

**40th EMS Council Session**  
27-28 March 2019, Lyngby, Denmark

**Minutes of 14 May 2019**  
adopted

**Participants:** (voting councillors underlined)

Jean-Pierre Chalon (Météo et Climat, France)

Zoltan Dunkel (MMT, Hungary) – from 14:30

Sven-Erik Gryning (DaMS, Denmark) (not present Wednesday, from 16:00-18:00)

Paul Halton (IMS, Ireland)

Sylvain Joffre (Chair EMS Committee on Meetings)

Martina Junge (EMS Executive Secretary)

Katrine Krogh Andersen (DTU Dean of Research) – present on Wednesday until 14:30

Ewen McCallum (RMetS, United Kingdom) – on 27 March

Pangiotis Nastos (EMTE-HMH, Greece)

Robert Riddaway (EMS President)

Heinke Schlünzen (DMG, Germany)

Saskia Willemse (SGM, Switzerland)

*Excused: Tanja Cegnar (Chair Media and Communication Team), Ben Dieterink (Chair Technology Achievement Award Selection Committee), Mojca Dolinar (Chair Awards Committee), Emily Gleeson (Chair Liaison Committee) could not attend. Also, Josep Tomas í Bosch (AMACA, Andorra) was not present.*

The Session opened at 14:00h on Wednesday 27 March 2019 and closed at 12:30h on 28 March 2019.

*Chair: Bob Riddaway, EMS President*

*Minutes: Martina Junge*

## **1. Opening of the 40th Session**

The EMS President opened the 40th Session of the EMS Council by welcoming all participants. This was followed by Sven-Erik Gryning, President of the Danish Meteorological Society, welcoming the EMS Council and wishing everyone a successful meeting and an enjoyable stay in Denmark. The DTU Dean of Research, Katrine Krogh Andersen, also welcomed participants to DTU and expressed her delight at hosting the EMS Annual Meeting in Lyngby in September.

With nine council representatives present (8 councillors until 14:40 and from 16:00 on 27 March; 8 councillors on 28 March) the necessary quorum of seven was attained. Votes are given as (acceptance: rejection: abstention).

## **2. Acceptance of Agenda and early announcement of additional AOB**

A proposal for the agenda was distributed with the invitation to attend the Council meeting. The item "Review of EMS mission and identify strategic issues" (formerly 12), was moved to item no. 8 (after the report of the CoM). With that change the agenda was accepted (Annex A).

No item was announced for the agenda item AOB.

### 3. Implementation of decisions taken at the 39th Session of the EMS Council

The draft minutes of the 39th Session of the EMS Council have been distributed to all participants of that meeting. Revisions that were submitted to the Executive Secretary within four weeks after distribution have been implemented after review by the President. The minutes were then distributed to EMS Members. The minutes were subsequently held adopted (Rules of procedure 57) and are available from <http://www.emetsoc.org/governance-structure/council/council-meetings>.

The decisions taken at C39 are recorded in the minutes of that meeting. The paper *C40\_03-a\_Implementation-of-Decisions-C40* reports on the implementation of the C39 decisions. All decisions have been implemented.

The application of ARMAE to become a Member Society was agreed by correspondence (Annex II; paper *C40\_03\_c-vote-by-correspondence*). The Council's decision on the application of ARMAE is recorded here:

**C40.01 ARMAE Membership:** The Council approved the Asociația Română de Meteorologie Aplicată și Educație (ARMAE) as an EMS Member Society. (10:0:0).

In addition to recording decisions, the C39 minutes also identify short-term actions: the implementation of these is recorded in paper *C40\_03-b\_C39-Actions* and are referred to in documents related to agenda items. All five actions have been completed.

It was agreed that it would be desirable for the RMetS and the EMS to mutually advertise their respective photo competitions.

**Action 1:** Executive Secretary to explore with the RMetS Chief Executive the possibility of the RMetS and the EMS mutually advertising their respective photo competitions.

