

WGCEF at Meteo France in Toulouse

Saturday 3rd October 2009

starting time: 09:50 loc time

Welcome by Bernard Roulet

17 members attended the meeting

Frank Kroonenberg, Herbert Gmoser (minutes), Bernard Roulet, Jean Nemeghaire, Knud Jakob Simonson, Seren Brodersen, Anti Pelkonen, Klaus Baehnke, Chryssoula Petrou, Evelyn Cusack, Arturo Pucillo, Claude Sales, Karen-Helen Doublet, Janez Markosek, Andre-Charles Letestu, Will Lang, Manfred Kurz

Matha Sallai (Hungary), Teodoro La Rocca (Italy), Lola Olmenda (Spain), Merike Merlain (Estonia) told the chairman they cannot attend the meeting

Welcome and agreement on agenda

Introductions and report of the chairman of the WGCEF by Frank Kroonenberg

Until now not much impact on NMS's can be seen due to financial crisis, certainly effect will occur in the (near) future. Reduction of budget and staff is than to be expected

New working structures will be needed to cope with future reductions. At KNMI preparation can be seen towards more automated production in future and a more dedicated weather dependable shift strategy. Less staff under easy going weather conditions (than mostly automated production) and full staff during high impact weather.

In order to support this type of working more attention should be paid to training and learning. E-learning and simulation training could be amongst solution to this.

The list of representatives had been updated

Actions of last meeting

Topics for the meeting in Toulouse
Changes in the NMSs
Verification of meteorological products

Possible topics for the next meeting

Limited area ensemble forecasting
High resolution NWP models in operational use

Some discussion was done on
Examples of high resolution NWP-model use
and E-learning facilities now and in the future



Newsletter

Thanks to Bernard, Will and Andre-Charles taking care of the newsletter and the web site. Meteo France will also produce the next newsletter

Web site statistics would be useful, feedback is necessary

Deadline of the contributions for the newsletter 1 December 2009

Short EMMA/Meteoalarm update - Frank Kroonenberg

More cooperation between NMS's and National Hydro services is encouraged in order to include warnings for river flooding. Heat rate index will be made available by ECMWF as guidance to NMS's. Meteoalarm will extend its membership area towards the Southeast, including Turkey. Coastal warnings will be included. The lead time period will be extended until Day 2 till 5 for special users, such behind usercode/ password. User feedback might be possible, by sending reactions and pictures of occurring events to the web site.

Contributions from WGCEF members

Chrysoula Petrou:

“New working structures and upcoming plans in Hellas”

(new automated systems will replace the common observation system in all meteorological branches)

Jean Nemeghaire:

“The present situation and the upcoming plans in the area of weather forecasts in Belgium (RMI)”

(3 forecasters at daytime, 2 forecasters during nighttime, nowcasting texts every 3 hours, daily operational checking list of main parameters for estimating the risks for warning)

Andre-Charles Letestu:

“New production process at MeteoSwiss”

(Met-conference twice a day, EPS at T+72h, daily a matrix up to day 8 is initialised (editing fixed areas) by the leading centre Zürich alternative with Geneva, the matrix can be amended at any time, postal code areas are driven by the matrix with a more or less automated weather, daily verification of the matrix in progress, text prognoses are not of importance anymore)

Klaus Bähnke:

“The future structure of the weather warning service at DWD”

(Future staff number 2015, AUTOWARN, strategy 2015: all the warnings are done by central forecasting office, 2 warning sections (north and south), single voice policy, weather forecasts of regional advisory offices are coordinated by central forecasting office, shift times 00-24h central office, 05:30-22h/24h regional advisory offices, forecasters are degraded to lower levels, regional offices are degraded in staff)

Karen-Helen Doublet:

“The PROFF-project-new tools, new methods” “PROFF” professional products to the public.

(More than 70.000 pages of text per year, automation is asked, hit rate of web visits for pictograms was growing rapidly 2007-2009 (more than 10 times), this was the feedback for working in figures also in the future, reorganization of the workflow, models have improved so much, model editing tool, first experiences are very good, automated text generation next action, verification in progress)

Herbert Gmoser:

“The future role of the human forecaster - a change in the philosophy?”

(The primary role of the human forecaster should be to develop and maintain a shared weather-object database that uses a sequence of composite depictions that evolve through time the current and future

states of the atmosphere. The emphasis would be on the sensible weather near the surface, since that region of the atmosphere has the greatest influence on the activities of the public. Basic activities are based in nowcasting and warnings for the public.)

Bernard Roulet:

“Aims of reorganisation of forecasting at Meteo France”

(New forecasting principles: chief forecaster decide the model, than the data fill the system and the chain of products, forecaster could correct the track of a thunder storm system, local centres should be closed in the future (500 jobs will be closed), the reorganisation has started 3 years ago)

Will Lang:

“The philosophy of the Met Office forecasting review”

(A business driven activity, what is required by the customer, make the best of the capabilities, flexible, scalable, simpler forecasting and production process)

Frank Kroonenberg:

“Short overview on E-learning activities at KNMI and in Europe (Eumetcal)”

Verification of meteorological products

Claude Sales:

“Aconcagua 2009 meteorological assistance to get to the summit”

Weather forecast for an expedition in February 2009 to the highest mountain of the western and southern hemisphere.

Herbert Gmoser:

“Objectives in evaluation of warnings”

Probability of detection, False Alarm Rate, Success Rate, Equitable Threat Score

Plan of actions for 2010

Limited area ensemble forecasting for short range forecasting

High resolution NWP models in operational use (less than 10 km resolution)

Short update of new developments and applications in the NMSs

Date and place of the next meeting

Dublin, Friday 1st + Saturday 2nd October 2010, starting time 09.30 loc time, Irish Met Office

AoB and closure of the session

No AoB

Overall feeling:

There will be a new approach in doing weather forecasting in the future, the weather forecasting work will change in NMSs.

End of the meeting 17:40 loc time.



Manfred Kurz and Jean Coiffier who founded the wgcef in 1995