the private sector;
- (4) major meteorological research and/or education institutes.

6.2 Each category selects amongst its members the Associate Member which shall represent them at the next Council session. The result of this selection is submitted to the Executive Secretary by the selected Associate Member not less than eight weeks before the next Council session. After this session, the selected Associate Member is responsible for organizing selection of the category representative for the following Council session.

With this correction, the Minutes of the 7th Council were accepted by a vote of (9/0/0).

4. Reports of the EMS Bureau and Secretariat

Since the activities of the EMS Bureau were documented in working paper nr. 3 only a few additional facts should be noted: As for the European Meteorological Calendar, the Royal Meteorological Society has found that such a calendar seems not be as popular as it used to be and thus clearly reduces the number of Calendars ordered – the total number of Calendars printed went from 15000 two years ago to 13000 last year and is planned to be 10000 to 11000 for the 2004 Calendar.

As for the EMS Secretariat, the EMS Council welcomed that the Executive Secretary now works with 75% of a full employment for EMS and maintained a role in DMG by becoming a Member of the DMG Board. As for the EMS Newsletter, the Executive Secretary has obtained ISSN Numbers for its printed and its web version; he was asked to produce the necessary files for the upcoming Newsletter as soon as possible so printing can be started. It was agreed that a printed version of the Newsletter should continue to be published. The EMS Executive Secretary thanked ECMWF for hosting the EMS website and the good technical support, in particular during the system and server changes at ECMWF.

5. Report of the EMS Committees

5.1 Accreditation

The Committee Chair David Axford had launched a survey and update on accreditation activities in nine countries. As of this Council Meeting there were not too many replies, but the promises to submit them in the near future. It was acknowledged that the employers need to be addressed more thoroughly about the advantages of accreditation. There is a particularly interesting field with respect to the quality of media weather presenters. The re-certification was then discussed, which caused a major resistance in the United States and will not be an easy task in Germany, as well; for the U.K. it may be sufficient that chartered meteorologists prove they had been keeping up to date. The Accreditation Committee Chair proposed that the European Union should be approached, which runs a comprehensive list of chartered professions and where chartered meteorologists should be added. As for companies, it was proposed that maintaining the ISO standard should be the minimum. As for Committee Membership: Peter Rauh from MeteoSwiss will join the Committee.

5.2 Awards

The Chair Werner Wehry reported for 2003 the names for those receiving the Awards have not been determined; in fact the call for nominations to the Young Scientist Award and the Young Student Travel Award went out in the beginning of 2003.

5.3 Education

The Committee Chair Jon Wieringa reported about the startup meeting of the Education Committee in Brussels on 16 November 2002 to which all but one Committee Member could come. He presented to Council a list of points to be discussed:

- (1) "Agreement or disagreement about ceasing to make EC proposals." The Council agreed that there seems little reason to submit a new Socrates proposal, but urged continued attention to acquire support from other European sources.
- (2) "Agreement or disagreement about not focusing on NWS training." Council agreed.
- (3) "Degree of financial support for EWOC attendance." Council agreed to support attendance for Committee members who have submitted a paper and cannot get sufficient financial support from their home base.
- (4) "Degree of financial support for ECTOM update action." Tomas Halenka presented the plans for the ECTOM website which one of his co-workers, Michel Belda, develops. Costs appear to be well within the limits of the EMS education-earmarked budget. The updated ECTOM should be, in condensed form, be published in the EMS Publication Series.
- (5) "Handling of media training issues by various EMS Committees." The Media Committee will have a founding meeting at ECAM in September. Discussion of this matter in Council will be better feasible at that time.
- (6) "Is *education of the public* sensibly approached by restricting limited capacity to furthering school-directed matters?" This point was not really discussed, though it should be noted that some of the national Societies are active in school and public education matters.
- (7) "Choice of chairperson after September 2003." There were two candidates, Ross Reynolds and Tomas Halenka. In a closed ballot the Council elected Halenka. Resolution C52 was then voted (9/0/0). Jon Wieringa will transfer the chairmanship to him at the EWOC in July.

Evangelina Oriol mentioned that several education activities can be found on their website (www.esa.int).

5.4 Media

The Committee Chair Tanja Cegnar will convene a meeting of the Media Committee in Rome during the EMS 3rd Annual Meeting/ECAM 2003. The EMS Past President reported about the International Weather Festival, the public part of which had taken place in Paris and the professional part was to be

held in Zagreb from 30 March to 3 April 2003. The EMS Secretary was to participate in Zagreb as an observer.

As for the Committee Membership: René Morin has been asked to join the Committee; Raino Heino has offered to become a Member of the Media Committee; Alex Rubli from MeteoSwiss will join the Committee, too.

5.5 Meetings

The Committee Chair, Dominique Marbouty, reported about the theme of the EMS 3rd Annual Meeting in Rome, where key players are given an opportunity to present their strategies. A few confirmations with respect to the participation of the Hungarian Met Service, the Italian Weather Service and KNMI are still required, but overall, there will be about 15 lectures. Of particular interest will be a special session, jointly held by EMS, ECAM, ESA and EUMETSAT, with a possible addition of WMO (Donald Hinsman is co-ordinating WMO's satellite activities and will be approached for giving a lecture in Rome), about the future of satellites. ESA and EUMETSAT will be given lecture time at the EMS 3rd Annual Meeting as well – though it is envisaged that there might be different speakers at EMS3 and the Special Satellite Session. There may be an emerging series of special sessions of that kind held every few years during an EMS Annual Meeting.

