

EMS Council, 15th Session, Ljubljana, 2 - 3 September 2006
Paper No.
Agenda Item 7.1
Original language: English
File name: C15_14_Report_Accreditation

Report to the EMS Council September 2006

Accreditation Committee
Chair: Howard Lyne (United Kingdom)

Mission/goals of the Committee

The terms of reference of the Committee at the time of its inception are listed in Annexe A. From these the following goals may be identified:

- to make recommendations to Member Societies of good practice in running Accreditation Schemes and how they may be introduced;
- to make recommendations to Member Societies on Codes of Good Practice and Ethical Behaviour of professional meteorologists;
- to recommend how such Accreditation Schemes and Codes of Good Practice followed by meteorologists of any Member Society, or Associate Member with its headquarters in Europe, may be recognised in any or all European countries.

Decisions put to Council

None

Actions

A meeting of the Committee was held on 15 September at EMS5 in Utrecht. A copy of the minutes is attached at Annexe B. In summary this concluded that there was no unified position with regard to accreditation and any developments will take time. The Royal Meteorological Society of the United Kingdom has a Chartered Meteorologist scheme which is now recognised in all member states of the EU through the appropriate European Directive. The German Meteorological Society has a scheme which certifies companies rather than individuals.

David Axford retired as Chairman in February 2006. He was replaced in this capacity by Howard Lyne.

Action points planned, according to the vision

Currently there is much discussion within the meteorological community on the accreditation or certification of forecasters for civil aviation. This arises from two sources: the adoption of the guidelines in WMO 258 by ICAO as the required standard for forecasters for international civil aviation, and the implementation of the regulations concerning the Single European Sky (SES) within the European Union. Papers connected with this will be presented at EMS6 and the topic is likely to be the main focus of the Accreditation Committee in the coming year.

Membership of Committee

Sergio Barbosa (Portugal)
Christophe Billard (France)
Howard Lyne (United Kingdom)
Magne Lystad (Norway)
Marcello Pagliari (Italy)
Manuel Palomares (Spain)
Heleen ter Pelkwijk (Netherlands)
Dragan Radovanovic (Serbia)
Peter Rauh (Switzerland)
Clemens Simmer (Germany)
Sonja Vidic (Croatia)

Annexe A

This Committee shall

(i) carry out a comparison of schemes of accreditation of professional meteorologists in European, and other, countries, and make recommendations to Member Societies of EMS, within eighteen months of being set up, on what constitutes good practice in running schemes of accreditation, and how such good practice may be introduced, particularly with a view to ensuring that meteorologists of any Member Society, or Associate Member with its headquarters in Europe, may operate in any or all European countries;

(ii) carry out a comparison of accepted Codes of Practice or ethical codes of behaviour of professional meteorologists in European, and other countries, and make recommendations to Member Societies of EMS, within eighteen months of being set up, on what constitutes an appropriate code, and how such a code or codes may be introduced, particularly with a view to ensuring that meteorologists of any Member Society, or Associate Member with its headquarters in Europe, may operate in any or all European countries;

(iii) carry out a review of how other professions control themselves in countries of Member Societies, and elsewhere,

(iv) make recommendations, within a period of three years from the setting up of the Committee, on methods other than accreditation and codes of practice, which Member Societies might introduce, particularly with a view to ensuring that meteorologists of any Member Society, or Associate Member with its headquarters in Europe, may operate in any or all European countries