

## **SUMMARY OF VIRTUAL LABORATORY (VL) TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

In response to CGMS Actions 39.14 and 39.15.

NOAA response is provided to the following actions:

Action 39.14: CGMS Satellite Operators to update their web pages to include the Virtual Lab (VLab) logo and to more clearly show their support to VLab activities and CoEs.



Action 39.15: CGMS Satellite Operators, in their area of responsibilities, should be ready to make a contribution towards funding of VLab Management Group (VLMG) members to attend the VLMG-6 in Brazil in September 2012.

## SUMMARY OF VIRTUAL LABORATORY (VL) TRAINING ACTIVITIES

### 1 INTRODUCTION

This short working paper for CGMS-40 is prepared to provide NOAA's response to the following actions:

Action 39.14 CGMS Satellite Operators to update their web pages to include the Virtual Lab (VLab) logo and to more clearly show their support to VLab activities and CoEs and

Action 39.15 CGMS Satellite Operators, in their area of responsibilities, should be ready to make a contribution towards funding of VLab Management Group (VLMG) members to attend the VLMG-6 in Brazil in September 2012.

NOAA notes that these two activities represent just a small fraction of the overall support provide to the WMO Space Programme's Virtual Laboratory for Training and Education in Satellite Meteorology (VLab). Some of the VLab activities supported by NOAA are monthly Regional Focus Group discussions for Caribbean and Americas, Environmental Satellite Resource Library (ESRC), and distance training on environmental satellites available from Cooperative program for Operational Meteorological Education Training (COMET) MetEd ([meted.comet.ucar.edu](http://meted.comet.ucar.edu)) and Virtual Institute for Satellite Integration Training (VISIT) online libraries. NOAA is conducting is sending some training materials over GEONETCast for the Americas using the VLab training channel.

### 2 MAIN TEXT

2.1 In response to Action 39.14 "CGMS Satellite Operators to update their web pages to include the Virtual Laboratory (VLab) logo and to more clearly show their support to VLab activities and CoEs", NOAA coordinated with the COMET program to include the VLab logo with link to Vlab site on the ESRC website as shown below.



The COMET<sup>®</sup> Program has developed an Environmental Satellite Resource Center (ESRC) as a searchable, database-driven Website that provides easy access to a wide range of useful information and training materials on polar-orbiting and geostationary satellites. Initially sponsored by the National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ([NOAA](http://www.noaa.gov)) with continuing funding from NOAA/NESDIS, the ESRC is intended for users seeking reliable sources of satellite information, training, and data.



The ESRC is intended to be a community site where organizations and individuals around the globe can easily submit their resources via online forms by providing a small set of metadata. The COMET Program's role is threefold: maintain the site, populate it with our own materials, including smaller, focused learning objects derived from our larger training modules, and provide the necessary quality assurance and monitoring to ensure that all resources are appropriate and well described before being made available.

For information about using the ESRC, visit the [ESRC help page](#)



This site is an official resource of the [WMO Virtual Lab](#).

NOAA worked with the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) to add logo to two sites directly related to VLab activities:

CIRA Regional Focus Group web site ([rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visitview/focus.asp](http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/visitview/focus.asp)) and CIRA page on activities with WMO-CGMS Virtual Laboratory ([rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/rmtc/](http://rammb.cira.colostate.edu/training/rmtc/)).

**2.2** In response to Action 39.15 CGMS Satellite Operators, in their area of responsibilities, should be ready to make a contribution towards funding of VLab Management Group (VLMG) members to attend the VLMG-6 in Brazil in September 2012, NOAA provided funding for portions of travel costs for several attendees. Note that the date of the meeting was moved to 8 - 11 October 2012.

Support from NOAA for attendees at VLMG-6 included Kathy-Ann Caeser (CIMH and Centre of Excellence – RMTC - Barbados) and co-chair of VLMG; and for Vilma Castro (Center of Excellence – RMTC Costa Rica) and for Bernadette Connell (CIRA, NOAA Regional Focus Group and RMTC Support ). NOAA is among several contributors providing support for Lucianne Veeck (WMO Space Programme Technical Support Officer) to attend the VLab management meeting.

### **3 CONCLUSIONS**

This short working paper for CGMS-40 provides NOAA's response to the following actions:

For Action 39.14, NOAA worked with COMET and CIRA to update their web pages to include the Virtual Lab (VLab) logo and to show their support for VLab activities and CoEs and

For Action 39.15, NOAA provided support for four members VLab Management Group (VLMG) to attend the VLMG-6 meeting in Brazil from 8 to 11 October 2012.