

Coordination Group on Meteorological Satellites

Prepared by
Mitch Goldberg
and
Volker Gärtner

CGMS – the early years

The Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites (CGMS) came into being on 19 September 1972, when representatives of the European Space Research Organisation (since 1975 called the European Space Agency, ESA), Japan, the United States of America, Observers from the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the Joint Planning Staff for the Global Atmosphere Research Programme met in Washington to discuss questions of compatibility among geostationary meteorological satellites. EUMETSAT has run the Secretariat since 1987.

CGMS

- CGMS provides an international forum for the exchange of technical information on geostationary and polar orbiting meteorological satellite systems.
- But its more than this: CGMS discussions spawn actions and recommendations at the highest agency level which require responses.
- It consists of 15 member organizations and 7 observers.
- Four CGMS annual working groups

Coordination Group for Meteorological Satellites



CGMS

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Members](#)
[Observers](#)
[Charter](#)
[Working groups](#)
[Contact us](#)
[Satellite Status](#)

News

Initiatives

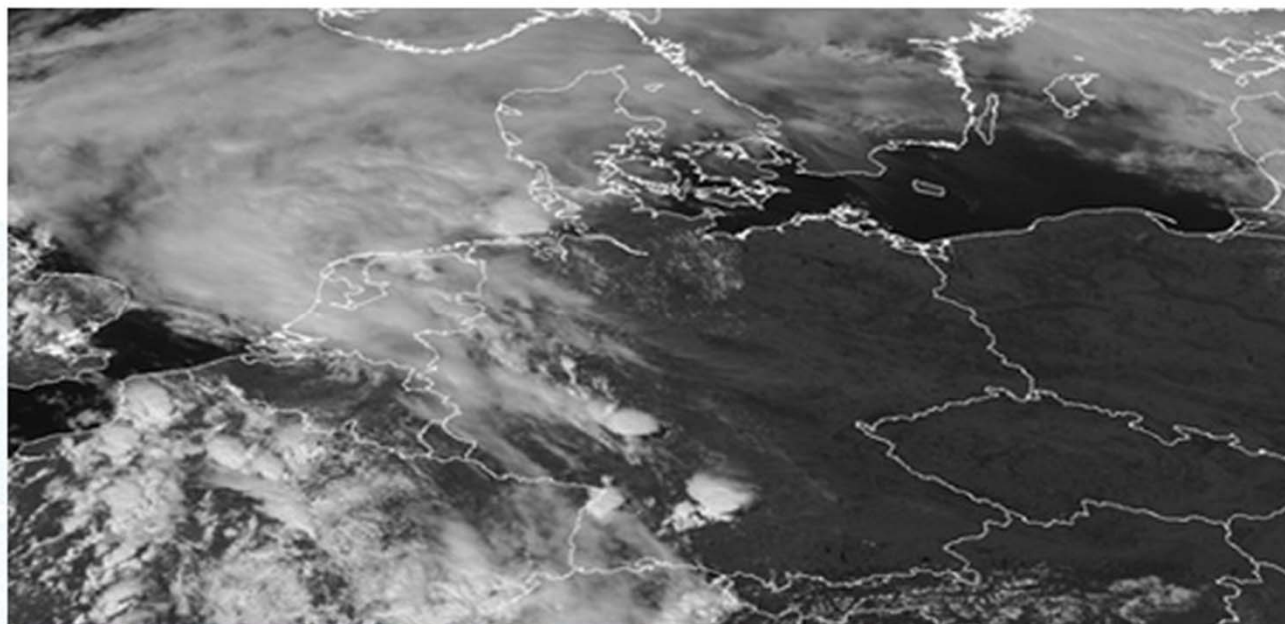
[GSICS](#)
[SCOPE-CM](#)
[Virtual Laboratory](#)

Publications

Meetings

[CGMS Events](#)
[Registration to CGMS-39](#)

Search



Member's Section

Name

Password

[Login](#)

[create an account](#)

*** 1972-2012 - CGMS 40 years! ***

The next CGMS plenary meetings will take place on 5-9 November 2012 (CGMS-40) in Lugano, Switzerland, and on 8-12 July 2013, in Japan (CGMS-41).