As for the 4th Annual Meeting in Nice it was clear that the timeline is crucial and that a Programme Committee is needed. It was decided that on the second day of the EMS Council the programme of the EMS4 should be drafted (see Appendix B). A large component of the EMS4 will be the ECAC which has announced that it will form an ECAC Advisory Board (EAB); Arne Spekat will be the EMS liaison in the EAB and Raino Heino will be a member, too. The startup meeting for the EAB is planned to be held in Berlin 30 June and 1 July 2003.

The Meetings Committee Chair announced in early 2003 that he will be resigning from this post. As a most suitable successor, Hans Sandebring from the SMHI was identified. Resolution C53 was passed with a vote of (9/0/0) and thus Hans Sandebring has been elected as the future Committee Chair. The EMS President warmly thanked Dominique Marbouty for his energy and effort, making the crucial evolution of the EMS Annual Meeting happen.

5.6 Publications

With Mike Phillips retired from EUMETSAT and resigned from the EMS Publications Committee it was originally planned that David Williams would become the EMS liaison; subsequently, Johannes Schmetz was nominated by EUMETSAT, who signalled that publications would not be a field in which he could be of great advantage to the EMS. During the EMS Council Otilia Diaconu and Raino Heino agreed to join this developing Committee which will have to grow further. It was agreed that during the next Council in Rome, a Chair will be elected.

5.7 Strategic Development Group

The EMS Past President announced that ideas he is working on with Stan Cornford will be presented at the next Council in Rome.

5.8 Assignment of Councillors to Committees

Clearly, the linkage of Council and the Committees should be as close as possible. As mentioned in 5.1, 5.4 and 5.6, there are several new Committee Members from within the Council.

6. Membership

6.1 New Member Societies

The EMS Executive Secretary reported that since the last Council Meeting the Asociación Española de Biometeología (Spanish Association of Biometeorology) joined EMS. The Aeroclub of Bulgaria, the Danish Meteorological Society and the Catalan Meteorological Society have yet to submit their number of Members in order to be properly invoiced.

EMS was informed that there is Society for Climatology in Spain.

6.2 Associate Members

The EMS Executive Secretary reported that since the last Council no further Associate Member joined EMS, yet the VCS Company will become Associate Member in the first half of 2003. It was discussed that for small companies the annual fee might be rather high and maybe a sliding scale, according to the number of employees, might be introduced.

6.3 EMS Membership Drive

René Morin and Raino Heino are continuing the EMS Membership drive. Suggestions and input from all Societies is needed.

7. Finances

7.1 Report of the Treasurer

The EMS Council thanked the EMS Treasurer for his effort and time spent on budget matters. Resolution C54 was passed (9/0/0). Council then discussed the options for starting an EMS Foundation, e.g. for the EMS Awards, which is difficult in Germany, since it requires a substantial amount (50000 €) to be set aside without a chance of spending this amount, the EMS however being enabled to earn the interest from investing the Foundation amount.

7.2 Financial planning

It was agreed that a balanced budget for the actual and the two following years should be presented at Council sessions.

7.3 Travelling Rules

An extension to the EMS Travelling rules was proposed and Resolution C55 was passed (9/0/0).

7.4 Signature of bank drafts and cheques

It should be noted that Rule 65 of the Rules of Procedure for the EMS Council covers the matter. With respect to an update of the authorized persons, their signatures were confirmed by a notary.

8. EMS-WMO Agreement

Resolution C56 was passed (9/0/0) and the Executive Secretary was authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of EMS. It was felt that this agreement reflects the acknowledgement that EMS is now a key player in Meteorology.

9. Miscellaneous

No topics were proposed to be discussed under *Miscellaneous*. The proposed modification to the Rules of Procedure of the EMS Council (Rule 9 could be deleted since it is somewhat parallel to Rule 1) is postponed to the next Council Session.

10. Time and place of the next Council Session

The 9th EMS Council will convene in Rome in the afternoon of 17 September 2003.

Werner Wehry closed the 8th EMS Council Meeting at 18:00

Arne Spekat, 15 April 2003

Appendix A

Resolutions

C52

This Council elects Tomas Halenka as the next Chair of the Education Committee

C53

This Council elects Hans Sandebring as the next Chair of the Meetings Committee

C54

This Council approves the Report of the Treasurer.

C55

This Council introduces the following modification to the Travel Rules: a footnote shall be added to paragraph 17(v) which will read:

* Provision for meals bought: 15% of the daily allowance will normally be taken into the calculation for each meal (lunch, dinner). In special cases where this limit is exceeded receipts, and an explanation of the circumstances, will be required.

C56

This Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between EMS and WMO. The EMS Executive Secretary is authorized to sign it on behalf of EMS.

Appendix B

Drafted programme/topic list for the EMS Annual Meeting 2004

Programs and Sessions 2004 (29/03/2003 11:03:10)

Forecasting

- Nowcasting
- Severe Wx
- Marine
- Aeronaut.
- Hydrology
- etc.

Computing in Atmospheric Sciences

- Numerical Methods
- Data bases
- etc.

Instruments and methods of observations

- In situ sensors and networks
- Remote Sensing
- etc.

Atmospheric Pollution and Chemistry

- Monitoring
- Modelling
- etc.

Information provision

- To end users
- To the general public
- Education
- Media
- History
- etc.

Climate and Earth System Analysis

- Applied Climatology (ECAC)
- Climate Change Impact
- etc. (supplied by ECAC)