

Sixth Annual General Meeting of the International Association of Broadcast Meteorology Annual General

At WMO Geneva, 22nd March 2000

Apologies for absence were received from Joe Witte, there were no postal votes received. Tomas Molina sent a message to say that he would be late.

1. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Fifth Annual General meeting, held at Coronado Springs Hotel, Disney World, Orlando Florida, United States of America, Tuesday 22 June 1999, were agreed as a true record.

2. Matters Arising

There had been no report on the meeting between Paul Gross and Jack Kelly. The special rate for emerging nations is notified when the leaflet is sent out. The twin nomination mechanism for new members was thought not to be a problem and did not present a barrier for new member

3. Report of the outgoing Chairman

Inge Niedek read the report reproduced below:

I welcome everybody to this extraordinary event – the 50th Anniversary of WMO – and of course to our Annual Meeting, which we thanks to the hospitality of WMO can held here in this building.

I am very glad that we finally managed to get everything going over here – which in fact has taken a lot of time and has produced quite a load of paper.

But we should not forget: WMO is a worldwide organization. Considering that it is even difficult to get a small group under one hat we can imagine that processes to coordinate the whole world require some time and also administration.

Time since our visit to Orlando has passed very quickly. I don't know if it is because we are getting older or we work too much.

WMO 50th ANNIVERSARY

This passed year was filled with a lot of activities concerning IABM's engagement for WMO 50 celebration. So this was also our main theme at two committee meetings held in Ireland at the 25/26 September of 99, one in Geneva, combined with working conference in preparation for WMO 50, with WMO, FIM, at the end of October (logistics for live-transmissions weather-reports from Geneva, hotel-arrangements, organization in some detail, mutual agreement of all parties to work together), and a separate working session together with WMO with parts of the committee.

Our plan to contribute to WMO activities included a two-day scientific seminar especially for media people and a tape about the history of WMO rounded up with weather-reports from our members from around the world on the first day of the New Year 2000.

On the committee meeting in Dublin we developed a first plan for the scientific media seminar with potential speakers and themes, also a draft treatment has been worked out for the production of a tape for WMO 50.

Non of our ideas could be realized entirely ó mainly because of lack of money to finance such a production, and organizational problems with FIM planning-strategies with no common sense in the background. So the media-conference shrunk to half a day.

Thanks to the time-investment of Paul Gross, he has finally contributed to the tape about WMO history which could be used for media reports.

And a special ðthank youö to Philippe Jeanneret who invested quite a lot of time and work in the preparation and coordination of the live broadcasts from Geneva.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES:

In November 99 a WMO group on Public Weather Services visited ZDF and took the chance to see how our weather-department works and to discuss some issues about media and weather. I hope in this context we could contribute to a better understanding of the of weather being an international subject and not only a local one.

In January 2000 I was invited from NOAA to a workshop on International Meteorological Cooperation with emphasis on the communication of warnings. Again a very positive experience with high officials from the meteorological and scientific world. A lot of important aspects could be worked out in groups (more about this workshop in the next newspaper). From these workshops important ideas can get on it's way to a bigger community. The media was in my opinion a little underrepresented.

But in general I can say that IABM has contributed in WMO to the fact that there are nowadays some groups in the domain of Public Weather Services (Commission of Basic Systems) working to a great portion with media issues. There will be a working-group "Satellites" in July where we - through the DWD - can give an input about the use of satellite data. Gerald Fleming participates in a WMO-expert-team on Media Issues,

SEMINAR ON FUTURE SATELLITE PROGRAMMS FROM EUMETSAT:

IABM received an invitation to attend a seminar about the future satellite programs. These seminars normally would be only for members of the Met Services. So this was another little step to get more involved also in activities from which we can benefit for our members. Rainer Beckert from Germany attended. (see his report in the last newspaper)

TRAINING CERTIFICATE:

In Germany are activities under way from the German Meteorological Society to work on a type of certification also for broadcast meteorology and private companies. The project has just begun, but 2 representatives from IABM (Dieter Walch, and myself) are in the working group.

WEB SIDE:

Our WEB-side has improved very much, our members can benefit from a huge collection from addresses of Met services and others to look for valuable information. (John Teather will let us know more about that matter.

So far to my report of the past year. I will now briefly draw your attention to some future targets we might work on:

Improve Internet Sources
Improve Cooperation with Met Services
Improve Relations with the TV industry
Get workshops more involved with media
Plan scientific media conference with WMO
Get more members
Have better communication about disasters and extremes

And with my final words I would like to say especially thank you to our committee members who have supported me in most of these questions and have been of great help throughout the year.

4. Report of the outgoing Honorary Secretary

John Teather reported that membership is currently 102. We need to recruit more. Noted the problem with committee meeting regularly and much time this year was wasted by WMO50. Email as an easy means of keeping members up to date was discussed. JT to write to those who have not notified email addresses. JT to send bouncebacks to GF to deal with. It was agreed that the members only part of the web site would cease. The newsletter will cease and the editorial effort will be transferred to the content of the web site.

5. Report of the outgoing Treasurer

Gerald Fleming presented the accounts:

Income / Expenditure for 1999 (In U.S. Dollars)

Carried Forward from 1997		1914	
Income			
Interest	40		
Corporate (4 x \$500)	2000		
Individual (50 x \$75, 2 x \$25)	3800	5840	7754
Expenditure			
<i>IABM News (3 Editions)</i>			
<i>Editorial</i>	1445		
<i>Printing</i>	531		
<i>Mailing</i>	249	2225	

<i>Brochure - Design and Printing</i>		1083		
<i>Website</i>				
<i>Registration Fees</i>	393			
<i>Webmaster / 12 Months</i>	2142	2535		
<i>Stationary</i>	16			
<i>Other Mailings</i>	58			
<i>Credit card commission</i>	117			
<i>Bank charges</i>	43			
<i>Committee Expenses</i>	362	596	6439	6439
Excess of expenditure over income			599	
In account, Dec 31st 1999				1315
Made up as follows:				
Current Account (IR£280.68)				373
Deposit Account (in US\$)				942

*N.B. Compiled using the following exchange rates:
US\$1.33 = IR£1.00*

*Notes:
One member pre-paid 1999 subs in 1998.*

The tabled accounts were accepted.

6. Election of Directors and Officers.

The following nominations had been received for the election of Directors and Officers.

Chairman	Inge Niedek
Secretary	John Teather

Treasurer	Gerald Fleming
Vice-Chairman	Bill Giles
Vice-Chairman	Dieter Walch
Committee	Paul GrossTomas Molina

It was proposed by Andrew Lane and seconded by Ed and passed by a unanimous show of hands.

7. Any other business.

There was a wide-ranging discussion on data issues.