

EUMETSAT CONFERENCES AND PUBLICATIONS

This working paper gives a brief account of the EUMETSAT Conferences that have taken place since the last meeting of the CGMS. Included are summaries of the Third African User Forum held in Rabat in September 1997, EUMETSAT participation in UNISPACE-III in July 1999, and the Satellite Data Users' Conference held in Copenhagen in September 1999. Also provided is an outlook for conferences in the next two years.

EUMETSAT's current and new publications and development of its Web site are reviewed.

CGMS Members are invited to take note of EUMETSAT Conferences and publications.

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1 CONFERENCES

1.1 The 3rd EUMETSAT User Forum in Africa

The Third EUMETSAT African User Forum was held in Rabat, Morocco, from 21 to 25 September 1998. It focused mainly on the promotion of applications serving regional socio-economic needs and on the preparation and resource mobilisation for the transition from Meteosat to Meteosat Second Generation. It was attended by over 90 participants from 36 countries and regional organisations. It was organised by EUMETSAT in cooperation with the WMO Secretariat and the Department of Meteorological Services of Morocco. A separate working paper, CGMS XXVII EUM-WP-12, provides a more detailed report on the forum.

1.2 UNISPACE-III

The Director gave a presentation on the EUMETSAT and CEOS activities during the UNISPACE plenary session. An afternoon was dedicated to a CGMS Workshop, a successful “awareness raising” meeting with the EUMETSAT Director and Dr. D.J. Baker of NOAA giving the first presentations (a separate report is provided in CGMS-XXVII EUM-WP-13). EUMETSAT was also involved in a number of meetings and an IGOS forum organised by the FAO, which was attended by some 100 people for the full day. Within the UN system, the IGOS has raised the awareness of the potential value of satellite data and further future involvement is foreseen. EUMETSAT presented a report on its training in Africa and also took part in a workshop on “Space law in the 21st Century”. To complement the EUMETSAT themes at UNISPACE there was an exhibition stand that emphasised the organisation’s current and future operational role in support of meteorology and the monitoring of climate change. Support was also given to an exhibition stand on CEOS.

1.3 The 1999 EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Data Users’ Conference

The 1999 EUMETSAT Satellite Data User’s Conference was held in the building of the Danish Chamber of Commerce (formerly the Stock Exchange) in Copenhagen from 6-10 September. The Conference was opened by an introduction by Dr. Lars Prahm, Director of the Danish Meteorological Institute, followed by addresses from the Danish Minister of Transport, Mrs. Sonja Mikkelsen and Dr. Tillmann Mohr. An all-time record of 230 participants from 38 countries attended the Conference. In the week-long programme there were seven keynote/special presentations from invited speakers plus 75 subject presentations, 38 poster presentations and five software demonstrations.

1.4 Future Conferences

EUMETSAT, in cooperation with the Swedish National Space Board and the Swedish Space Corporation, is organising the 13th CEOS Plenary meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, from 10-12 November 1999. Dr. Tillmann Mohr is the Chairman of CEOS for 1999.

The Fifth International Winds Workshop will be held in Lorne, Australia, between 28 February and 3 March 2000.

The third Central and Eastern European Forum will be held in Budapest between 5 and 7 April 2000.

The Fourth African Forum will be held in Kampala, Uganda, between 25 and 29 September 2000.

The EUMETSAT Scientific Data Users' Conference will be held in Bologna, Italy, between 29 May and 2 June 2000. For 2001, the Turkish State Meteorological Service has offered to host the conference in Ankara.

2 PUBLICATIONS

2.1 Publications printed in 1998/9

Since the previous CGMS meeting the following publications have been printed and distributed:

- Folder brochures on MSG and SAF
- Information sheets on SAF
- A series of 34 EPS applications information sheets
- The 9th, 10th, and 11th editions of IMAGE
- The 1997 and 1998 Annual Reports
- Proceedings of the Third EUMETSAT African User Forum
- Proceedings of the 4th Winds Workshop
- Proceedings of the Nowcasting Workshop held in Madrid in December 1998
- A brochure on MSG Opportunities for Land Surface Research and Applications
- A MSG Research Announcement of Opportunity (MSG/RAO) in cooperation with ESA
- A hard copy version of Volume II (update) of the CGMS Directory of Meteorological Satellite Applications
- A CD-ROM version of the CGMS Directory of Meteorological Satellite Applications (see also Web site information below)
- Articles on INDOEX published in UK Royal Meteorological Society "Weather" and WMO Bulletin
- New false-coloured full-earth disc images from 0° longitude and 63°E
- A composite Meteosat-7/Meteosat-5 image poster produced in cooperation with the DNMI

2.2 New Publications in Preparation During 1999:

The following publications are undergoing preparation at the time of writing:

A history of EUMETSAT

2.3 EUMETSAT Web Pages

There has been considerable development with regard to the EUMETSAT's World Wide Web pages, accessible via the Internet at <http://www.eumetsat.de>, since the last CGMS meeting. The Web site offers scientific and general audiences a global view of the organisation's activities, as well as facts and figures on Meteosat satellites. A comprehensive section deals with user services, containing up-to-date information on Meteosat status and missions. Also available are on-line versions of selected publications, scientific papers, EUMETSAT press releases and details of relevant conferences. For the total solar eclipse of 11 August 1999, ten-minute imagery of the passage of the umbral shadow was shown on the EUMETSAT Web site.

A whole new section on MSG has been added and the CGMS Directory of Meteorological Satellite Applications is also accessible on the Web site. Users can browse the Directory interactively or print out specific pages from the Adobe® Acrobat™ Reader. Live Web addresses in the glossary of the Directory enable users to branch out to many relevant worldwide sites. One difference to the printed version of the brochure is that the Web site and the CD-ROM versions are in both the English and French languages.

A separate working paper, CGMS-XXVII EUM-WP-38, gives a more detailed report on the development of the EUMETSAT Web pages.