

Global Network of Regional / Specialized Satellite Centres for Climate Monitoring (R/SSC-CM)

Planning Meeting

EUMETSAT Headquarters
Darmstadt, Germany

14-15 April 2008

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1. Introduction

At the second meeting of potential participants of the Global Network of Regional / Specialized Satellite Centres for Climate Monitoring (R/SSC-CM) held in Cocoa Beach on 9 November it was agreed to organize a Planning Meeting with relevant experts of the participating organisations with the objective to formulate recommendations to the first Executive Panel to be formed. The Director-General of EUMETSAT invited with a letter from 14. February 2008 the representatives of the initial participating organisations, including CEOS, ESA, WMO, and GCOS to the Planning Meeting, which was scheduled for 14-15 April 2008 at the EUMETSAT Headquarters.

2. Opening

Lorenzo Sarlo welcomed the participants on behalf of EUMETSAT.

The meeting was opened at 10:00 by Jérôme Lafeuille (WMO Space Programme), who was nominated by the meeting participants as chairman of the session.

The meeting adopted the agenda as prepared by the R/SSC-CM Secretariat (EUMETSAT) together with the WMO Space Programme (Annex IV) and agreed on the objectives of the meeting, defined as follows:

- Review of initial products/parameters to be addressed in priority and proposals from the participating organisations
- Identification of issues, strategy and priority actions to address them
- Recommendations to the first Executive Panel Meeting

3. Presentations and Discussions

The first day of the meeting was dedicated to presentations from the participating organisations which focussed on the potential contribution to the R/SSC-CM initiative. Further presentations were given on concept and the main elements of the R/SSC-CM Implementation Plan, the update on the GCOS activities, the status of CEOS climate actions, ESA's initiative on Climate Change and GSICS status and activities (see meetings agenda in Annex III)

The second day was dedicated to the discussions on the identified objectives. The discussion resulted in a set of recommendations (see next section) and the identification of areas of mutual interests that should be the target for initial R/SSC-CM activities.

The meeting was closed 15 April 2008 at 16:00.

4. Recommendations

The following recommendations were formulated by the meetings participants:

Recommendation 1: A request for proposals for sustainable generation of climate products should be issued by WMO to the potential participating agencies (CMA, EUMETSAT, JMA, NOAA, USGS) and to further relevant agencies to be indicated by CEOS.

Recommendation 2: Activities should be initiated through a limited number of topics addressing areas of mutual interest (identified in Annex II), that will serve as pilot projects to develop partnership, without precluding other subjects to be addressed in the future.

Recommendation 3: The proposals should be formulated according to the draft template agreed at this meeting (Annex II)

Recommendation 4: The scope of R/SSC-CM should be to offer an opportunity of transition from Research to operations of ECV product generation and therefore it is essential to liaise with the relevant science communities and bodies (e.g. WCRP/GEWEX).

Recommendation 5: WMO to establish the REP in inviting the potential participating organisations and GCOS, CEOS, CGMS/GSICS to nominate representatives as interim members for the Executive Panel in advance of the formal establishment of the R/SSC-CM Centres.

Recommendation 6: The proposed milestones for proposals:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Template finalised: | end April 2008 |
| 2. Request for proposal | end May 2008 |
| 3. Nomination Interim Executive Panel: | end May 2008 |
| 4. Proposal submission | end November 2008 |
| 5. REP-1 Meeting | January 2009 |

Annex I: Areas of mutual interests:

The participants identified the following areas of mutual interest for common activities in the framework of R/SSC-CM and which should be targeted in requested proposals:

Proposal 1: AVHRR based data set of cloud and aerosol properties

NOAA(proposal coordinator) + EUMETSAT (CM-SAF):

Proposal 2: SSM/I: total column water vapour, precipitation, liquid water path

NOAA + EUMETSAT (CM-SAF) (proposal coordinator) + CMA (precipitation):

Proposal 3: Surface albedo, clouds + aerosols from geostationary satellites

JMA + EUMETSAT (Central Facilities) (proposal coordinator) + CM SAF) + NOAA + CMA

Proposal 4: Atmospheric Motion Vectors (AMV) + clear sky radiance

JMA (proposal coordinator) + EUMETSAT (Central Facilities) + NOAA + CMA

Proposal 5: Upper tropospheric humidity

JMA + EUMETSAT (CF + CM SAF) + NOAA (proposal coordinator) + CMA

Annex II: Template for R/SSC-CM activities proposals

This template is intended for the proposals of initial R/SSC-CM activities. It is separated in 4 parts, covering:

- the broad characteristics of the targeted ECV satellite product and the organisational structure planned to be installed for the task,
- the existing assets on which the proposed activity will be built upon,
- an outline of the planned activity, including a draft work plan and expected product maturity, and
- existing references and publications.

