

**REPORT OF THE CLIMATE DATABASE
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS EVALUATION WORKSHOP**

(Geneva, 27 May-1 June 2002)

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ANNEXES

1. Provisional Agenda
2. List of Participants
3. Presentation of iADAM (*by Kelvin Wong*)
4. Presentation of CLIDATA (*by Radim Tolasz*)
5. Presentation of JCDMS (*by Khaled Sawafteh*)
6. Presentation of CLISYS (*by Denis Stuber*)
7. Presentation of SDCLIM (*by Jameledine El Kamel*)
8. Presentation of CLIWARE (*by Alexander Besprozvannykh*)
9. Presentation of CLIMSOFT (*by Albert Mhanda*)
10. Reports of the Evaluation Team (*K. Robbins, S. Mwangala, S. Shaddock, M. Delaney*)
11. Comparison criteria table
12. List of Terms and Acronyms

Report of the Climate Database Management Systems Evaluation workshop Geneva, Switzerland

(27 May – 1 June 2002)

Opening remarks

On behalf of the Secretary General of WMO, Mr H. Yan, Assistant Secretary-General of WMO, welcomed the participants to the workshop and stressed the importance of the conclusions to all WMO programmes. He recalled the history of the successful CLICOM project and the progress achieved by many countries to digitize their climate data using the CLICOM software. Mr H. Yan noted however the need to move to a more powerful system and stressed the importance to objectively evaluate and document the seven Climate Database Management Systems being offered by the following Members: Australia, the Czech Republic, Jordan, France, the Russian Federation, Tunisia and Zimbabwe.

Election of the Chairman

Mr Kevin Robbins was elected Chairman of the evaluation team and the workshop.

Adoption of the Agenda

The provisional Agenda was reviewed and adopted after some changes were made by common agreement (see Annex 1).

Systems brief presentations

Each country presented its systems giving details on the following:

- Software Requirements
- Installation Process (time and level of expertise required)
- Database Model
- Level of Assistance Available
- System features and outputs
- Costs
- Future plans

Systems evaluation and documentation

The team of evaluators evaluated each system on the following criteria: ease of system installation; capability and features of each systems (metadata, data-entry, quality controls, data import/export...); and analyses of the different products included in each system (daily, decadal and monthly tables, extremes values, graphs, GIS products etc...).

Testing materials were prepared by the WMO Secretariat for data entry and quality controls, metadata creation and updating, data archiving, data and metadata import and export, creation of output products: daily, decadal, monthly tables and reports of climate parameters, time profile graphs, wind roses etc...

The evaluation team monitored and documented the level of difficulty and the time necessary to perform each of these tasks.

The team also discussed individually with each developer the different aspects of their systems such as the database model and structure, the level of development of each system, their scalability, maintenance options, the types of training needed to install and use the system efficiently, the documentation available and the cost (hardware, software, training, etc...).

Reports of the Evaluation Team

The reports of the Evaluation Team give a general overview for each systems, its strengths and weaknesses, the administration requirements and the systems costs in terms of software, hardware, management and re-occurring costs for the different configurations that the system offers: Single User, Two Tier Configuration, Distributed Network (multiple locations).

Recommendations

The Evaluation team recommended that the developers include in their future plans, the resolution of the weaknesses noted during the workshop and that the WMO Secretariat finds ways to update the evaluation next year by either organizing another workshop or sending one or two experts to countries that attended the workshop.