### 4. Report of the President

The EMS President reported on his activities since the last Council Session as well as on initiatives taken by the EMS Bureau (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_04\_Report\_President\_Bureau*). In addition, he reported that the Bureau had made a decision to keep the registration fees for the EMS Annual Meeting 2019 at the same level as in 2018.

It was proposed to take future decisions on registration fees at the autumn Council in the year before the next Annual Meeting. Taking into account uncertainties about the financial accounts at the time of the autumn session, it was decided that Council would give the Bureau the mandate to decide fees for the next Annual Meeting and report the decision to Council.

**C40.02 Mandate on registration fees:** The Council gave the Bureau the mandate to decide the registration fees for the next Annual Meeting once the balance of the financial accounts of the preceding year is known. (Votes: 9:0:0)

**C40.03 Report of the President and Bureau:** The Council approved the Report of the President and Bureau. (Votes: 9:0:0)

A draft of the Annual Report 2018 had been distributed to Council Members.

**Action 2:** Council members will provide feedback on the Annual Report by 8 April 2019.

## 5. Report of the Secretariat

The Executive Secretary reported on the activities and actions of the Secretariat since the last Council Session (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_05\_Report-secretariat*). In particular the decision on the photo competition tool, use of social media and the appointment of a Media Assistant were highlighted.

It was noted that the newsletter has much improved since Emily Gleeson took over as Chair of the Liaison Committee, although 'take up' to date was also a little disappointing.

## 6. Report of the Treasurer

The financial report was presented by the Treasurer (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_06\_Report-Treasurer*). The Treasurer explained the accounts of 2018 and the request for assigning reserves.

**C40.04 Free Reserves:** The Council allocated 36,105.07€ of the income in 2018 and 1,378.48€ of the income in 2017 (together 37,483.55€) to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage). (Votes: 9:0:0)

**C40.05 Operational Reserves:** The Council decided to allocate 1,388.37€ as Operational Reserve (Betriebsmittelrücklage) in 2019. (Votes: 9:0:0)

Membership fees will be 1.227€/individual member of a Member Society for 2019.

The contributions by the permanent members and Associate Membership Fees have been considered; both are kept at the same level as before. It was recognised, however, that at some point it might be necessary to increase these fees.

The Treasurer explained why the salary of the Assistant has again been levelled at €450 at her own request.

**C40.06 Report of the Treasurer:** The Council approved the Report of the Treasurer. (Votes: 9:0:0)

The President thanked the Treasurer, Heinke Schlünzen, for her excellent work in preparing and presenting the accounts.

## 7. Report Committee on Meetings

The Chair of the EMS Committee on Meetings (CoM) reported on the activities of the committee, the preparations for the EMS Annual Meeting 2019, the change in membership of the committee, status of planning and preparations for Annual Meetings after 2019, and a number of strategic issues (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_07\_Report-CoM*).

**a. EMS Annual Meeting 2019**

The preparations for the EMS Annual Meeting 2019 were reported along with a planned budget. Attention was drawn to the widening of the session programme through the call for session proposals, the concept for the plenaries, the awards session, and new side events.

Council agreed that the graphic recording and shuttle buses from Lyngby station to DTU should be funded.

**Action 3:** The CoM Chair will include funding for the graphic recording and shuttle buses from Lyngby station to DTU in the budget for EMS2019.

**b. EMS Annual Meeting 2020**

The COM Chair reported on the issues that have to be addressed in making preparations for EMS2020. The Executive Secretary gave an update: (a) other venues in Bratislava are not suitable for the EMS Annual Meeting, (b) a contract has now been prepared by the University, and is currently translated into English, and (c) prices for the rooms have increased from 12,800€ (given in 2015) to 24,400€. The President offered to support the work of the CoM and the Executive Secretary by writing a letter to the local hosts, if needed.

**Action 4:** CoM Chair and Executive Secretary will decide whether the President should send a letter to the local hosts of EMS2020.

Council discussed the risk associated with EMS2020 and the meetings in 2021 and 2022, and considered whether there is the possibility of organising fall-back options. It was recognised, however, that identifying fall-backs would be difficult.

