

EMS

Annual Report

Annual Report of the European Meteorological Society 2006

Report of the Council

1 January – 31 December 2006

To be submitted to the EMS General Assembly 2007 by the EMS Council

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Mission Statement

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, EMS will help its Member Societies and Associate Members, individually and collectively, benefit all classes of their membership. In particular, EMS will work to achieve better communication and understanding between individual members of Member Societies and Associate Members.

EMS shall be a non-profit-making organization, operating always under its Constitution approved at a General Assembly by its Member Societies, and arrange its activities economically, with the public good in mind.



Introduction and Highlights

During 2006 there have been many changes in EMS. At the thirteenth Session of the EMS Council (September 2005), David BurrIDGE (RMetS) was elected as new EMS President and Tomáš Halenka (ČMeS) was elected to the position of Treasurer and Vice-President. Later in 2005, the long-term Executive Secretary, Arne Spekat resigned and he was replaced by Martina Junge on 1 January 2006.

The EMS is still growing. At the 8th General Assembly, held in September 2006 in Ljubljana, two new national societies were welcomed to the Membership “family” – the newly founded *Asociació de Meteorologia i Ciències de l’Atmosfera d’Andorra (A.M.A.C.A.)* with 26 members and the Meteorological Section of the Polish Geophysical Society (PTG) with 50 members. It is gratifying that support from the wider meteorological community in Europe is also growing as indicated by four new Associate Members joining the EMS – the *Istituto Nacional de Meteorología (INM, Spain, in 2005)*, the *National Meteorological Administration (NMA, Romania)*, the *Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI, Finland)* and *OMSZ Hungarian Meteorological Service*. At the end of 2006, the EMS had 35 Member Societies and 27 Associate Members.

The highlight of 2006 has undoubtedly been the Sixth EMS Annual Meeting which was held in Ljubljana. It was organized in partnership with the Sixth European Conference on Applied Climatology of the European Climate Support Network and the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia which was the local host. The smooth and effective organization, various social events and delightful weather provided an excellent environment for an enjoyable well attended conference. The conference proved to be a productive forum for the exchange of ideas on future strategies in climatology and meteorology. Also it provided a stimulating framework for developing increased collaboration in the fields of climate monitoring, research and prediction, and the provision of climate data for the research community. This established biennial event now provides a European conference that focuses on applications and involves the whole meteorological and climate communities.

The President used his participation in the 2006 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference as an opportunity to develop the relationship between the EMS and EUMETSAT. One outcome was an agreement to cooperate in the organization of future scientific conferences.

With the strategic goals of EMS defined, the major challenge is now to implement this strategy. One aim is for the EMS to become an attractive forum for discussions about the future of meteorology and related sciences, beyond what is provided by the annual EMS meetings. Another aim is to establish the EMS as a useful partner for international organizations in developing meteorology and related sciences within Europe whilst seeking effective involvement of individuals in the community in EMS activities.

The new edition of the EMS Newsletter, number nine, was published in May 2006. Future Newsletters will be published once a year, in early spring, and will contain the EMS Annual Report – you are holding the first edition with this in your hands. All other news items will be published online once the EMS web site has been re-launched. This will speed-up the dissemination of information and hopefully enhance discussions within the membership of EMS and beyond. The new web site will also feature various discussion pages that will support the development of EMS as a forum for the meteorological community.

The financial situation of EMS has become precarious in recent years and the first step to reverse this trend has been to implement an annual increase of membership fees in line with the increase of consumer prices in Europe. Fortunately, however, the EMS Annual Meetings in 2005 and 2006 have not only been a success scientifically but they have also been profitable. Consequently the EMS accounts are now much more healthy.

In summary, the EMS is maturing: it is becoming more professional and is having positive impact on European Meteorology, but more has to be achieved in order to provide better support for its members.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the EMS partners for their support and collaboration, and to express my thanks to all those individuals who have contributed to the development of the EMS.

