

**42nd Session of the EMS Council
Virtual Meeting
Starting at 14:00 (CET) on 24 March 2020**

Minutes of 23 April 2020
adopted

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Europe the 42nd Session of the EMS Council was held as a virtual meeting by video-conference with a modified agenda.

The message of the EMS President and the modified agenda with the relevant decisions to be taken are provided in **Annex A**.

Participants: (voting councillors underlined)

Tanja Cegnar (Chair Media and Communication Team)

Jean-Pierre Chalon (Météo et Climat)

Ben Dieterink (Chair TAA Committee)

Zoltan Dunkel (MMT, Hungary)

Sven-Erik Gryning (DaMS, Denmark)

Sylvain Joffre (Chair EMS Committee on Meetings)

Martina Junge (EMS Executive Secretary)

Shanti Majithia (RMets, United Kingdom)

Dominique Marbouty (Météo et Climat, France)

Jordi Mazon (ACAM, Spain)

Panagiotis Nastos (EMTE, Greece)

Robert Riddaway (EMS President)

Heinke Schlünzen (DMG, Germany)

Paulína Valová (SMS, Slovakia)

Saskia Willemse (SGM, Switzerland)

The Session opened at 14:00h and closed at 17:00h.

Chair: Bob Riddaway, EMS President

Minutes: Martina Junge

1. Opening of the 42nd Session

The EMS President opened the 42nd Session of the EMS Council by welcoming all participants.

With 10 Council representatives present at the video conference the necessary quorum of seven was attained. Votes are given as (acceptance: rejection: abstention).

2. Acceptance of the Reduced Agenda and declaration of Any Other Business

The proposal for the reduced agenda was distributed. In addition, the item "Consider the potential impact of Covid-19 on EMS2020" as part of Any Other Business has been included. The agenda was accepted as proposed. (**Annex A**)

3. Implementation of decisions and actions agreed at the 41st Session

The draft minutes of the 41st 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 <https://www.emetsoc.org/about-ems/council/council-meetings/>.

The implementation of decisions and short-term actions recorded in the minutes has been detailed in paper *C42_03_implementation-of-C41-decisions-and-actions*. The progress with implementing decisions and actions has been reviewed. All decisions have been implemented. Also all the actions have been implemented with the exception of arranging a contract for a communications specialist, preparing a draft strategic plan and publishing a statement about Fridays4Future. It was noted that:

- The meeting with the UKi Media representatives, planned for 24 March 2020 had to be postponed; no new date has been agreed.
- With respect to the strategic plan, additional actions have been agreed under agenda item "10. Other Actions/B".

With regard to appointing a new member of the Committee on Meetings, a call to vote by correspondence was sent to Council representative on 1 November 2019, with the deadline to return the vote (accept/ reject / abstain) by 1 December 2019:

C42.01 CoM Membership: The EMS Council approved the membership of Carlo Buontempo on the EMS Committee on Meetings for the term 2019 to 2022. (Votes: 10:0:0)

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 (paper *C42_04_Report_President_Bureau*).

A question was raised about the role of the EMS in further developing the Global Weather Enterprise (GWE), specifically in Europe. It was noted that a GWE session is included in the programme of EMS2020.

Action 1: The President will ensure that an item about the GWE is included in the agenda for the EMS Council Session in September.

C42.02 MoU with the Harry Otten Foundation: The Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the EMS and the Harry Otten Foundation. (Votes: 10:0:0)

C42.03 Report of the President and Bureau: The Council approved the Report of the President and Bureau. (Votes: 10:0:0)

5. Report of the Treasurer

The financial report was provided by the Treasurer to the EMS Council (paper *C42_06_Report-Treasurer*).

C42.04 Report of the Treasurer: The Council approved the Report of the Treasurer. (Votes: 9:0:1)

The President thanked the Treasurer, Heinke Schlünzen, for her excellent work in overseeing the finances of the EMS.

6. Report Committee on Meetings

Information on the activities of the committee, the preparations for the EMS Annual Meeting 2020, the change in membership of the committee, and a number of strategic issues were provided in paper *C42_07_Report-CoM*.