It was agreed that the guidelines for proposals of a venue should be extended to include a commitment by the local host society to support preparation of the conference.

**Action 5:** CoM will revise the guidelines for proposals of a venue for an Annual Meeting to include the need for the local host society to actively support preparations for the conference.

**C40.07 PSC 2020:** The Council approved the membership of the PSC for the EMS 2020 (see Annex B.1). (Votes: 9:0:0)

**c. EMS Annual Meeting 2021**

The COM Chair reported on negotiations with the University of Barcelona, including the conditions in the draft contract. The Council is concerned about how to plan for a conference if the prices can still be increased after a contract is signed.

**d. EMS Annual Meeting 2022**

The status of gathering information was reported by the CoM Chair, and updated by the Executive Secretary. Council noted the difficulty in finding a suitable venue in Bonn, Germany, for EMS2022. Council urged DWD/DMG to quickly put together a proposal with all details about the rooms and facilities, including technical equipment, so that Council can make a decision on the venue.

**e. Future venues**

The proposal from the Belgium Met Service and SRBA was noted. Council noted that the venue was extraordinarily expensive in comparison to other venues of the EMS Annual Meetings. Thus

the Council found that such a venue is out of scope for the EMS. However, Council would be delighted if a different, more economic, venue in Belgium is proposed.

**C40.08 Venue Proposal EMS 2023:** The Council decided not to accept the venue proposed for the conference centre in Ghent. (Votes 8:0:0)

Council noted that the Dutch Met Society in collaboration with the KNMI is looking into options for venues in the Netherlands for a conference beyond EMS2022.

**f. General Approach to finding venues for the EMS Annual Meetings**

The CoM proposed to Council that consideration be given to organising the EMS Annual Meeting at only a few well-suited venues across Europe thereby making the system for selecting venues more robust and less time-consuming. The Council discussed some of the pros and cons of this approach. Also it was recognised that it would be desirable to have back-up options should one of the venues be unavailable at short notice.

**Action 6:** The CoM will assess in more detail the desirability and practicality of only using a limited number of venues for the Annual Meetings and report back to Council.

Council discussed the risk to the EMS of an Annual Meeting not taking place. Although no conclusions were reached it did highlight an important issue for the EMS.

**g. Cooperation with the Meteorological Technology World Expo MTX**

The CoM Chair presented the considerations of CoM regarding the suggestion by HMEI to cooperate with the Meteorological Technology World Expo MTX in the organisation of the Annual Meeting. The view of Council is that such a collaboration would not be feasible and it would be doubtful that the potential cost-benefit balance would be right for EMS.

**h. Committee membership**

Saskia Willemse has become a member of Council so she decided to resign from CoM.

**C40.09 Committee on Meetings membership:** The Council approved the membership of Jean-Noël Thépaut (ECMWF) on the Committee on Meetings spring 2019 – spring 2022. (Votes: 8:0:0)

The Council thanked Sylvain Joffre and the other members of CoM for continuing to develop the Annual Meetings in terms of their relevance, quality and scope.

## **8. Review of EMS Mission and identify strategic issues**

The current strategic plan covers 2016 to 2020 so a start needs to be made in preparing a new plan (part II - Annexes: paper C40\_12\_New-strategic plan).

**a. EMS mission**

The President had questioned whether the current mission statement of the EMS is still appropriate.

"The European Meteorological Society (EMS) will advance the science, profession and application of meteorology, and of sciences related to it, at the Europe-wide level, for the benefit of the whole population. To this end, the EMS will help its Member Societies and Associate Members, individually and collectively, to benefit all classes of their

membership. In particular, the EMS will work to achieve better communication and understanding between individual members of Member Societies and Associate Members."

Two working groups found that only the first sentence of this statement can count as a mission statement, and that it does not fully reflect the objectives and activities of EMS, for example EMS does not advance the science, but fosters applications. All agreed the successful annual conference was by far the main activity of the EMS and that the strategy should be 'honest' about what else can be done to advance its 'outreach' especially with the younger generation of career scientists. Two proposals regarding the mission statement were put forward and discussed. It was agreed that it is important to get this right before setting a new strategy.