David BurrIDGE, EMS President

Sixth Annual Meeting of the EMS, Ljubljana, Slovenia

The highlight of the EMS annual activities is the Annual Meeting which is normally organized in collaboration with partners.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the EMS took place at the Cankarjev dom Congress Centre in Ljubljana from 4 to 8 September 2006. It encompassed a wide spectrum of topics and focused on applications of atmospheric sciences and climatology. This was an “open” conference – the participants were asked to submit abstracts via a call for papers and conveners were responsible for thematic sessions.

The conference was steered by a Programme Committee, which consisted of the following members: D. Burridge (Chair), W. Kirchhofer (ECAC Advisory Board), T. Cegnar (EARS, Slovenia), S. Joffre (FMI, Finland; COST), R. Heino (FMI, Finland), W. Wehry (DMG, EMS), T. Halenka (Charles University, Prague), M. Rasmussen (Copernicus) and M. Junge (EMS). The conference was held in conjunction with the 6th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC).

Opening ceremony

The first morning of the conference was reserved for an opening ceremony, at which the Secretary-General of WMO, Michel Jarraud, and the Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia, Janez Podobnik, addressed and welcomed the participants of the conference. These addresses were followed by high-level presentations from senior officials from European Organisations and an Awards Ceremony for Young Scientists.

Conference programme

The main programme had four broad themes involving 25 oral sessions and many poster sessions. The themes were Applied Climatology, Atmosphere and the Water Cycle (a real-time look), Instruments and Methods Observations, and Information Provision. Expert and Working Group meetings for a number of Actions of the European Science

Foundation's COST Programme were also held in conjunction with the EMS Annual Meeting. In addition, the FORALPS project (Meteo-hydrological forecast and observations for improved water resource management in the ALPS) held its first conference under the theme “Contributions for a wise management of water resources from meteorology and climatology”. Many conference participants welcomed the variety and synergies provided by these additional elements to the conference.

Participation

About 430 participants came to Ljubljana. With 590 abstracts submitted, the conference encompassed about 310 oral and 260 poster presentations. The conference enjoyed a good atmosphere and provided a stimulating framework for developing increased collaboration in the fields of climate monitoring, research and prediction, and the provision of climate data for the research community. Also it proved to be a fruitful forum for the exchange of ideas on future strategies in climatology and meteorology. The EMS Annual Meeting is now established as an international European conference that focuses on applications and involves the whole meteorological and climate communities. The social events, the “ice breaker” reception and the conference dinner, were enjoyable and contributed to the open and relaxed discussions that are an important element of the conference.

Publication

Due to the initiative of the EMS Publications Committee, publication of conference papers in the newly established online journal *Advances in Science and Research* has been offered to participants, with session conveners acting as guest editors of the journal. The conference programme and abstracts continue to be accessible through the conference web site at:

<http://meetings.copernicus.org/ems2006>.

Awards and Prizes

The European Meteorological Society made the following Awards in 2006.

Young Scientist Award (YSA)

Jan Kysely, Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic.

In 2006 EMS received a donation from COST to finance a second Young Scientist Award. Kipp & Zonen awarded one Young Scientist Award in Boundary Layer Meteorology.

Young Scientist Award, awarded together by EMS and COST

Mathias Müller, Institut für Meteorologie, Klimatologie und Fernerkundung, Universität Basel, Switzerland.

Kipp & Zonen Young Scientist Award for Boundary Layer Meteorology

Jan Cermak, University of Marburg, Germany.

Media Award

Jay Trobec, KELO-TV, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, USA.

Young Scientist Travel Awards

EMS provided Young Scientist Travel Awards for five conferences and seminars. These have supported young scientists from ten countries : Croatia (1), Czech Republic (1), Finland (1), France (2), Germany (3), Italy (1), The Netherlands (1), Russia (1), Spain (2), UK (1). The details are given below.

Sixth EMS Annual Meeting and Sixth ECAC,
Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 2006

Seven awards were made with four of these financed by COST.

Alex Pommier, University Jean Moulin, Lyon, France.

Frank Kreienkamp, Climate & Environment Consulting
Potsdam GmbH, Germany.

Antje Claußnitzer, Meteorologisches Institut,
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

Massimiliano de Franceschi, Department of Civil and
Environmental Engineering, University of Trento, Italy.