It should be noted that the draft work plan is not expected to be on a very detailed level, it should, however, indicate a draft timeline and the respective involvement of and share of responsibilities between the different partners of the proposed R/SSC-CM.

ECV satellite product	
ECV satellite product name	
Product characteristics (resolution, coverage)	
Input data sets (FCDR and auxiliary data)	
Planned R/SSC-CM structure¹	
Current capabilities²	
Related existing projects	
Draft work plan	
Technical approach	
Issues to be addressed	
Roles and responsibilities	
Schedule	
Planned calibration / validation activities	

¹ Leading and partner entities, external partners and cooperations

² E.g. information on existing FCDRs, experience with the production of ECV satellite products, existing infrastructure, algorithms and teams, calibration/validation activities, available documentation and demonstrated maturity

User interaction	
Deliverables	
Nature of deliverables ³	
Expected accuracy	
Expected Product maturity	
Planned Archive characteristics	
Acquisition, access, dissemination	
Long term preservation	
Meta data	
Data policy issues (if relevant)	
Dependencies (e.g. GSICS activities) and risks	
Funding situation, including sustainability	
References and publications	

3: Data sets, documentation. Plans for archiving to be detailed in the following section

Annex III: Agenda of the R/SSC-CM Planning Meeting

Tuesday 15 April 2008			
10:00	Welcome address by EUMETSAT	EUM	Sarlo
10:10	Opening of the Meeting	WMO	Lafeuille
10:20	Update on the Global Climate Observing System	GCOS	Bojinski
10:40	Introduction to the R/SSC-CM Implementation Plan	EUM	Schüller
11:00	GSICS and the support to potential R/SSC-CM activities	NOAA	Goldberg
11:20	ESA's Climate Change Initiative	ESA	Herland
11:40	JMA's possible contribution to the R/SSC-CM	JMA	Kurino
12:00	EUMETSAT's SAF on Climate Monitoring	CM-SAF	Schulz
12:30	<i>lunch break</i>		
13:30	Update of NOAA plans for climate sensors and climate data records	NOAA	Bates
13:50	Deriving global surface albedo from multiple geostationary sensors	EUM	Govaerts
14:10	EUMETSAT reprocessing activities	EUM	Van de Berg
14:30	CMA Satellite Products and their Dissemination	CMA	Lu
14:50	Presentation by CEOS	CEOS	Goldberg
15:10	<i>coffee break</i>		
15:30	Initial discussion and identification of issues for the second day	All	
Wednesday 16 April 2008			
09:00	Discussion on the assessment of capabilities and needs	All	
09:45	Review of initial products/parameters to be addressed in priority and proposals from participating organizations	All	
10:30	<i>coffee break</i>		
11:00	Identification of issues, strategy and priority actions to address them	All	
12:30	<i>lunch break</i>		
13:30	Recommendations for the first Executive Panel Meeting	All	
15:30	<i>coffee break</i>		
16:00	Wrap up and summary of the planning meeting	EUM/WMO	
17:00	<i>end of the meeting</i>		

Annex IV: List of Participants

Name	Last Name	Organisation
Peter	ALBERT	EUMETSAT
John	BATES	NOAA NESDIS National Climatic Data Center
Stephan	BOJINSKI	Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)
Paul	COUNET	EUMETSAT
Volker	GÄRTNER	EUMETSAT
Mitch	GOLDBERG	NOAA NESDIS Center for Satellite Applications and Research (STAR)
Yves	GOVAERTS	EUMETSAT
Einar-Arne	HERLAND	ESA
Toshiyuki	KURINO	Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)
Jerôme	LAFEUILLE	WMO Space Programme
Naimeng	LU	China Meteorological Administration (CMA) National Satellite Meteorological Center (NSMC)
Tillmann	MOHR	WMO
Ivan	PETITEVILLE	Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS)
Lorenzo	SARLO	EUMETSAT
Lothar	SCHÜLLER	EUMETSAT
Jörg	SCHULZ	Deutscher Wetterdienst, CM-SAF
Leopold	VAN DE BERG	EUMETSAT
Shanshan	ZHAO	China Meteorological Administration (CMA) Nation Climate Center (NCC)