EMS Annual Meeting venue 2019

The Council, and in particular the Treasurer, thanked the team that organised the EMS2019 in Lyngby for a very successful conference.

EMS Annual Meeting venue 2023

Council confirmed that the revised offer from ICC Ghent is not acceptable to host EMS2023 because of the high cost of the facilities and services.

Action 2: CoM will use the time until the next Council Session to request a revised offer from ICC Ghent for the holding of EMS2023 or investigate other possible venues in Belgium, and report back to Council in September.

EMS Annual Meeting venue 2024

The Dutch Met Society has submitted an official proposal to host EMS2024 at Jaarbeurs Conference Centre in Utrecht.

Action 3: CoM, together with the local hosts, will further investigate local financial support for holding EMS2024 in Utrecht and report back to Council in September.

Alternative options for EMS2023 or EMS2024 could be investigated by (a) discussing with the large EMS Member Societies whether any of them would be interested in hosting an Annual Meeting in the future, or (b) discussing with those societies/venues that have been identified as possible candidates for recurrent venues are interested in holding another Annual Meeting.

EMS Annual Meeting venue 2025

The Croatian Meteorological Society has officially applied to hold EMS2025 in Split (Dalmatian coast) to coincide with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the National Meteorological Office.

Action 4: The Executive Secretary and Copernicus staff will pay a site visit to the suggested venue for EMS 2025 in Split and report back to CoM for a recommendation to Council.

It was noted, that Split is difficult to reach by public transport (instead of air travel) from central Europe, so it might be worthwhile discussing with the Croatian Met. Society whether a venue in Zagreb would be possible. Also the option to using this venue earlier should be discussed if both the Utrecht and Ghent venues prove impossible.

7. 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 (paper *C42_08_Awards*).

C42.05 EMS Silver Medal 2020: The Council decided that Jean Jouzel, France, is the recipient of the EMS Silver Medal 2020. The citation reads: "Jean Jouzel is awarded the EMS Silver Medal for fundamental and pioneering scientific contributions to the understanding of paleo, present and future climate processes, as well as for his outstanding contribution to increase public knowledge and awareness of climate change."

Action 5: Dominique Marbouty will support the identification of someone to give the laudation for Jean Jouzel.

EMS Technology Achievement Award

The problems in identifying a suitable candidate for the EMS Technology Achievement Award 2020 were explained by the chair of the TAA committee. It was agreed that the EMS Technology Achievement Award 2020 will not be awarded in 2020.

The way forward has been sketched as follows:

- Key persons at all EMS Member Organisations who would be in a position to help make the award known in the community will be identified.
- A survey on views about the award amongst these key persons will be held.
- Consideration will be given to self-nomination and the option of having two different awards for small and large organisations/projects.

Action 6: The TAA Committee will propose revised terms and procedures for the Technology Achievement Award for consideration by Council in September.

8. Election of EMS Officers (President, Vice-President)

The Bureau provided recommendations for the posts of Vice President and President (paper *C42_12_election-EMS-officers*).

C42.06 EMS Vice President 2020-2023: The Council elected Dominique Marbouty (Météo et Climat, France) as Vice-President of the EMS for the term spring 2020 – spring 2023, starting on 24 March 2020.

Dominique Marbouty accepted the election as EMS Vice President from 24 March 2020.

The EMS President thanked Jean-Pierre Chalon for his long-term commitment and his active part in the work of the EMS Council and the EMS Bureau over many years.

C42.07 EMS President 2020-2023: The Council elected Bert Holtslag (NVBM, The Netherlands) as President of the EMS for the term autumn 2020 – autumn 2023, starting on 11 September 2020.

Bert Holtslag accepted the election as EMS President from 11 September 2020.

9. EMS Membership

The EMS Secretariat provided information about current and new EMS Associate Members (paper C42_14_EMS-Membership).

C42.08 Associate Membership EUMETNET: The Council approved the EUMETNET as a new EMS Associate Member. EUMETNET will be assigned to the group of NMHS Associate Members; The basis for the fees of EUMETNET is the number of staff in the EUMETNET secretariat. (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.09 Associate Membership Meteoblue: The Council approved the company Meteoblue as a new EMS Associate Member. Meteoblue will be assigned to the group of service providers Associate Members. (Votes 10:0:0)

10. Other actions

A. Actions listed in Part B of the agenda (Annex I) were decided/agreed:

The Council took note of the following.