Andrea Vajda, Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki,
Finland.

Lucie Jurikovska, Institute of Geoinformatics,
Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic.

Gert-Jan Steeneveld, Meteorology and Air Quality Group,
Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

2006 ESA Symposium: 15 Years of Progress in RADAR Altimetry,
March 2006, Venice, Italy

Jesus Gómez-Enri, Applied Physics Department,
University of Cadiz, Spain.

3rd ENVISAT Summer School on Earth System Modelling and
Monitoring, July/August 2006, Frascati, Italy

Three poster awards were given.

Valentina Sicardi, Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry,
Jena, Germany.

Ana Prieto-Blanco, University of Wales Swansea, UK.

Raul Lopez-Lozano, Centro de Investigacion y Tecnologia
Agroalimentaria de Aragon, Spain.

13th International Symposium for the Advancement of Boundary
Layer Remote Sensing, July 2006, Garmisch-Partenkirchen,
Germany

Rostislav Kouznetsov, Obukov Institute of Atmospheric
Physics, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow, Russia.

12th Conference on Mountain Meteorology,
August/September, Santa Fe, USA

Armel Martin, Laboratoire Météorologique Dynamique, Paris,
France.

Ivana Stiperski, Meteorological and Hydrological Service of
Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia.

Awards Committee

Chair: Werner Wehry (DMG, Germany)

The Awards Committee continued to:

- ◆ prepare announcements of Young Scientist Travel Awards and Young Scientist Awards in collaboration with the respective conference organisers;
- ◆ review applications and decide on awardees;
- ◆ prepare proposals on future conference awards as basis for Council decisions;
- ◆ prepare papers on the EMS awards policy.

At the 15th Council Meeting it was decided that instead of viewing the Young Scientist Travel Award as additional travel support, the award should be given for good innovative scientific work.

A new EMS Award will be implemented. In order to it

give prestige this should be given to a well-known person for a very specific achievement. The format will be an annual award presented at the EMS Annual Meeting.

The Terms of Reference of the EMS Awards Committee and all awards are available at:

www.emetsoc.org/ems_resolutions.html#C35

Membership of Awards Committee

Werner Wehry (Chair, DMG, Germany)

René Morin (SMF, France)

Evangelina Oriol-Pibernat (ESA/ESRIN)

Jan Bednar (ČMeS, Czech Republic)

Hans Richner (SGM, Switzerland)

Publications Committee

Chair: Bob Riddaway (RMetS, United Kingdom)

The aim of the Committee is to recommend publication best practices and developments for the consideration of the EMS Council. Also the Committee will pay attention to publications and practices already existing in Member Societies and other organisations in order to coordinate the development of an EMS policy aimed at facilitating the generation and distribution of scientific and technical information to a wide range of audiences.

Newsletter

Issue Number 9 of the EMS Newsletter was issued in May. As well as containing a message from the President and items about the Fifth EMS Annual Meeting, EMS Awards and EMS Education Committee, there were items about new Member Societies and Associate Members. The Director of ECMWF kindly agreed to have the newsletter typeset at the Centre. The result was a more appealing look to the newsletter. It proved very difficult getting contributions to the newsletter. Hard copies of the Newsletter were distributed to all societies and Associate Members (according to their requirements) and to partner organisations and individuals. An online pdf-version is available at:

www.emetsoc.org/EMS_NL9.pdf

In future news items will be published via the EMS web site.

Re-launch of EMS web page

A concept for the EMS web page has been developed, based on the views of members. This web page will include discussion forums, to provide for a more direct involvement of individual members in the discussion processes and development of the EMS. The implementation of the concept is in its final stages.

Publications

The Chairman of the Publications Committee and EMS Executive Secretary met with Martin Rasmussen from the Copernicus Organization to seek his views and advice about Open Access publications. As a result, a concept for the publication of conference papers from the EMS Annual Meeting was developed. Publication in the newly established online journal "*Advances in Science and Research*" has been offered to participants, with session convenors acting as guest editors of the journal.

