

9th EMS General Assembly
30 September 2007
San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain

Minutes
approved by the 10th General Assembly, 28 September 2008.

Participants: (voting representatives of EMS Societies/member states underlined)

Solfrid Agersten (NMF, Norway)
Fernando Aguado (AME, Spain, from 15:30)
Sergio Barbosa (APMG, Portugal)
Rasmus Benestad (NMF, Norway)
Constanta Boroneant (RMS, Romania)
David Burridge (Chair, EMS President, RMetS UK)
Tanja Cegnar (Chair Media Committee, SMD Slovenia)
Nikolai Dotzek (Director ESSL)
Manuel Rosa Dias (APMG Portugal)
Tomáš Halenka (CMeS Czech Republic, Vice President and Treasurer)
Raino Heino (GS Finland, EMS Vice President)
Sophia Louca (CY.ME.TA., Cyprus)
Howard Lyne (Chair Accreditation Committee, RMetS)
Dominique Marbouty (ECMWF)
Claudius Marschalik (Manufacturers; Gematronik)
Evangalina Oriol Pibernat (ESA,)
Simone Orlandini (AIAM for UNIMET Italy; from 16:00)
Artemis Orphanou (CY.ME.TA., Cyprus)
Manuel Palomares (INM, Spain)
Claude Pastre (SMF France)
Heleen ter Pelkwijk (NVBM, The Netherlands)
Vesna Petkovic (MDS Serbia)
Michael Petrakis (HMS; Greece)
Ion Poiana (NMA, Romania)
Ali Price (Met Office, UK)
Hans Richner (SGM and IACETH, Switzerland)
Ernst Rudel (ÖGM,ZAMG, Austria)
Marta Sallai (MMT and OMSZ, Hungary)
Gerhard Steinhorst (DMG Germany)
Werner Wehry (DMG Germany, EMS Vice-President)
Joanna Wibig (PTG – Meteorol. Section, Poland)

17 Representatives of EMS Member Societies were present for the entire duration of the meeting; 18 Representatives from 15:30 (AME), and 19 Representatives from 16:00 (AIAM/UNIMET), - the quorum is 10. Votes are given as (acceptance : rejection : abstention)

Minutes: *Martina Junge, Executive Secretary*

Duration of meeting: 15:00 – 16:30

1. Opening of session

The President welcomed all participants to the General Assembly.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

The Agenda was accepted as proposed (see **Annex I**):

3. Acceptance of Minutes of the 8th EMS General Assembly

The minutes of the 8th session of the EMS General Assembly were accepted unanimously with a minor spelling correction.

4. Report of the President and the Bureau

The EMS President reported on his activities since the last General Assembly (**Annex II**). He also reported verbally on the activities of the Vice Presidents (**Annex III**) and the Council Committees.

The Awards Committee has given 12 YSTA so far in 2007 and prepared a paper on an EMS Honours Award; the Media Committee developed the Media Session at the EMS Annual Meeting, and created two new awards in collaboration with the Awards Committee. These were “The *Broadcast Meteorologist Award - life achievement*” and “The *Best TV weather forecast of the year – Video Clip Award (Trophy)*”. EUMETSAT has offered funds to support the travel expenses of the *Broadcast Meteorologist Award*. – Laureate. The Education Committee developed the Education Session at the EMS Annual Meeting; the Publications Committee launched the new EMS web site and saw through the publication of EMS6/ECAC6 conference papers in the open access journal ASR.

The President also reported that the Annual Report 2006 of the Council was published in spring 2007. The publication was organised by the chairman of the Publications Committee and the Executive Secretary; electronic copies were distributed to all Member Societies and Associates and made accessible on the EMS Website in May, hard copies were distributed in August 2007. Copies were also available at the General Assembly.

The General Assembly approved the report of the Bureau for the period September 2006-September 2007 (Resolution **G69**): 17:0:0.

The EMS President proposed to enlarge the group of persons that are eligible for the EMS Presidency (**Annex II** contains the original proposal).

The formulation proposed by the EMS Council for voting:

5.3.1 President

The Council shall appoint as President an individual who is a member of one of the Member Societies. The appointment shall be for a term of three years and Presidents shall not be eligible for re-election.