CGMS-39

Report of the 39th Meeting of the CGMS 2011

[Download \(PDF\)](#)

Organisation	Link	Accession date
China Meteorological Administration	CMA	1989
Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales	CNES	2004
China National Space Administration	CNSA	2006
The European Space Agency	ESA	2003
EUMETSAT	EUMETSAT	1987
India Meteorological Department	IMD	1979
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission / UNESCO	IOC/UNESCO	2001
Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency	JAXA	2003
Japan Meteorological Agency	JMA	1972
Korea Meteorological Administration	KMA	2005
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	NASA	2003
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	NOAA	1972
Russian Federal Space Agency	ROSCOSMOS	2003
Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring	ROSHYDROMET	1973
World Meteorological Organization	WMO	1973

CGMS

Home
About Us
Members
Observers
Charter
Working groups
Contact us
Satellite Status

News

Initiatives

GSICS
SCOPE-CM
Virtual Laboratory

Publications

Meetings

CGMS Events
Registration to CGMS-39

CGMS observers

The current list of CGMS observer agencies:

Organisation	Link
Canada Space Agency	CSA
Environment Canada	EC
IOC-UNESCO	
Indian Space Research Organisation	ISRO
Korea Aerospace Research Institute	KARI
Korea Ocean Research & Development Institute	KORDI
State Oceanographic Administration	SOA

CGMS Annual Working Groups

- WG 1: Telecommunications
 - Frequency allocations, interference
- WG 3: Contingency Planning
 - “help your neighbor in case of satellite failure”
- WG4: Global Data Dissemination
 - Direct Readout, Software packages, EuMETCAST, GEONETCAST, CMACAST
 - Data exchange

WG2: Satellite Products

- Image Processing Techniques
- Satellite Data Calibration and Validation
- Infrared/Microwave sounding and ITWG
- Precipitation and IPWG
- Atmospheric Motion Vector and IWWG
- Radio Occultation and IROWG
- Cloud and Ash/Dust
- Ocean parameters
- Other parameters and products

Plenary Topics include:

- Virtual Laboratory (Outreach, training, capacity building)
- GSICS
- SCOPE-CM
- SCOPE-NWC in future (see WMO presentation)

ISWG actions can create CGMS actions or recommendations

Examples:

- CMA to consider early morning orbit because
- Action: CMA to determine the feasibility of an early morning orbit in order to, Suspense: CGMS 40.

CGMS restructuring

- Create a 3- 5 year high level priority plan
- CGMS plenary shall task Plenary WGs to address specific and relevant topics
- Improve engagement with the CGMS international scientific working groups
 - ITWG, IPWG, IWWG, IROWG
 - Two months prior to CGMS, ISWG co-chairs to meet with rapporteurs to identify key issues to be discussed at CGMS annual meeting. Clearly stated actions

CGMS - ISWG

Meeting during EUMETSAT Conference in Sopot, September 2012

Participants:

- Stephan Bojinski (WMO)
- Regis Borde (former IWWG co-chair)
- David Ector (IROWG co-chair)
- Axel von Engel (IROWG co-chair)
- Volker Gaertner (IPWG rapporteur to CGMS; CGMS secretariat)
- Mitch Goldberg (ITWG co-chair)
- Chris Kidd (former IPWG co-chair)
- Jerome Lafeuille (WMO)
- Bozena Lapeta (IPWG co-chair)

This informal meeting was held on the sidelines of the EUMETSAT Meteorological Satellite Conference in Sopot, Poland, on 6 September 2012 (Agenda in Annex). Participants were representatives from CGMS secretariat (EUMETSAT), WMO secretariat, and current or former co-chairs of the four international scientific working groups (ISWG) sponsored by CGMS and WMO, using the opportunity of these representatives being present at the Conference.

CGMS - ISWG

Goals of the meeting were to

- strengthen links between working groups, CGMS and WMO
- reinforce collaboration and mutual understanding
- inform the ISWG co-chairs on CGMS (and WMO) roles, responsibilities and working procedures
- achieve understanding of the links between CGMS and the ISWGs
- define the future role of the ISWGs in light of CGMS restructuring

Following presentations on CGMS history, working procedures (including its session working groups I-IV) and restructuring, and on perspectives by ISWG representatives (Regis, Axel, Bozena), the meeting agreed on the following:

- There is a strong commitment by CGMS and WMO to support the ISWGs, and vice versa;
- ISWG co-chairs should attend CGMS meetings in person (in particular the 40th anniversary session on 5-9 November 2012 in Lugano, Switzerland), and CGMS members should support their participation through appropriate funding;
- Designated ISWG Rapporteurs should be maintained, nominated among regular CGMS attendees, to ensure regular communication between CGMS and ISWGs, and to serve as back-up in case co-chairs cannot attend CGMS meetings;