**Action 7:** The two groups will revise their proposals in light of the discussions and provide these to the President by 5 April for him to develop a new proposal for a mission statement on the basis of these two statements.

#### ***b. SWOT analysis and strategic issues***

Council started to do a SWOT analysis which involved brainstorming on the (internal) strengths and weaknesses of the EMS, as well as on (external) opportunities and threats. Based on this analysis, Council identified a number of strategic issues:

- How to maintain corporate knowledge?
- How to secure financial viability?
- How to increase availability of resources and react to developments?
- How to increase the role and exposure of EMS?
- How to involve all Members and Associate Members and increase benefit of Membership?
- How to create statements on behalf of the Members?

**Action 8:** The President will write up the results of the discussion and distribute to Council for comments and further input.

#### ***c. Preparation of a strategic plan***

Foreseen timeline to develop a new strategic plan is as follows:

- C41: report on the agreed mission and strategic issues and identify the corresponding actions;
- C42: report and assess the skeleton strategy;
- Until C43: write the strategic plan based on what has been developed and agree the plan at C43 in autumn 2020.

### **9. Awards Programme**

On behalf of the Chair of the Awards Committee the Executive Secretary reported on the activities of the committee since the last Council Session.

#### ***a. Decisions about awards***

The Council considered the recommendations for awards made by the Awards Committee, the Technical Achievement Award Selection Committee and the Bureau.

**C40.10 Silver Medal:** The Council decided that Gerald Fleming, Ireland, is the recipient of the EMS Silver Medal 2019. The citation reads: "Gerald Fleming has made an outstanding contribution to the communication of meteorological information through enhancing the public understanding of meteorological services and issues and strengthening and fostering expertise in broadcast meteorology."

**C40.11 Technology Achievement Award 2019:** The Council selected the Copernicus Climate Data Store to be recognised through the EMS Technology Achievement Award 2019. The citation reads: "The Copernicus Climate Data Store supports climate services in Europe by providing a seamless access to high-quality climate datasets, past, present and future."

**C40.12 The Outstanding Contribution Award 2019:** The Council selected Fritz Neuwirth to receive the Outstanding Contribution Award 2019. The citation reads: "Fritz Neuwirth is honoured for his long-term support for the EMS, which started with contributing to the establishment of the EMS and continued with displaying wisdom and enthusiasm as President, member of the Editorial Board and Councillor."

It was noted that both the Silver Medal and the Technology Achievement Award need more promotion in 2020. It was agreed that it would be healthy to get a wider choice of candidates for all awards and try to encourage Societies to put in more nominations.

#### **b. EMS Media Awards**

The Council considered the recommendations for membership of the selection committees made by the Chair of the Media and Communications Team.

**C40.13 Selection committees:** The Council approved the selection committees for the Media Awards as suggested by the chair of the Media and Communications Team (see Annex B.2).

For the Journalist Award it was agreed that, should any of the invited experts not be available, the Chair of the Media and Communications Team has the mandate to look for replacements.

#### **c. EMS Tromp Awards and Harry Otten Prize**

The activities in collaboration with the Tromp Foundation and The Harry Otten Foundation have been noted by Council and are highly appreciated.

### **10. Report of the Liaison Committee**

On behalf of the Chair of the Liaison Committee, Emily Gleeson, the Executive Secretary reported on activities and further plans of the Liaison Committee (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_09\_report-liaison-committee*).

The Council thanked Emily Gleeson and the other members of the Liaison Committee for the improvements to the *ems-message*. The Council recognises the improvements in the quality and quantity: it has developed very positively and now contains many interesting and varied news items. The challenge is to find ways of giving the *ems-message* greater exposure, particularly amongst members of Member Societies.

The Council agreed that the *ems-message* should be carried on, and recommended that consideration be given to preparing four issues per year to reduce the workload.

**Action 9:** Chair of the Liaison Committee will decide whether to accept the recommendation of Council that the ems-message is issued four times a year.

