From 13 to 17 September 2010 I had the opportunity to attend the 10th EMS Annual Meeting and the 8th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC) in ETH-Zürich. My participation was supported by the EMS Young Scientist Travel Award and the European Association for the Science of Air Pollution (EURASAP) and I would warmly like to thank for that.

The Young Scientist Travel Award which was given to me by the EMS was for the article “Meteorological observations of the coastal boundary layer structure by remote measurement methods for determining the impact of meteorological conditions on the breeze circulation”. It was the great honour and prestige for me to receive this award and the possibility to join the EMS/ECAC conference in Zürich.

I am glad that my first participation in international scientific conference was exactly at this high-level scientific forum with vast area of applications for society and economics. I had the opportunity to meet many people interested in high resolution climatology and climate change, as I am. As researcher and PhD student in meteorology all the topics of the conference - Communication and Education, Numerical Weather Prediction, The Atmosphere and the Water Cycle were interesting for me.

I presented my work in session AW6 “Atmospheric measurements from local to regional scale: A data source for climate studies and model validation” convened by F. Beyrich, F. C: Bosveld and H. de Bruin which was part of the Atmosphere and the Water Cycle Topic. I attended entirely also the sessions on “Air-sea interactions and coastal meteorology” (AW10) convened by AM Sempreviva, S.E. Gryning, M.M. Miglietta, L. Sørensen, “Energy Meteorology” (AW14) convened by S.E. Gryning, E. Batchvarova, L. Wald and M. Schroedter-Homscheidt, “Large scale air-sea and land-atmosphere interaction processes and their influence to the European and Mediterranean regional climate” (AW4) convened by S.Gualdi, W.May, S. Somot, “Environmental Meteorology” (AW11) convened by S. M. Joffre, M. Piringer, R.Sokhi, A. Baklanov, P. Builjtes, “Boundary-layer physics and parameterizations in weather and climate models” (AW8) convened S. Zilitinkevich, A. S. Petrosyan and “Climate modeling, climate prediction and scenarios seasons to century” (UC2) convened by C Appenzeller, C. M. Goodess, C. Schär, R. E. Benestad. In these sessions I learned a lot about the research carried out in Europe that is related to my own project - Atmospheric Boundary Layer structure at coastal sites, wind speed lidar and sodar measurements and mesoscale modelling results. I was also interested in all presentations related with Atmospheric Boundary Layer and measurements of wind profile in different sessions devoted to Climate change.

This conference was an excellent opportunity for me to extend my knowledge into specific topics such boundary-layer physics and parameterization, climate modeling and prediction, air-sea interaction processes and coastal meteorology, environmental meteorology and energy meteorology. These topics were the most useful for my current studies and they introduced to me new aspects of meteorological science.

I must admit I was surprised that so many young people from different countries were also interested in this conference, especially since it was the first time I was attending an event like this. Thanks to this increased interest by young researchers at the Climate change at the conference was created an additional opportunity for direct exchange of experience on common issues between them during the ice-breaker and coffee-breaks. I would be happy if in future research becomes attractive for young people in Bulgaria, as well.

So many research projects and papers were presented during these 5 days that even the most discerning tastes would be satisfied by the diversity of presentations.
Lastly but not least I would like to express my satisfaction by organized tours by the hosts. With pleasure I visited MeteoSwiss and the Lab Tour at the Institute for Atmospheric and Climate Science in Zurich where I had the opportunity to see how my colleagues work and to meet with some of their activities. The organization of the 10th EMS Annual Meeting and the 8th European Conference on Applied Climatology (ECAC) in Zürich was definitely impressive and there is no need to comment as well as the wonderful things that one can see while walking in Zurich.

Damyan Barantiev
NIMH-BAS