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PROMOTION OF SATELLITE DATA EXCHANGE AND UTILIZATION IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

This document describes the outline of the meeting on the Asia-Pacific Satellite Data Exchange and Utilization (APSDEU) as an activity to promote the satellite data exchange and utilization in the region.

The purpose of the meeting is to share information among the experts concerned, to expedite the process of satellite data exchange, and to promote more advanced and effective utilization of satellite data by the national Meteorological and Hydrological Services.

The APSDEU meeting was held three times, and JMA will host the fourth one in February 2002.

Promotion of Satellite Data Exchange and Utilization in Asia-Pacific Region

1. Introduction

Based upon the increase of satellite data and the recognition of importance the review and analysis on the status of satellite data exchange and utilization, the meeting on the Asia-Pacific Satellite Data Exchange and Utilization (APSDEU) was initiated as one of opportunities to promote satellite data exchange and utilization.

This meeting is a forum for satellite operators, data producers and users and telecommunications experts in the Asia-Pacific region. The purpose of the meeting is to share information among the experts concerned, to expedite the process of satellite data exchange, and to promote more advanced and effective utilization of satellite data by the national Meteorological and Hydrological Services in this region.

2. APSDEU meetings

The first APSDEU held in Tokyo from 2 to 4 February 1999 was hosted by the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) and financially supported by the Ship & Ocean Foundation. More than twenty experts participated from the China Meteorological Administration (CMA), NOAA/NESDIS, NOAA/NWS, the Korea Meteorological Agency (KMA), the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA) and JMA. The participants recognized the importance of continuous exchange of information and views on relevant satellite data, and agreed that the APSDEU meeting should continue in the future.

In accordance with the recommendation of the first meeting, the Second Meeting (APSDEU-2) was held by JMA in Tokyo from 31 January to 1 February 2000. An expert at the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) participated as a new member. In the meeting, the status of satellite data utilization and product development, requirements for satellite data were reported. Further, the coordination of satellite data exchange was discussed among participants. In addition, from the point of view that in-situ data be extremely important in various fields of applications, topics of Japan's wind profiler network and ARGO system were reported and welcomed. As one of recommendations of the meeting, more stress should be placed on exchange of data and products.

The Third Meeting (APSDEU-3) was held by BoM at its Head Office in Melbourne, Australia from 29 to 30 January 2001. Experts from the Meteorological Service of Canada (MSC), Meteorological Service of New Zealand (MSNZ) and Meteorological Service Singapore (MSS) and CSIRO newly participated in the meeting in addition to the previous meeting members. At the meeting, country reports on the satellite data exchange and utilization were presented, and the satellite data assimilation into the numerical prediction model was discussed among the participants as well as the discussion of the way for advanced exchange and usage. Further promotion for collecting information on currently available data, products and requirements (including telecommunications requirements) was to be continued.

The fourth meeting (APSDEU-4) will be held by JMA in Tokyo in February 2002.