- Report of the Secretariat (C42_05_report-secretariat).
- Report of the Committee on Meetings (C42_07_Report-CoM).
- Report of the Awards Committee (C42_08_Awards).
- Report of the Media and Communication Team (C42_09_Report-Media-and-Communication Team).

With regard to the EMS Annual Meetings, the Council took note of the following.

- The summary on EMS2019 Annual Meeting.
- The preparations for EMS2020 and preliminary financial estimate.
- Plans for the EMS2020 Award Ceremony and Strategic Lectures.
- Plans for a FP9 debate, Carbon foot print event and an introductory event.
- Plans for SPARK-Sessions.
- CoM's recommendations on PWA to replace the Programme Book in 2020.
- New OSA deputy Programme Stream Moderator.

C42.10 Free Reserves (Freie Rücklage): The Council approved the allocation of 44,442.98€ of the income 2019 to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage). (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.11 PSC Composition for EMS2021: The Council approved the composition of the Programme and Science Committee for the EMS Annual Meeting 2021. (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.12 Venue Proposal Guidelines: The Council approved the revision of the guidelines for Annual Meeting venue proposals. (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.13 Membership of the selection committees for the media awards: The Council approved the composition of the selection committees for the following media Awards:

- *Outreach & Communication Award:* Tanja Cegnar, Carlos Yagüe, Tomas Halenka, Rasmus Benestad, Liz Bentley, Thomas Wostal.

- *Media Weather Forecast Award*: Jay Trobec, Tanja Cegnar, Karsten Schwanke Panos Giannopoulos, Paul Gross, Claire Martin, Haleh Kootval.
 - *Broadcast Meteorologist Award*: Gerald Fleming, Rasmus Benestad, Tanja Cegnar, Carlos Yagüe, Stanislava Tsalova, Inge Niedek.
- (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.14 Revised ToRs of the Media Weather Forecast Award: The Council approved the revision of the Terms of Reference for the Media Weather Forecast Award (formerly: TV Weather Forecast Award) as proposed in document *C42_09_Report-Media-and-Communication-Team*, Annex 3). (Votes 10:0:0)

C42.15 Revised ToRs of the EMS Journalistic Award: The Council approved the revision of the Terms of Reference for the EMS Journalistic Award as proposed in document *C42_09_Report-Media-and-Communication-Team*, Annex 3. (Votes 10:0:0)

B. Procedures proposed for actions in Part C, D and E of the agenda (Annex I) were agreed:

Action 7: The following actions in documents for C42 will be addressed by correspondence, starting immediately after the Council meeting:

- The working group on the strategic plan will have an online meeting by 30 April to agree the strategic objectives and the structure of the strategic plan. Members of Council will then be asked to approve the strategic objectives and structure of the strategic plan.
- The President will invite members of Council to suggest topics that might be discussed at the next General Assembly.

Action 8: The following actions contained in documents for C42 will be delegated to the Bureau:

- Decide who might be nominated as the next IFMS Council Member for Europe or specify what action might be taken to identify a possible candidate.
- Provide advice about which Member Societies should be approached to provide representatives to be elected to Council at the 22nd General Assembly.

Action 9: The following actions contained in documents for C42 will be delayed until the September Council meeting:

- Consider the way to develop a new logo for the EMS.
- Decide whether the contributions by permanent members are kept at the same level as before.
- Consider whether the difference in registration fees online/onsite should be increased.
- Consider the options on organising the EMS Annual Meeting with MTX/EUMETSAT.
- Consider the option to organise the EMS Annual Meeting only in a small number of well-suited venues across Europe.
- Decide whether the EMS wants to support the IFMS proposal that regional societies take responsibility for organising WWOSCs.
- Decide whether and in what way the EMS could support the IFMS by contributing to the establishment and/or strengthening of regional meteorological societies.
- Provide input to the strategic plan.