5.3.2 Vice-Presidents

The Council shall elect three Vice-Presidents who are members of one of the Member Societies, one of whom shall also serve as Treasurer. Vice-Presidents shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election.

The General Assembly voted in favour of the proposed changes to 5.3.1. (Resolution **G70**): 16:0:1.

The General Assembly voted in favour of the proposed changes to 5.3.2. (Resolution **G71**): 16:0:1.

5. Report of the Executive Secretary

The EMS Executive Secretary reported on her activities since the last General Assembly in September 2006 (**Annex IV**). The areas of work covered the preparation of the EMS7/ECAM8 and EMS8/ECAC7 conferences, administration, dissemination of information, publications, work for committees, preparation of Council meeting and General Assembly, but clearly focussed on the EMS Annual Meeting and ECAM 2007.

6. Financial Report

6.1 Financial Report accounts 2006

The Financial report as given by the Treasurer to the EMS General Assembly is provided in **Annex V** and the translation of the Report of the Auditor Frank Lucas in **Annex VI**.

The General Assembly approved the Financial Report 2006 of the Treasurer (Resolution **G72**) (18:0:0).

6.2 Forecast of accounts 2007

The Forecast of the financial accounts 2007 is provided in **Annex V**.

6.3 Appointment Auditor

The General Assembly appointed Frank Lucas, Berlin, as the auditor for the accounts of the year 2007. (Resolution **G73**) (18:0:0).

6.4 Budget Proposal 2008

A budget proposal revised by the Council at its 17th Session is attached in **Annex VII**.

7. Strategy Implementation Plan

The Strategy Implementation group presented a detailed plan, which recommended that the EMS focus on a small number of central objectives, and a proposal for the restructuring of the working bodies of the EMS and the Council (this paper has been distributed in preparation of the General Assembly GA09_7_Strategy_Implementation_Plan).

No further comments were made at this point, but Member Societies and Associates were asked to discuss the analysis and proposed objectives and actions widely, and provide input for the Strategy Implementation Group. The Group will present a revised strategy implementation plan for a final decision at the 18th Council Session in spring 2008.

8. Membership

8.1 New Member Societies

Two national societies have declared an interest to join the EMS: the Spanish Climatological Society (AEC) and the Israel Meteorological Society, but no formal application has been received yet.

8.2 New Associate Members

Since the last General Assembly in 2006, the Hungarian Weather Service (OMSZ) and the *The Azeraeronavigation Enterprise*, Azerbaijan, have applied for Associate Membership and have been welcomed by the EMS Council to join the EMS. The General Assembly welcomed the two organisations as EMS Associate Members (Resolutions **G74** and **G75**).

9. Council Composition

The EMS President thanked Werner Wehry, the second President of the EMS, who had been very active in the EMS Bureau as Vice-President for several terms, for his long-standing service for the EMS. He has been centrally involved in the formation and founding of the EMS from the mid-nineties and with him one of the “historical figures” of EMS retires. At the same time he is also relinquishing his position as Chair of the Awards Committee, a position he has filled from the constitution of the committee; he leaves a well-established network and infrastructure to his successor. The General Assembly wished Werner Wehry all the best for his “life after EMS”.

Tomas Halenka has served as EMS Vice President and Treasurer for the last two years and the EMS President thanked him for his commitment and engagement in both these positions. He will continue to play an important role in the Education Project Team to implement the EMS Strategy.

9.1 Election of Council Members

The General Assembly elected the Polish Geophysical Society (Meteorological Section) represented by Joanna Wibig, to serve on the EMS Council for the term 2007 – 2009 (Resolutions **G76**). (18:0:0), and the Portuguese Association of Meteorology and Geophysics, represented by Manuel Rosa Dias, to serve on the EMS Council for the term 2007 – 2008 (Resolutions **G77**). (18:0:0).