Membership of Publications Committee

Bob Riddaway (Chair, RMetS, UK)

Raino Heino (GS, Finland)

Martina Junge (EMS Executive Secretary)

Accreditation Committee

Chair: Howard Lyne (RMetS, United Kingdom)

The Accreditation Committee met once in 2006, during the EMS Annual Meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia, in September 2006. All other communication was carried out by e-mail contact.

The goals of the Accreditation Committee are to:

- ◆ make recommendations to Member Societies of good practice in running Accreditation Schemes and how they may be introduced;
- ◆ make recommendations to Member Societies on Codes of Good Practice and Ethical Behaviour of professional meteorologists;
- ◆ recommend how such Accreditation Schemes and Codes of Good Practice followed by meteorologists of any Member Society, or Associate Member with its headquarters in Europe, may be recognised in any or all European countries.

As there is no unified position with regard to accreditation on the national level, any developments will take time. The Royal Meteorological Society of the United Kingdom has a Chartered Meteorologist scheme which is now recognised in all member states of the EU through the appropriate European Directive. Also the German Meteorological Society has a similar scheme, and another which certifies companies rather than individuals.

A Certification Scheme for European Aviation Forecasters

There has been intensive discussion within the meteorological community on the accreditation or certification of forecasters for civil aviation arising from two sources: the adoption of the guidelines in WMO No. 258 by ICAO as the required standard for forecasters for international civil aviation, and the implementation of the regulations concerning the Single European Sky (SES) within the European Union.

The EMS was asked to endorse a proposal for certifying European aviation forecasters. To do this the EMS would need to satisfy itself as to the validity of the assessment process and the standards required. This could involve greater or lesser involvement by the EMS with corresponding resource implications. At its meeting in Ljubljana, and following extensive discussion of the proposal, the Accreditation Committee agreed that the Chairman should set down the various activities identified during the discussion, and comment on their desirability, resource implications and practicability.

Options for the EMS

- ◆ The “rubber stamp” option that requires no actions by EMS except the endorsement through its name. This cannot be recommended if the EMS endorsement is to have any value.

- ◆ Endorsement subject to receipt and approval of regular reports from bodies involved in the assessment, i.e. the Awarding Authorities (AA), Eumetcal College and the assessors. This is the lowest level of EMS activity consistent with a meaningful endorsement of the certification and could be easily achieved through the Accreditation Committee or a sub-committee of it, but may require funding of travel for meetings.
- ◆ Review and approval of Operational Standards used in the assessment process could be achieved through the Accreditation Committee or a sub-committee whose membership should, ideally, contain experienced aviation forecasters. The latter may not be available from within the Society, and funding may be required for travel to meetings.
- ◆ Revise Operational Standards.
- ◆ Appoint Awarding Authorities in member countries. This would probably best be done through the National Meteorological Societies rather than by the EMS directly. The advantage of having Awarding Authorities in each member country is that the certificate would acquire a greater validity and status in that country.
- ◆ To take on the role of a Europe-wide Awarding Authority. This would require extensive actions and is beyond the capabilities of the EMS now and, probably, in the future.

At the meeting of EUMETNET – the owners of Eumetcal – in autumn 2006 the meteorological services did not support the proposed Europe-wide certification of aviation forecasters. This proposal is therefore shelved for the time being; however it is likely to remain an issue in the future.

In order to make recommendations to Member Societies in running Accreditation Schemes and on Codes of Good Practice, the Accreditation Committee is building up a database to be published on the EMS web site.

Membership of Accreditation Committee

David Axford retired as Chairman in February 2006.

Howard Lyne (Chair, RMetS, United Kingdom)

Sergio Barbosa (APMG, Portugal)

Christophe Billard (SMF, France)

Magne Lystad (FM, Norway)

Marcello Pagliari (UNIMET, Italy)

Manuel Palomares (INM, Spain)

Heleen ter Pelkwijk (NVBM, Netherlands)

Dragan Radovanovic (MDS, Serbia)

Peter Rauh (SGM, Switzerland)

Clemens Simmer (DMG, Germany)

Sonja Vidic (HMD, Croatia)

Mark Žagar (SMD, Slovenia)

Education Committee

Chair: Tomáš Halenka (ČMeS, Czech Republic)

The tasks of the Committee are to:

- ◆ define objectives and lines of action dealing with education in meteorology and related sciences in Europe;
- ◆ identify relevant bodies, individuals and programmes where meteorological education or a dialogue on meteorology or its applications could occur;
- ◆ establish regular contacts with organizers of various European national education projects on meteorology and allied scientific subjects.