11. Any Other Business – Consider the potential impact of Covid-19 on EMS2020

The options for the EMS2020 were laid out in principle:

- Organise the meeting as planned on-site if possible.
- In case of limited options to travel continuing until September, offer on-line presentations as part of a mixed on-site/on-line conference.
- Make the conference entirely on-line.
- Cancel the meeting.

Action 10: The abstract submission deadline will be moved to 8 or 18 May; details have to be investigated with Copernicus.

Action 11: The following will need to be investigated by CoM before the on-line Council meeting (see Action 12): (a) the practicalities and financial implications of cancelling the meeting and (b) the options for having an on-line conference (in part or in full). The Council and CoM will monitor the implementation of the online-only conference without live presentations at EGU2020: Sharing Geoscience online.

Action 12: An extra-ordinary Council Meeting will be convened on-line to decide on the format of the EMS2020 or whether to cancel it. Two tentative dates were identified:

- Tuesday 5 May 2020: 9:00 (CET)
- Thursday 14 May 2020: 10:00 (CET)

A decision on the date will be taken once the issues about the abstract submission deadline have been clarified with PCO Copernicus.

12. 43rd Session of Council

C41.16 Venue for 42nd Council Session: The Council agreed that the 43rd Session will be held on 5-6 September 2020, in Bratislava, Slovakia. (Votes: 10:0:0).

In closing, the President thanked all Council representatives and committee chairs for their attendance and active participation in this – unusual but very effective – session.

Annex A: Revised Agenda and roadmap for decisions

Annex B: List of Decisions and Actions

Annex A: Message by the EMS President on the modified agenda of the virtual meeting to be held by video-conferencing on 17 March 2019

Council Meeting - Message from the EMS President

Dear Colleagues

Thank you for your patience whilst we tried to deal with the consequences of cancelling the EMS Council meeting in Reading.

There are some important and urgent issues about which Council needs to make a decision. Consequently, I confirm that a virtual meeting will be held starting at 1400 CET on 24 March. Please set aside three hours for the meeting, though it is not expected to last that long. Martina will provide information about:

- The technical arrangements for the virtual meeting.
- The process for claiming non-refundable expenses incurred on or before 4 March.

Attached is a reduced agenda for the meeting. It is constructed with a view to minimising the duration of the meeting whilst ensuring the key decisions are taken. The agenda is divided into five parts.

- Part A. These are items to be discussed at the meeting. It will be assumed that the associated documents have been read which allows the focus to be on dealing with the actions identified in italics (these have been taken from the various documents). For each item there will be an opportunity to ask questions before making a decision about the actions. The documents will not be introduced by the originators unless there is a need to clarify or amend what has been written.
- Part B. These are actions that are considered uncontroversial. It is intended that these actions would be agreed as one item.
- Part C. These are actions that will be addressed by correspondence shortly after the Council session.
- Part D. These are action to be delegated to the Bureau.
- Part E. These are actions for which consideration will be delayed until the September Council meeting.

If anyone would like to discuss any of the actions in Parts B, C, D and E, please let me know by Friday the 20th. Those actions will then be moved to Part A. Also Council will be asked to agree what is proposed for the actions in Parts B, C and D.

The future is very uncertain. But at this stage we should assume that there will be a Council meeting in September in Bratislava. However, it is planned to extend the Council meeting so that it takes place on the afternoon of the 5th and the morning of the 6th. The General Assembly will take place on the afternoon of the 6th as originally planned.

I hope that despite these unusual circumstances we will be able to have a fruitful Council meeting.

Bob Riddaway

42nd Session of the EMS Council**Virtual Meeting****Starting at 14:00 (CET) on 24 March 2020****Proposed Reduced Agenda****It will be assumed that Council papers have been read so the focus of items in Part A will be on making decisions indicated in italics.****Part A**