It was recognised that the next General Assembly would provide an opportunity to find out what Member Societies would like to get from the ems-message.

### **11. Report of the Media and Communication Team**

On behalf of the Chair of the Media and Communication Team the Executive Secretary reported on its recent activities (part II – Annexes: paper *C40\_10\_report-media-team*). Attention was drawn to the training workshop that covered tips on how to deal effectively with the media which was held during the EMS 2018. This initiative was appreciated by Council.

Council considered whether the Media and Communications Team should become more involved with the outreach activities of the EMS, thus collaborating with the Liaison Committee.

**Action 10:** Executive Secretary will discuss with the Media and Communications Team and Member Societies that undertake professional social media management the idea of organising a webinar on social media management.

The Council thanked Tanja Cegnar and the other members of the Media and Communications Team for their important contributions to EMS's activities.

### **12. Monitoring the implementation of the strategic plan**

A progress report on the actions was provided (Annex II: paper *C39\_11\_Progress with strategy implementation*) as a basis for Council to monitor the implementation of the strategic plan. All the actions were reviewed: no further specific points were mentioned.

It was suggested that for the next strategic plan it would be desirable to have measurable goals so that progress in implementing the plan can be assessed.

For the next monitoring, implementation of the actions will be colour coded (green: completed, amber: partially completed, red: not started). The comments associated with the actions should:

- concentrate on those partially completed or not started;
- identify planned activities.

### **13. Transition between Presidencies**

Consideration was given to how the transition between Presidencies could be made more transparent (Annex II: paper *C39\_13\_EMS-transition-between-presidencies*).

**C40.14 Transition between Presidencies:** The Council agreed that the spring council that precedes the Council when the next President has to be elected, determines a President-Elect.  
(Votes: 8:0:0)

**Action 11:** The President and the Executive Secretary will investigate any changes that need to be made to the Rules of Procedure to accommodate a President-Elect.



#### 14. Increasing the effectiveness of the General Assembly

It is important that General Assembly is effective in carrying out its key role on the governance of the EMS (Annex II: paper *C39\_14\_Effectiveness -of-the-General-Assembly*).

Council agreed that the next General Assembly will discuss what Member Societies expect from the EMS, including gaining their views about the content of the ems-message. The format will be group work with Member Societies being informed on this well in advance with a set of questions sent that are to be discussed during the General Assembly.

**Action 12:** The President will develop a set of questions to be considered at the GA21 and circulate to Council members for any suggestions.

#### 15. EMS Membership

The application by the Asociația Română de Meteorologie Aplicată și Educație (ARMAE) (Romanian Association for Applied Meteorology and Education) for EMS Membership had been accepted by Council through a vote by correspondence (Annex II: paper *C40\_3c\_vote-by-correspondence*).

An application for Associate Membership of EMS was received from Meteotechnology Laboratory LLC (Meteo Lab), Russian Federation (Annex II: paper *C40\_15\_Membership*). The application was approved and Meteo Lab will be assigned to the Associate Member group of manufacturers.

**C40.15 Associate Membership:** The Council approved the Associate Membership of Meteotechnology Laboratory LLC (Meteo Lab) (Votes: 8:0:0).

The cancellation of the Associate Membership of The Institut für Wetter- und Klimakommunikation GmbH, Germany, and the European Space Agency has been noted.

An application by the Estonian Meteorological Society would be welcome.

#### 16. Council Composition 2019 – 2020

The Council considered which Societies should be invited to be elected as representatives to the EMS Council for the term 2019 – 2022.

**Action 13:** The Executive Secretary will establish whether the Slovak Meteorological Society and the meteorological societies in Spain are willing to have representatives to the EMS Council for the period 2019 – 2022. Should the attempts fail a further option could be Slovenia.

It was agreed that, when consideration is given to which Member Societies might be represented on Council, account should be taken of which Member Societies will host upcoming EMS Annual Meetings.

**C40.16 Criteria for selection Council Representation:** The Council decided to take into account the following criteria when discussing options for future Council representations: Europe-wide geographical representation; rotation should encompass all Member Societies; capabilities in terms of resources; host society of an upcoming EMS Annual Meeting. (Votes: 8:0:0).

