



15th Annual Meeting of the European Meteorological Society and the 12th European Conference on applications of meteorology, 07-11 September 2015, Sofia, Bulgaria

From 7 to 11 September 2015, the meteorological community in Bulgaria hosted the largest European forum in the field of research and service to society with meteorological and hydrological information - 15th Annual Meeting of the European Meteorological Society and the 12th European Conference on applications of meteorology (15th EMS&12th ECAM). The conference was organized in cooperation with the Bulgarian Meteorological Society (BMS), Aviometeorological club of Bulgaria (AMC), the National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (NIMH-BAS), EUMETNET WG of European forecasters, EUMETNET Climate Programme and EMS. Leading local organizer, member of the Organizing, Scientific and Steering Committees was Prof. DSci E. Batchvarova. The Ministry of Education and Science supported the participation of 10 young Bulgarian scientists.

About 500 distinguished and young researchers and operational meteorologists from all meteorological services in Europe and other countries worldwide (China, Australia, Korea, USA, etc.) gathered in Sofia for a week. Researchers and professors from universities, representatives of private organizations, producers of meteorological equipment and providers of hydrometeorological information services actively participated in both events.



The President of the European Meteorological Society, Mr. Horst Böttger inaugurated the meeting, welcomed the participants and wished successful work. Greetings were offered from the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Ministry of Environment and Water, Ministry of Regional Development, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, NIMH-BAS, Bulgarian Air Traffic Services Authority (BULATSA), World Meteorological Organization, European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts, European Space Agency, Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry and others.

In the context of the more frequent extreme weather events during past decades in Europe and worldwide, such as heavy rains and floods, heat waves and droughts, hurricanes and storms that took thousands of lives and caused damages for hundreds of

millions of euros, the theme of the Conference on Applications of Meteorology “High impact weather and hydrological hazards: from observation to impact mitigation” was highly relevant and very welcome.

MAIN SESSIONS OF THE EVENT: *From observations and numerical weather prediction to warnings and impact mitigation; *Climate change detection, assessment of trends, variability and extremes; *Delivery and communication of impact based forecasts and risk based warnings; *Understanding and improving the socio-economic benefits of forecasts; *Meteorological observations from ground and space-based Global Navigation Satellite System; *Climate prediction and scenarios on decadal to centennial timescales; *Boundary-layer physics and parameterizations in weather and climate models; *Coastal meteorology and oceanography; *Phenology and agrometeorology; *Meteorological processes, atmospheric composition and pollution; *Education; *Media and communication; *Biometeorology; *and many other...



Particular attention was paid to the presentation of meteorological and hydrological information, forecasts, warnings and analyzes to the general public, media and government, so that each group could take full advantage of it.

The European Meteorological Society (EMS) had chosen Anton Eliassen as Laureate of the EMS Silver Medal 2015. He had been honoured for his scientific contribution to environmental meteorology, his outstanding service to the European and international meteorological community that was e.g. central for the success of the Convention on Long-Range Trans-boundary Air Pollution, and his major role in increasing and enhancing the public understanding of meteorological information through his effort to make meteorological data freely available.



The Harry Otten Prize for Innovation in Meteorology encourages individuals and groups to come forward with new ideas on how meteorology in a practical way can further move society forward. It was given in 2015 to Olivier Boucher for his idea of “Low-cost humidity observations for weather prediction from automated detection of aviation contrails”. Prizes for honours outstanding achievements in biometeorology, for best poster, for young scientist, for TV Weather Forecast, Tromp award, etc. were also awarded.

Leading world companies such as Scintec and Kipp Zonen exposed modern meteorological equipment. The American Meteorological Society presented the newest scientific journals and books in meteorology.



The events became possible with the generous sponsorship of the EMS, BMS, EUMETNET, AMC, BAS, NIMH at BAS, BULATSA. For more information <http://www.ems2015.eu/>

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