European catalogue of training opportunities in Europe – ECTOM2

The database for European catalogue of training opportunities in Europe is now available at:

<http://meop0.troja.mff.cuni.cz/ectom>.

The Bologna declaration aims to achieve compatibility between the systems and levels in individual countries. Therefore when students are considering transferring between countries it is useful to provide information about educational opportunities in a centralised and consistent form, but validated on a national level. In the case of meteorology and climatology this can be reasonably done via the European Meteorological Society, by means of individual National Meteorological Societies and their guidance. The issue now is to fill the database, make it publicly available and promote its existence.

Collaboration

Collaboration with the ACCENT Project (FP6 Network of Excellence on the composition of the atmosphere that also considers educational aspects) was intensified, and the Chair of the EMS Education Committee was accepted as an associated partner of the project. Also, as a number of EGU activities exist in the field of education, the Education Committee is investigating possibilities for collaboration with the EGU.

Involvement in conferences

The main focus was concerned with the organisation of the Educational Session during the Sixth EMS Annual Meeting. This provided the opportunity for exchange of experience and information on the role of meteorology in science education and on possibilities and advances in education in atmospheric sciences. Collaboration with the EMS Accreditation Committee was intensified on the subject of education in meteorology provided by National Meteorological Services for their professionals, and in particular the proposed accreditation for aviation forecasters.

EMS continued to act as co-organizer of the EWOC (Education: Weather, Oceans, Climate) meeting 2006 in Boulder, 3–7, July (www.ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/ewoc2006.html). The Chair of the Education Committee represented EMS at the conference both as chair of the committee and in his capacity as EMS Vice-President. The next EWOC meeting in 2009 will be held in Prague, Czech Republic, with the goal of increasing the attendance of the meeting by widening the scope of the conference to cover all geosciences.

Information on the EMS Educational Committee – “*On the mission of EMS Educational Committee*” – was published in EMS Newsletter No. 9.

Membership of Education Committee

Tomáš Halenka (Chair, ČMeS, Czech Republic)

Agueda Benito Capa (AME, Spain)

Marina Grcic (HMD, Croatia)

Pal Kirkeby (FM, Norway)

Lucka Kajfež-Bogataj (SMD, Slovenia)

Margarida L.R. Liberato (APMG, Portugal)

Ross Reynolds (RMetS, UK)

Adamantia Vlassi (HNM, Greece)

Jon Wieringa (Honorary Vice Chair, NVBM, The Netherlands)

Media Committee

Chair: Tanja Cegnar (SMD, Slovenia), Co-chair: Gerald Fleming (IMS, Ireland)

The aims of Media Committee are to:

- ◆ investigate the way presentations have an impact on the public;
- ◆ serve as a forum for experience exchange between meteorologists working in media in different countries;
- ◆ co-operate with weather presenter members of the American Meteorological Society (AMS), the International Association of Broadcast Meteorologists (IABM), the WMO expert team and the International Weather Forum (IWF);
- ◆ harmonize (future) accreditation protocols (or seals of approval) in European countries together with the Accreditation Committee.

The main activity of the Media Committee, and in particular the Chair of the Committee, has been to prepare the Media Session at the Sixth EMS Annual Meeting. For the first time such a session consisted of a combination of traditional presentations and a workshop. It attracted interest from the UK Embassy in Slovenia that financed the simultaneous translation for that session.

A flyer on the activities of the EMS Media Committee and its purpose was prepared and included in the EMS/ECAC 2006 conference material. CDs featuring the presentations and the ensuing round table discussion of the Media Session have been distributed.