CGMS - ISWG

- ISWG co-chairs to liaise either in person or virtually on a regular basis, in particular (two months) before CGMS sessions, (i) to discuss experiences within WGs and share ideas, and (ii) to prepare and synthesize messages for attention by CGMS;
- ISWGs to synthesize their recommendations to CGMS and limit their number to a maximum of 10 (preferably 5 or less) per WG;
- Cooperation and dialogue among ISWGs should be fostered, through mutual participation in workshops/meetings;
- CGMS can allocate tasks to the ISWGs. For tasks with non-negligible resource implications, a mechanism should be found by CGMS, including funding options by CGMS Members;
- ISWGs may consider forming a sub-group on international issues and future systems, following the ITWG model;
- The process for nominating rapporteurs and co-chairs needs to be clarified, while keeping the ISWG autonomy over their rules of procedure (length of service, rotation etc); a healthy balance between renewal and continuity in co-chairpersons should be maintained;
- CGMS, WMO and ISWG co-chairs to explore options for sufficient, sustained and efficient funding of ISWG meetings;
- The possibility of a common web presence and maintenance across all ISWGs should be explored.

It was noted that IPWG, IROWG, and IWWG were established as permanent working groups of CGMS, while ITWG was established by the International Radiation Commission (IRC) of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (IAMAS) but maintains an informal but effective relationship with CGMS that should be formalized soon.



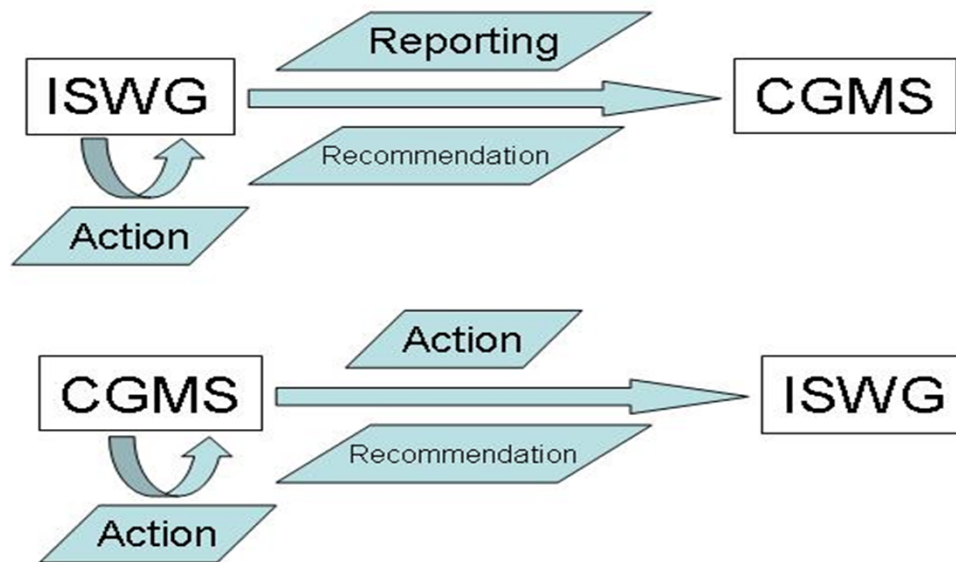
CGMS - ISWG

Report to CGMS by ISWG co-chairs:

Briefly report on function and achievements of IPWG and the work plans for the next 3-5 years (these will inform the CGMS High-Level Priority Plan); in this context:

- Highlight what IPWG can offer to CGMS agencies (e.g., expertise, assessments, response to tasks, ...)
- Express what the IPWG expectations and needs are vis-à-vis CGMS agencies
- Identify if there are short term actions which might require an interaction between CGMS and IPWG
- Do not hesitate to ask questions or raise important high-level issues that IPWG wants to see discussed

CGMS - ISWG



Summary

- CGMS is the highest level interagency forum for satellite matters with a special focus on operational satellites.
- CGMS working groups critical issues are reported at CGMS, we are working towards further improving engagement between the working groups and CGMS
- Working Groups provide issues and recommended actions for discussion at CGMS, and CGMS reports back on the disposition of those actions through the rapporteur.