

# WELCOME ADDRESSES

P. K. Rao  
Director, Office of Research and Applications  
NOAA/NESDIS

*This is a historic occasion. Scientists from all over the world are gathered to discuss the science and technology of deriving winds from cloud motions. In this room we have the brightest minds devoted to this work.*

*There is a precedence for this type of meetings in the international TIROS Vertical Sounder (ITOVs) meetings of those involved in making soundings from satellite data. There is also an International meeting of users of AVHRR data that meet to review applications of those data.*

*At the 6th Study Conference on ITOVs this past May, Dr. Ron McPherson, Director, NMC, remarked that the soundings from polar orbiting satellites are the data that permitted the NMC (and ECMWF) to run daily Global numerical analyses and predictions. The initial conditions in the Southern Hemisphere must come from these data. Dr. McPherson further stated that three things lead to progress in numerical weather prediction: computers, science and data. You are here to work on improving a vital source of data. As the numerical models improve, and as the computers to run these models improve in capacity and speed, the need for data will continue to grow. The numerical models need Winds, Temperature and Moisture. The polar satellites attempt to satisfy the first two observations. The Winds derived from Geostationary Satellites furnish the third observation.*

*This Workshop is to establish the state of the art of deriving winds from cloud motions, to plot a course for improving these observations, and to, perhaps, plan work for future progress and for future meetings. Please use this week to debate the merits of the science and technology, to agree on ways to improve the state of the art, and to further cooperate and improve the operational products. You have the proper mix of people to accomplish these things.*

*I thank you for coming, for contributing, and wish you well in the work of the week.*

G. Szejwach  
Head of Technical Department  
EUMETSAT

*Ladies and Gentlemen, dear Colleagues,*

*It gives me great pleasure to welcoming you all here on behalf of the Director of EUMETSAT, John Morgan, who unfortunately cannot be present here today.*

*A few years back, during one of the CGMS meeting, it appeared to all participants (data providers and users) that although some significant progress had been accomplished in the quality of cloud wind vectors derived from satellite data, there was still scope for some improvement. Since some years now, the sounding community has organized itself in the frame of the TOVS, ATOVS, ITOVS Working Groups and it was felt that there might be some benefits if the so-called wind community would attempt to meet on a more regular basis and exchange experience, information on this specific topic, outside of the context of a large International Conference.*

*Although it was recognized that the sounding community had the unique advantage that all contributing participants were using the same instrument complement, and that this was obviously not the case for the wind community, CGMS agreed that an attempt should be made, at least to identify the parties interested in such an exercise.*

*I am pleasantly surprised, when I see the number and quality of the Colleagues present here today, to note the initial success of this initiative, and I wish that this first meeting, co-organised by NOAA, WMO and EUMETSAT will confirm the expectations and prove to be useful for all of us both for the present system of meteorological satellites, but maybe more importantly for the definition and commonality of future systems.*

D. E. Hinsman  
Senior Scientific Officer, Satellite Activities  
World Meteorological Organization

*Good morning, Professor Obasi, the Secretary-General of the WMO, sends you his greetings. I too wish to welcome you to the Workshop on Wind Extraction from Operational Meteorological Satellite Data. I note that there is an ambitious list of presentations so I shall make my opening remarks short. I would only like to recognize a few groups who have made this meeting possible.*

*First one should look for the genesis of this meeting. For several years, this meeting has been formulating. The first time I became aware of the need for a meeting was at the WMO Executive Council Panel of Experts on Satellites (ECSAT-VIII) Meeting in Geneva in November, 1989 when Mr. John Morgan, a Panel Member and Director of EUMETSAT, discussed the need for such a meeting. Immediately following ECSAT-VIII, the Co-ordination of Geo-stationary Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) and now called the Co-ordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS), also discussed the need. The satellite operators at CGMS including the USA, EUMETSAT, ESA, Japan, India and the Soviet Union all agreed and encouraged such a meeting. Then EUMETSAT brought it up as an agenda item at COSPAR-90 at The Hague. And finally, here we are.*

*I would like to thank the satellite operators and notably John Morgan at EUMETSAT for his and their perseverance. The host, NOAA/NESDIS, has done a marvelous job before the meeting on the planning committee and now here for all the local arrangements. To Dr. Miller and his group, I thank you. And finally, I would like to thank the presenters for you are the reason we are here. You have put forth the effort to better inform your colleagues and for this we will all benefit. With that, I wish you all great success. Thank you.*