Other activities concentrated on the establishment of co-operation with the International Weather Forum (IWF). Building on an agreement reached in October 2005 in Toulouse between representatives of the EMS Media Committee and IWF organizers, it was planned to present an EMS Media Award for the best weather presentation at the IWF 2006. To this end the EMS Council agreed to radically change the rules for eligibility of the EMS Media Award, and thus satisfied the requirements of the IWF organizers. However, financial and technical problems prevented the Media Award being given in 2006, and other ways to implement an award for the best weather presentation are being investigated.

Media Committee representatives participated at the WMO symposium on early warnings that covered the media's role in the early warning systems.

Membership of Media Committee

Tanja Cegnar (Chair, SMD, Slovenia)
 Gerald Fleming (Co-Chair, IMS, Ireland)
 Bernhard Kletter (ÖGM, Austria)
 Zoran Vakula (HMD, Croatia)
 Raino Heino (GS, Finland)
 Panagiotis Nastos (HMS, Greece)
 Jean-Christophe Vincendon (Météo-France)
 Inge Niedek (DMG, Germany)
 Karoly Vissy (MMT, Hungary)
 Anna Maria Siani (UNIMET, Italy)
 John Bernard (NVBM, The Netherlands)
 Ernest Rudel (ZAMG, Austria)
 Alex Rubli (SGM, Switzerland)
 Francis Wilson (RMetS, UK)
 Biljana Vranes (MDS, Serbia)
 Rasmus Benestad (FM, Norway)

Finance

The financial situation of the EMS has improved: due to a positive outcome of the Sixth EMS Annual Meeting and sixth European Conference of Applied Climatology 2006 in Ljubljana the accounts are much more healthy by the end of 2006.

All financial figures are given in Euros.

Summary Statement of Financial activities for the Year 2006

INCOME	
Income from Members 2006	22 354.55
Income from Associate Members 2006	35 756.85
EMS Annual Meeting	28 889.14
Other income	1 500.00
Total Income	88 500.54

The financial accounts have been audited on 1 March 2007 by the auditor appointed by the EMS General Assembly 2006. His report will be submitted to the EMS General Assembly 2007 (San Lorenzo de El Escorial, 30 September 2007).

Auditor: Frank Lucas
 Archivstr. 3a
 14195 Berlin-Dahlem
 Germany

Bankers: Deutsche Bank
 BLZ 100 700 24 Account 881 7777
 BIC/SWIFT DEUTDE33
 IBAN DE84100700240881777700

EXPENDITURE	
Salary Secretary	22 472.40
Tax and social/health insurance	22 289.64
Banking charges	229.45
Travel	5 615.49
Committees	
Accreditation (Travel)	1 068.00
Education (Travel)	1 602.84
Media (CDs, Speaker)	1 686.12
Meetings	0.00
Publications (Travel)	527.41
Office costs	895.04
Honoraries, Fees	1 531.44
Awards	3 700.00
Printing publications	1 684.69
EMS Annual Meeting	10 196.40
Other expenditure	70.00
Total Expenditure	73 568.92
Income-Expenditure	14 931.62
EMS account balance on 31 December 2006	44 944.29
Arrears and liabilities for the Year 2006	
INCOME	
Income from Members and Associates Members 2006	3 163.00

Strategy Implementation

At its twelfth session in Athens (April 2005), the EMS Council started to consider the plans for the next five years. The following outlines the progress that has been made in developing a five-year plan.

Intentions

When the EMS was formed in 1999, it was intended that it would achieve its objectives synergistically, taking a European view, by being responsive to changing circumstances and thereby enhancing successful activities of the Member Societies of EMS, and not damaging them, and seeking niches where Europe-wide activity was needed and was not being provided by individual Member Societies.

Existing objectives

It was "agreed" at the Council session in Athens that the following "1999" objectives were still appropriate for the next five years.

- (a) To advance the science, practice and application of meteorology at a Europe-wide level.
- (b) To assist the development of applications of meteorology for the public benefit of the peoples of Europe and elsewhere.
- (c) To promote public understanding of meteorology and the ability to make use of it, through schools and more generally.
- (d) To help Member Societies benefit all classes of their individual members, including amateurs, users of meteorological services and knowledge, and professionals in both the applied and research fields.