It was noted that it is unfortunate that a Member Society elected to represent on Council is rarely able to have a representative attend meetings. In the invitation to a Society it should be made clear that the election to Council entails participation in all Council Sessions, as far as possible. In case it becomes clear this is not possible, giving back the mandate should be an option.

## **17. Council Session 41**

**C40.17 Venue for 41st Council Session:** The Council agreed that the 41st Session will be held in Lyngby, Denmark, 8 September 2019. (Votes: 8:0:0).

The Council Meeting in spring 2020 will be held at RMetS's Headquarters in Reading on 24 and 25 March.

Ewen McCallum is standing down as the RMetS representative on Council. The President thanked him for his contributions to the Council Sessions and his long membership of CoM. He is expected to be replaced by Shanti Majithia.

In closing, the President thanked all Council representatives and committee chairs for their attendance and active participation in this session. In particular he thanked the host, Sven-Erik Gryning, for making all the nice arrangements for the Council Session.

### **Annex A: Agenda**

### **Annex B: PSC2020; Media Awards Selection Committees**

### **Annex C: List of Decisions of the 40th EMS Council Session**

**Annex A: Agenda agreed by the EMS Council**

1. Opening
2. Acceptance of the Agenda and declaration of AOB
3. Implementation of decisions and actions agreed at the 39th Session
4. Report of the President on the activities of the Bureau
5. Report of the Secretariat
6. Report of the Treasurer
7. Report of the Committee on Meetings
8. Review of EMS mission and identify strategic issues
9. Awards
10. Report of the Liaison Committee
11. Report of the Media and Communication Team
12. Monitoring Implementation of the Strategic Plan
13. Constitution/Rules of Procedure: Transition between presidencies
14. Increasing the effectiveness of the General Assembly
15. EMS Membership
16. Council composition term 2019 – 2020
17. AOB
18. Time and place of the 41st Council Session: 8 September 2019, Lyngby

## **Annex B: Membership of PSC2020 and Selection Committees for Media Awards**

### **1. Members of the PSC for EMS2020**

- Chair: Sylvain Joffre: EMS Committee on Meetings
- Miriam Andrioli: World Meteorological Organisation
- Eric Bazile: Météo France
- Frank Beyrich: Deutscher Wetterdienst – Moderator UP Programme Stream
- Dick Blaauboer: EUMETNET
- Tanja Cegnar: Environmental Agency of Slovenia – Moderator ES Programme Stream
- Barbara Chimani: EUMETNET Climate Programme – Deputy Moderator UP Programme Stream
- Christian Csekits: EUMETNET - The Working Group on Cooperation between European Forecasters
- Marie Doutriaux-Boucher: European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
- Gerald Fleming: Ireland – Deputy Moderator ES Programme Stream
- Sven-Erik Gryning: Danish Meteorological Society
- Tim Hewson: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
- Martina Junge: European Meteorological Society
- Frank Kaspar: Deutscher Wetterdienst, Germany
- Haleh Kootval: Worldbank, EMS Committee on Meetings
- Marc Korevaar: Kipp & Zonen, representing the Hydrometeorological Equipment Industry (HMEI)
- Blaž Kurnik: European Environment Agency
- Antti Mäkelä: Finnish Meteorological Institute – Deputy Moderator OSA Programme Stream
- Andrea Montani: ARPA-Servizio Idro-Meteo-Clima/ECMWF – Moderator OSA Programme Stream
- Jozef Pecho: Slovak Meteorological Society
- Dennis Schulze: MeteoGroup, representing the Association of Private Meteorological Services (PRIMET)
- Gert-Jan Steeneveld: Wageningen University, EMS Committee on Meetings
- Jean Noël Thépaut: ECMWF, EMS Committee on Meetings
- Tony Wardle: MetOffice, United Kingdom
- Host NMHS Slovakia
- Host societies 2021 (Barcelona)

