

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

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

Present:

Councillors:

David Burrige (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 Pelkwijk (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 Burrige welcomes all participants. He thanks the FMI for hosting this meeting and in particular Raino Haino for organising it. Miko 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 Burrige 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 Pelkwijk 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 Janneke 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 Meteorologia 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 Finish 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 lunchtime. 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.

**Draft minutes, 20.03.2006
Martina Junge**

Annexes:

- I Agenda**
- II List of resolutions**
- II EMS Media Award**
- III EMS Forum Award**

Annex II: Resolutions:

C84 Election of Committee Chair Accreditation

C85 Confirmation of Committee Chair Awards

C86 Confirmation of Committee Chair Education

C87 Confirmation of Committee Chair Media

C88 Confirmation of Committee Vice-Chair Media

C89 Confirmation of Committee Chair Publication

C90 Welcome of Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia as EMS Associate Member

C91 Welcome of Finish Meteorological Insitute as EMS Associate Member

C84

This EMS Council herewith elects Howard Lyne (RMS) as Chair of the EMS Accreditation Committee.

C85

This EMS Council herewith confirms Werner Wehry (DMG) as chair of the EMS Awards Committee.

C86

This EMS Council herewith confirms Tomáš Halenka (CeMS-Czech) as chair of the EMS Education Committee.

C87

This EMS Council herewith confirms Tanja Cegnar (SMD) as chair of the EMS Media Committee.

C88

This EMS Council herewith confirms Gerald Fleming (MET ÉIREANN, WMO) as vice chair of the EMS Media Committee.

C89

This EMS Council herewith confirms Bob Riddaway (RMS) as chair of its Publications Committee.

C90

Following a vote by correspondence this EMS Council welcomes the Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia, Spain, as a new EMS Associate Member. It is proposed that Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia will be in the category of Associate Members with more than 40 employees. Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia will be in the National Weather Services group of EMS Associate Members.

C91

This EMS Council invites the Finish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Finland, to become an Associate Member – it is proposed that FMI will be in the category of Associate Members with more than 40 employees. FMI will be in the National Weather Services group of EMS Associate Members.