

Minutes of AOPC pressure working group catch up meeting, held as part of the CLIMAR II conference in Brussels.

Meeting held in the Crown Plaza between 6:00-7:30 pm on 20th November, 2003

1 Attendees

Rob Allan – Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research, Met Office (co-convener)

Tara Ansell – Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research, Met Office

Gil Compo – NOAA/OAR/CDC (co-convener)

Gunter Können - KNMI

David Parker – Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research, Met Office

Val Swail - Environment Canada

Bridget Thomas – Environment Canada

Scott Woodruff – NOAA/OAR/CDC

Minutes taken by Tara Ansell

2 Executive summary

Rob Allan opened the meeting by thanking Scott Woodruff for booking and paying for the room at the Crown Plaza. He then opened discussion. Four main issues were discussed:

- Expanding our work to the collation and analysis of wind data
- A need to more widely promote the work of the AOPC surface pressure working group.
This issue was raised by Savi Narayanan (JCOMM co-president) at the CLIMAR meeting, earlier that morning.
- What format should we adopt for our data archive?
- Formulating a work plan for 2004

2.1 Wind

Gil Compo asked whether we need to expand our brief to encompass a focus on wind data. David Parker suggested we bring on board someone whose role will be to stay up to date with progress with marine wind observations and analysis issues and report back to the group. This was accepted.

2.2 Promotion of AOPC surface pressure working group

Those present decided it was worth setting up an AOPC surface pressure working group web site, with a link from the JCOMM and GCOS sites. The content of web site will include contact details of members, the role and terms of reference of the group and include a list of the available terrestrial data. The ultimate aim will be to make the data freely available to download, though a number of copyright issues will need to be sorted out prior to this stage.

2.3 Format issues

Two potential formats were discussed; the International Maritime Meteorological Archive (IMMA) format and the format recently developed and adopted at NCDC, called Integrated Surface Daily format. The advantage of IMMA is that it is easily expandable and is already used for the ICOADS data. The advantage of the NCDC format is that it gives full details of the quality control applied to the data, while retaining all of the original data. The potential for combining these two data formats was discussed and the development of a new format called the World Integrated Surface Hourly (WISH) archive to suit our specific requirements was proposed.

2.4 Work plan

One of the terms of reference for the group is to record and evaluate differences among surface pressure analyses through comparison of basic products. David noted that good progress has been made and that this subject should be included specifically in the 2004 work plan. Based on discussion of the issues above, the following work plan for 2004 was proposed:

1. Creation of the AOPC surface pressure working group web site.
2. Formulation of WISH format.
3. Examination of the 'Superfile' daily pressure gridded product to check its veracity.
4. Fully describe issues that we have examined and are working on, including duplicates, the low pressure bias in the Maury data, and work on grid box uncertainties.

3 Actions

- **Rob Allan** to explore potential of finding a wind representative for the group.
- **Gil Compo** to discuss with appropriate people at NOAA/OAR/CDC the logistics of setting up a basic web site with contact details, aims and current work plan. More complicated issues such as making data available for downloading, will be reviewed at a later date.
- **Tara Ansell** to produce a current list of SLP holdings at the Met Office, with start and end dates, and provide some indications of ownership.
- **Gunter Können** to speak to Albert Klein Tank about availability of data from the ECA project and copyright issues. **Rob Allan** will look into similar issues with the material being scanned by the NOAA CDMP.
- **Gil Compo** to examine the potential for adopting the NCDC or IMMA format and to decide upon an appropriate format for our data archive.
- **Gil Compo** and **Rob Allan** to write up the 2004 work plan