

## **ESA's contribution to WMO training events**

CGMS is informed of ESA's participation in the 2003 WMO training event in Barbados.

This page is left blank intentionally

## **ESA's contribution to WMO training events**

### **1.- INTRODUCTION**

Following adhesion to the CGMS, ESA was invited by WMO to support the regional training course on the use of satellite data in meteorological applications for the regions III and IV (Central, Caribbean and South America) and to attend the Virtual Laboratory VL focus group 2 day meeting that followed the course. The course took place in Barbados, near Bridgetown, from 2-12 December, hosted by the CIMH (Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology).

### **2.- THE TRAINING COURSE**

The two weeks course was attended by 15 students from 14 regional countries, many of them being weather forecasters. The course was in English and there were 13 presenters from CIMH, Costa Rica University, Japan Met Agency, NOAA, CIRA (Colorado University), BoM Australia, ESA and Eumetsat. ESA attended the last two days, and made a presentation about "ESA's Earth Observation satellites capabilities", with many examples on the potential use of such data for meteorological related applications.

### **3.- THE VL FOCUS GROUP MEETING**

ESA was invited as an observer to the second meeting of this group; the first took place in May 2001 at Eumetsat. It has representatives of the Centres of Excellence plus the satellite operators (NOAA/NESDIS, Eumetsat, NSMC, JMA); China could not attend. Co-chairs are J. Wilson (BoM) and R. Francis, to be replaced by J. Purdom (CIRA).

The group had a busy agenda, consisting mainly of the reports about activities and experience of the members since last meeting, plus recommendations/plans for the future, including co-ordination of the focus group and setting objectives to improve the use of satellite data through the VL. It was recognised that the roles of the various actors were not clear, so there were lots of discussions to prepare a TOR for each.

Another topic which was long discussed was the organisation of a "High profile event" in 2006, to prove the usefulness of the VL also for distance learning. This would be a rolling event where all 6 CE (with regional NMHS) would organise an ETR at the same period, including shared lectures around the world, in accordance with time differences. A WG would be formed for the organisation.

#### **4.- FOLLOW-UP**

ESA has already contacted Eumetsat in order to coordinate actions related to ETR.

Some potential activities are:

- To develop specific training material based on e.g. ERS scatterometer and GOME datasets, in preparation for MetOp, in the context of the VL.
- To provide lecturers to some events.
- To get acquainted to VisitView
- To host training events at ESRIN
- To identify and make available suitable datasets for ETR
- To support special projects for ETR e.g. in the context of another WMO AO

#### **5.- ESA's RELATED LINKS**

<http://odisseo.esrin.esa.it/asst-cgi/link.cgi>

<http://www.bascoe.oma.be/index.htm>

<http://www.esa.int/esaED/index.html>