### **2. Membership of selection committees for the Media Awards**

- *EMS Outreach and Communication Award 2019*: Tanja Cegnar (Slovenia) – Chair, Tomas Halenka (Czech Republic), Rasmus Benestad (Norway), Liz Bentley (UK), Thomas Wostal (Austria) and Tomas Molina (Spain)
- *Selection committee for the TV Weather Forecast Award 2019*: Jay Trobec (AMS) - Chair, Tanja Cegnar (Slovenia), Dunja Mazzocco Drvar (Croatia), Panos Giannopoulos (Greece), Paul Gross (USA), Claire Martin (Canada), Jill Peters (Belgium) and Haleh Kootval (Switzerland)
- *Selection Committee for the EMS Journalist Award 2019*: Rasmus Benestad (Norway) – Chair, Astrid Rommetveit (Norway), Tanja Cegnar (Slovenia), Margaritis Perendito (Greece), Sam Illingworth (UK) and Rainer Schultheis (Austria)

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**Annex C: List of Decisions of the EMS Council at its 40th Session, 27-28 March 2019**

- C40.01 ARMAE Membership:** The Council approved the Asociația Română de Meteorologie Aplicată și Educație (ARMAE) as an EMS Member Society.
- C40.02 Mandate on registration fees:** The Council gave the Bureau the mandate to decide the registration fees for the next Annual Meeting once the balance of the financial accounts of the preceding year is known.
- C40.03 Report of the President and Bureau:** The Council approved the Report of the President and Bureau.
- C40.04 Free Reserves:** The Council allocated 36,105.07€ of the income in 2018 and 1,378.48€ of the income in 2017 (together 37,483.55€) to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage).
- C40.05 Operational Reserves:** The Council decided to allocate 1,388.37€ as Operational Reserve (Betriebsmittelrücklage) in 2019.
- C40.06 Report of the Treasurer:** The Council approved the Report of the Treasurer.
- C40.07 PSC 2020:** The Council approved the membership of the PSC for the EMS 2020 (see Annex B.1).
- C40.08 Venue Proposal EMS 2023:** The Council decided not to accept the venue proposed for the conference centre in Ghent.
- C40.09 Committee on Meetings membership:** The Council approved the membership of Jean-Noël Thépaut (ECMWF) on the Committee on Meetings spring 2019 – spring 2022.
- C40.10 Silver Medal:** The Council decided that Gerald Fleming, Ireland, is the recipient of the EMS Silver Medal 2019. The citation reads: "Gerald Fleming has made an outstanding contribution to the communication of meteorological information through enhancing the public understanding of meteorological services and issues and strengthening and fostering expertise in broadcast meteorology."
- C40.11 Technology Achievement Award 2019:** The Council selected the Copernicus Climate Data Store to be recognised through the EMS Technology Achievement Award 2019. The citation reads: "The Copernicus Climate Data Store supports climate services in Europe by providing a seamless access to high-quality climate datasets, past, present and future."
- C40.12 The Outstanding Contribution Award 2019:** The Council selected Fritz Neuwirth to receive the Outstanding Contribution Award 2019. The citation reads: "Fritz Neuwirth is honoured for his long-term support for the EMS, which started with contributing to the establishment of the EMS and continued with displaying wisdom and enthusiasm as President, member of the Editorial Board and Councillor."
- C40.13 Selection committees:** The Council approved the selection committees for the Media Awards as suggested by the chair of the Media and Communications Team (see Annex B.2).
- C40.14 Transition between Presidencies:** The Council agreed that the spring council that precedes the Council when the next President has to be elected, determines a President-Elect.
- C40.15 Associate Membership:** The Council approved the Associate Membership of Meteotechnology Laboratory LLC (Meteo Lab)
- C40.16 Criteria for selection Council Representation:** The Council decided to take into account the following criteria when discussing options for future Council representations: Europe-wide geographical representation; rotation should encompass all Member Societies; capabilities in terms of resources; host society of an upcoming EMS Annual Meeting.
- C40.17 Venue for 41st Council Session:** The Council agreed that the 41st Session will be held in Lyngby, Denmark, 8 September 2019.