1. Opening
2. Acceptance of the Reduced Agenda and declaration of Any Other Business
3. Implementation of decisions and actions agreed at the 41st Session
 - *Review progress with implementing decisions and actions*
4. Report of the President on the activities of the Bureau
 - *Approve the MoU between the Harry Otten Foundation and the EMS.*
 - *Approve the Report of the President on the activities of the Bureau.*
1. Report of the Treasurer
 - *Approve the Report of the Treasurer.*
2. Report of the Committee on Meetings
 - *Decide whether to follow CoM recommendations on the venue proposal for EMS2023.*
 - *Decide whether to follow CoM recommendations on the venue proposal for EMS2024.*
 - *Decide whether to follow CoM recommendations on the venue proposal for EMS2025.*
3. Awards Programme
 - *Select the Silver Medallist 2020 and decide on the text for the citation.*
 - *Agree to abandon awarding the Technology Achievement Award this year and to revisit our objectives and announcement process.*
4. Election of EMS Officers (President, Vice-President)
 - *Elect an EMS Vice President for a three-year term starting on 24 March 2020.*
 - *Elect an EMS President for a three-year term starting on 11 September 2020.*
9. EMS Membership
 - *Approve EUMETNET as an Associate Member of the EMS.*
 - *Approve Meteoblue as an Associate Member of the EMS.*
10. Other actions
 - *Agree the actions listed in Part B of the agenda.*
 - *Agree what is proposed for the actions in Parts C, D and E of the agenda.*
11. Any Other Business
 - *Deal with any issues declared under agenda item 2.*
12. Next meeting
 - *Note that C43 will be held on 5 and 6 September in Bratislava.*

Part B – To be agreed without discussion unless a member of Council asks for an item to be discussed

- Note the report of the Secretariat.
- Approve the allocation of 44,442.98€ of the income 2019 to the Free Reserve (Freie Rücklage).
- Note the report of the Committee on Meetings
- Approve the PSC Composition for EMS2020.
- Accept the revision of the guidelines for Annual Meeting venue proposals.
- Note the summary on EMS2019 Annual Meeting.
- Note the preparations for EMS2020 and preliminary financial estimate.
- Note plans for the EMS2020 Award Ceremony and Strategic Lectures.
- Note plans for a FP9 debate, Carbon foot print event and an introductory event.
- Note plans for SPARK-Sessions.
- Note CoM's recommendations on PWA to replace the Programme Book in 2020.
- Note New OSA deputy Programme Stream Moderator.
- Note the report of the Awards Programme.
- Note the report of the Media and Communication Team.
- Approve the membership of the selection committees for the media awards.
- Approve revised ToRs: TV Weather Forecast Award becomes Media Weather Forecast Award.
- Approve revised ToRs: The EMS Journalistic Award.

Part C - Actions to be addressed by correspondence

- Agree the mission statement of the EMS.
- Agree the strategic objectives of the EMS.
- Agree the structure of the strategic plan.
- Decide what topics to discuss at the next General Assembly.

Part D – Actions to be delegated to the Bureau

- Decide who might be nominated as the next IFMS Council Member for Europe or specify what action might be taken to identify a possible candidate.
- Provide advice about which Member Societies should be approached to provide representatives to be elected to Council at the 22nd General Assembly.

Part E – Actions to be delayed until the September Council meeting

- Consider the way to develop a new logo for the EMS.
- Decide whether the contributions by permanent members are kept at the same level as before.
- Consider the options on organising the EMS Annual Meeting with MTX/ EUMETSAT/ only in a small number of well-suited venues across Europe.
- Decide whether the EMS wants to support the IFMS proposal that regional societies take responsibility for organising WWOSCs.
- Decide whether and in what way the EMS could support the IFMS by contributing to the establishment and/or strengthening of regional meteorological societies.
- Provide input to the strategic plan.

Annex B: List of Decisions and Actions of the EMS Council at, 42nd Session, 24 March 2020

C42.01 CoM Membership: The EMS Council approved the membership of Carlo Buontempo on the EMS Committee on Meetings for the term 2019 to 2022.

C42.02 MoU with the Harry Otten Foundation: The Council approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the EMS and the Harry Otten Foundation.

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List of Actions

Action 1: The President will ensure that an item about the GWE is included in the agenda for the EMS Council Session in September.

Action 2: CoM will use the time until the next Council Session to request a revised offer from ICC Ghent for the holding of EMS2023 or investigate other possible venues in Belgium, and report back to Council in September.

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Action 4: The Executive Secretary and Copernicus staff will pay a site visit to the suggested venue for EMS 2025 in Split and report back to CoM for a recommendation to Council.

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