Possible new objectives

Earlier some objectives (i.e. those concerned with promoting professional meteorology, promoting the exchange of ideas and information, and interacting in its area of competence with other bodies) were thought to have needed updating, chiefly by simplification. The following were suggested.

- (e) To promote the exchange of ideas and information between individual members of Member Societies and of Associate Members.
- (f) To interact with other relevant bodies, and, in particular, to promote discussions between European actors in meteorology, including meteorological services, European meteorological organizations, the private sector, universities and industry.

Consideration was also given to having some new supporting objectives.

- (g) To enhance the Society's ability to achieve these objec-

tives above, through a sound, self-supporting, financial and administrative policy.

- (h) To expand its activities towards these objectives in ways which, at worst, are planned to become individually financially neutral, and which mostly help support general activities.
- (i) To have, as Members, societies in Europe which represent meteorological and operational hydrological interests, preferably national societies.
- (j) To have as an Associate Member, the trade association, preferably at the European level, of every major field in which meteorological advice and information makes an economic contribution.
- (k) To have, as Associate Members, organizations and industrial and commercial companies, whose activities are related to meteorology or weather, water or climate.
- (l) To undertake activities, mostly in association with Associate Members, to enhance the value of EMS Associate Membership.
- (m) To promote discussion designed to ensure that meteorology makes its maximum contribution to human economic and social welfare, and that national and international activity concerned, for example, with climate change, is motivated by the best possible meteorological advice.
- (n) To provide contacts with the EU Commission for the benefit of all Members.

The next steps

After the fourteenth session of Council in Helsinki a number of councillors met to discuss the development of a strategic implementation plan. Their ideas were then considered by the Council when it met for its fifteenth session in Ljubljana. At the sixteenth session of the Council in Beograd it was decided that a Strategy Implementation Group be constituted with the following membership.

David Burridge (Chair, EMS President)
 Claude Pastre (New Member of Council)
 Rasmus Benestad (Past Member of Council)
 Chairs of two EMS Committees:

◆ Bob Riddaway (Publications)

◆ Howard Lyne (Accreditation)

One/two representatives of the Associate Members

This Group was asked to produce a draft implementation plan for consideration at the seventeenth session of Council (San Lorenzo de El Escorial, 30 September 2007).

EMS Membership

The EMS has 35 Member Societies:

Andorra	Asociació de Meteorologia i Ciències de l'Atmosfera d'Andorra
Austria	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Meteorologie
Belgium	Société Royale Belge d'Astronomie, de Météorologie et de Physique du Globe
Bulgaria	Aviometeorological Club of Bulgaria
Croatia	Hrvatsko Meteorološko Društvo
Cyprus	Cyprus Meteorological Association
Czech Rep.	Ceska Meteorologicka Spolecnost
Denmark	Dansk Meteorologisk Selskab
Finland	Geofysikköjen liitto Geofysiikan Seura
France	Société météorologique de France
FYROM	Meteo Mak
Germany	Deutsche Meteorologische Gesellschaft
Greece	Elliniki Meteorologiki Etaireia
Hungary	Magyar Meteorológiai Társaság
Iceland	Félag Íslenskra Veðurfræðinga
Ireland	Irish Meteorological Society
Italy	Società Italiana di Meteorologia Applicata Società Meteorologica Italiana Associazione Italiana di AgroMeteorologia Associazione Geofisica Italiana Unione Meteorologica del Friuli Venezia Giulia
Netherlands	Nederlandse Vereniging voor Beroeps Meteorologen
Norway	Forskerforbundets meteorologiforening
Poland	Polskie Towarzystwo Geofizyczne – Meteorological Section
Portugal	Associação Portuguesa de Meteorologia e Geofísica
Romania	Societatea Meteorologica Romana
Serbia	Meteorološko društvo Srbije
Slovakia	Slovensko Meteorološko Društvo
Slovenia	Slovenska Meteorologicka Spolecnost
Spain	Asociación Meteorologica Española Asociación Española de Biometeorología
Sweden	Svenska Meteorologiska Sällskapet
Switzerland	Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Meteorologie
United Kingdom	Royal Meteorological Society

The EMS has 27 Associate Members:

International organizations

- ◆ ECMWF (Reading, United Kingdom)
- ◆ ESA (Paris, France)
- ◆ EUMETSAT (Darmstadt, Germany).

