

REPORT ON EUMETSAT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

This Working Paper reports on the training activities carried out by EUMETSAT since September 2003.

CGMS Members are invited to take note.

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1 INTRODUCTION

The following training events have either been conducted or were supported during the period of the report.

Location	Event	Dates	Comments
Nairobi	ESAC-IIIIE	25 Aug – 5 September	MSG applications and METEOCast
Kyev (Ukraine)	Workshop on Severe Weather	10-12 September	Satellite applications for severe weather
Alanya (Turkey)	Workshop on Remote Sensing	22-25 September	Hosted by Turkish State Met Service
Krakow (Poland)	Workshop on Applications of MSG	12-14 November	Organised by IMWM
Fortaleza (Brazil)	Course for Portuguese-speaking countries	17-26 November	Trainers from Brazil, Portugal and EUMETSAT
ESAC-ME-I (Oman) (planned)	Application course for meteorologists from the Middle East	Muscat, 21-25 February 2004	Emphasising on MSG, Arab countries in the Middle East incl. Iran
Zagreb (Croatia)	Workshop for the Central European Initiative	9-11 March 2004	Support to the meeting and presentations by EUMETSAT

In addition the following activities were supported:

On 23 June a EUMETSAT representative visited the International Institute for Aerospace survey and Earth Sciences (ITC), a leading organisation to train students from developing countries in Remote Sensing, located in Enschede, The Netherlands. ITC is organised a very interesting distance learning course in 2003 through the internet. (www.itc.nl/education). Two African meteorologists, from S-Africa and Kenya, were supported to follow this course through the Internet. Both participants were able to achieve certificates. The positive result might lead to similar future activities with ITC.

The SATMANU Phase B set of CAL modules has been completed and has been published on the ZAMG web site. The material is freely available to the user community. Phase C of this project will run till late 2004. See www.zamg.ac.at/docu/Manual/start.htm

In October 2003 an ASMET4 Review meeting took place at EUMETSAT HQ. The main task was to finalise the script of the CAL module on Tropical Cyclones, defining the required satellite imagery and graphics and to retrieve data from the ECMWF and EUMETSAT archives. Four African experts participated with the instructional designer from UCAR, Boulder and an expert on tropical cyclones from Météo France, La Reunion. It is expected that the material will be delivered in the first half of 2004.

Four visits to Member States (The Netherlands, Norway and twice to Switzerland in November 2003 and January 2004) were conducted to update them on the latest activities of EUMETSAT with special emphasis on MSG applications.

At the November 2003 EUMETSAT Council Meeting a new 5-year training project (EUMetrain) was approved and the lead entity will be the Austrian Meteorological Institute (ZAMG (Dr. V. Zwatz-Meise)).

In December 2003, a EUMETSAT representative made presentations at the WMO organised training seminar for meteorologists from South and Central America. This two-week workshop was held prior to the CGMS Virtual Laboratory Focus Group meeting in Barbados.

The second session of the CGMS Virtual Laboratory Focus Group meeting was held In Barbados (15-16 December 2003). Representatives from EUMETSAT and the African training centres participated in discussions. The implementation of the Virtual Laboratory is still in its early phase, however the concept is already widely accepted and the potential of this facility is recognised by a large number of users. A set of 5-year goals for the Virtual Laboratory was agreed at the meeting.

A PUMA coordination meeting was held at EUMETSAT HQ in January 2004 to coordinate PUMA and EUMETSAT training activities. It is expected that in 2004 and 2005 EUMETSAT will support eight MSG applications training events, each of one week duration, for African meteorologists, the main subject being MSG image interpretation and data applications.

Since January 2004, a joint project under the leadership of Dr. V. Zwatz-Meise, created an MSG Interpretation Guide on MSG applications. This guide is online via the EUMETSAT Web site and upon request from the EUMETSAT User Service (CD-ROM).

With effect from January 2004, Mr Jochen Kerkmann joined the User Service as a third Training Officer.

On 19 February 2004 EUMETSAT representatives participated in a EUMETCAL Board meeting. The objective of this CAL project is to reuse existing EuroMET modules, to develop new material, to use and share a virtual meteorological library, and to share CAL creation tools developed, under contract, by EUMETSAT.

Mr. Aydin Ertürk from the Turkish Met. Service completed a nine-month graduate-trainee period at EUMETSAT in February 2004. He worked on a project to develop GRIB decoding and encoding software, on multi-scale precipitation estimation scheme, and on the generation of a browser for MSG imagery, with emphasis on animation.