9.2 Welcome of representatives of Permanent Council Members

Werner Wehry informed the General Assembly that the DMG has nominated Gerhard Steinhorst as their representative at the EMS Council and the General Assembly welcomed Gerhard Steinhorst as a Councillor (Resolution **G78**). (18:0:0)

9.3 Presidency

The issue of eligibility for presidency has already been discussed under the agenda item 4. Report of the President and the Bureau

10. Activities of Member Societies

CY.MET.A., Cyprus, informed the General Assembly that the 10th Plinius Conference on Mediterranean Storms will be held in September 2008. It was stressed, that the dates should carefully be coordinated in order to avoid clashes with the EMS Annual Meeting.

The Norwegian Meteorological Society reported that a new web site has been launched. Information for EMS Members and all other interested will be provided through the EMS Website.

SMF, France, reported on the launch of the SMF forum <http://www.forum-smf.org/forum/list.php?1>, and the slow start and acceptance of this forum. Everybody is welcome to visit it and distribute the information.

The Romanian Meteorological Society reported on the preparation of the Annual Scientific Session, held at the National Meteorological Administration, the participation in the Meteorological Day, and that it organizes a national meteorological school.

AME, Spain, reported that a special issue of the AME Bulletin has been published at the occasion of the EMS/ECAM conference that is available for everybody who is interested.

11. Collaboration – Memoranda of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding between the *European Severe Storms Laboratory e.V. (ESSL)*, founded in 2006, and the EMS has been prepared (**Annex VIII**), to deepen the already existing collaboration. The Agreement was accepted by Council. The Agreement has been signed by the EMS President and the ESSL Director on 3 October 2007, the signature of the ESSL Vice-Director (required by the constitution of ESSL) will finalise the acceptance of the agreement.

12. AOB

In relation to the strategy of the EMS, and the objective to provide advice and support the development of environmental policies, the UNFCCC CoP 15 (Conference of Parties) 2009 in Copenhagen was considered as a land mark for action of the EMS.

13. Time and Place of next General Assembly

The 10th EMS General Assembly will be held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, on 28 September 2008.

Martina Junge
31 October 2007

ANNEX A: Resolutions 9th EMS General Assembly

Resolutions:

- G69 Approval of Bureau Report September 2005-September 2006
- G70 Eligibility for EMS Presidency
- G71 Eligibility for EMS Vice-Presidency
- G72 Approval of Treasurer Report
- G73 Appointment of auditor
- G74 Welcome of the the Hungarian Weather Service (OMSZ) as Associate Member
- G75 Welcome of the *Azeraeronavigation Enterprise*, Azerbaijan, as Associate Member
- G76 New Councillor Joanna Wibig (PTG, Meteorological Section, Poland)
- G77 New Councillor Manuel Rosa Dias (APMG, Portuguese Association of Meteorology and Geophysics)
- G78 New Councillor Gerhard Steinhorst (DMG, Germany)

RESOLUTION G69

This General Assembly approves the Bureau report for the period September 2006-September 2007.

RESOLUTION G70

This General Assembly votes for the following changes of the EMS constitution:

5.3.1 President

The Council shall appoint as President an individual who is a member of one of the Member Societies. The appointment shall be for a term of three years and Presidents shall not be eligible for re-election.

RESOLUTION G71

This General Assembly votes for the following changes of the EMS constitution:

5.3.2 Vice-Presidents

The Council shall elect three Vice-Presidents who are members of one of the Member Societies, one of whom shall also serve as Treasurer. Vice-Presidents shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election.

RESOLUTION G72

This General Assembly approves the Financial Report 2006 of the Treasurer.

RESOLUTION G73

This General Assembly appoints Frank Lucas as the auditor for the accounts of the year 2007.

RESOLUTION G74

This General Assembly welcomes the Hungarian Met Service OMSZ as a new EMS Associate Member.

RESOLUTION G75

This General Assembly welcomes *Azeraeronavigation Enterprise*, Azerbaijan, as a new EMS Associate Member.

RESOLUTION G76

This General Assembly decides to invite Joanna Wibig, PTG, Meteorological Section, Poland, as a new Councillor for the term autumn 2007 – autumn 2009.

RESOLUTION G77

This General Assembly decides to invite Manuel Rosa Dias, APMG, Portugal, as Councillor for the term autumn 2007 – autumn 2008.

RESOLUTION G78

This General Assembly welcomes Gerhard Steinhorst, as the new Councillor for the Deutsche Meteorologische Gesellschaft.