National and Regional Meteorological Services

- ◆ Czech Hydrometeorological Institute (CHI, Czech Republic)
- ◆ Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD, Germany)
- ◆ Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI, Finland)
- ◆ Hungarian Meteorological Service (OMSZ, Hungary)
- ◆ Instituto Nacional de Meteorología (INM, Spain)
- ◆ Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut (KNMI, The Netherlands)
- ◆ Météo-France (France)
- ◆ Met Office (United Kingdom)
- ◆ MeteoSwiss (Switzerland)
- ◆ National Meteorological Administration (NMA, Romania)
- ◆ Regional Meteorological Observatory of ARPA Friuli Venezia Giulia (OSMER, Italy)
- ◆ Royal Meteorological Institute (RMI, Belgium)
- ◆ Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI, Sweden)
- ◆ Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik (ZAMG, Austria)

Companies

- ◆ Campbell Scientific (Loughborough, United Kingdom)
- ◆ Degréane Horizon SAS (Cuers, France)
- ◆ METEOGNOSIS S.A. (Athens, Greece)
- ◆ Meteo Consult B.V. (Wageningen, The Netherlands)
- ◆ MODEM (Chevannes, France)
- ◆ Saab Aerotech (Arboga, Sweden)
- ◆ Selex Systemi Integrati GmbH – Gematronik (Neuss, Germany)
- ◆ VAISALA (Helsinki, Finland)
- ◆ VCS Engineering (Bochum, Germany)
- ◆ Weathernews (WNI, London, United Kingdom)

Membership of Council

From 11 September 2005 the following Council held office.

Office holders

President: David M Burridge

Vice-Presidents: Tomáš Halenka, Raino Heino, Werner Wehry

Treasurer: Tomáš Halenka

Permanent Members of Council

Deutsche Meteorologische Gesellschaft: Werner Wehry

Société Météorologique France: Claude Pastre (since 15th Council Session, September 2006) and René Morin (until 15th Council Session, September 2006)

Royal Meteorological Society: David M. Burridge

Rotating Members of Council

(elected every two years)

Autumn 2005 – Autumn 2006

Rasmus Benestad (FM, Norway)

Renato Carvalho (APMG, Portugal)

Tomas Halenka (ČMeS, Czech Republic)

Raino Heino (GS, Finland)

Tanja Cegnar (SMD, Slovenia)

Heleen ter Pelkwijk (NVBM, The Netherlands)

Sadly, Renato Carvalho (APMG) died in spring 2006. A “seat” was kept vacant for a representative from APMG until after the election of a new president and council of APMG. Following these elections, the APMG is now represented by its new president.

Autumn 2006 – Autumn 2007

Vittorio Marletto (AIAM for UNIMET, Italy)

Tomáš Halenka (ČMeS, Czech Republic)

Raino Heino (GS, Finland)

Vesna Petković (MDS, Serbia)

Heleen ter Pelkwijk (NVBM, The Netherlands)

Manuel P. Rosa Dias (APMG, Portugal)

Committees of Council and Staff

Accreditation Committee

Chair: Howard Lyne (RMetS), since 14th Council Session
David Axford (RMetS), until 14th Council Session, April 2006

Awards Committee

Chair: Werner Wehry (DMG, Germany)

Education Committee

Chair: Tomáš Halenka (ČMeS, Czech Republic)

Media Committee

Chair: Tanja Cegnar (SMD, Slovenia)

Vice Chair: Gerald Fleming (Met Eireann, Ireland)

Meetings Committee

Chair (acting): David Burridge (RMetS, UK)

Publications Committee

Chair: Bob Riddaway (RMetS, UK)

EMS Executive Secretary

Martina Junge

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