

GUR ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, December 11th 2000, 9:00 – 10:30 p.m., Club Med Hotel, Pontresina

Minutes

Participants: V.T.V. Nguyen, James Li, Simon Beecham, Peter Steen Mikkelsen, Patrick Willems, Dominique Faure, Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen, Marek Sowinski, Paolo Burlando, Thomas Einfalt (members)
Susanne Mecklenburg, Markus Quirnbach, Niels Einar Jensen, Luca Lanza, Marzenna Sztobryn, Boris Sevruck, Jovan Despotovic, William James (guests / new members)
4 excuses by GUR members

1. Situation of the GUR (Chairman)

Thomas Einfalt summarized the GUR activities as successful, but based on too few active people. Therefore, the presence of the GUR needs to be improved on international events and in relation to international organisations.

2. GUR Activities in 2000

Apart from the co-organisation of the Pontresina workshop, the activities of the working group were mainly restricted to the participation at conferences. Members of the GUR have taken part in a number of different conferences in 2000. Oral short reports were given about

- ERAD conference in Bologna
- IMUG 2000
- Watermatex 2000
- IWA 2000 Paris

3. Activities of the Task Group

The activities of the Task Group on “standards and procedures in rainfall measurement” are slowly going on. Also here it is evident: There is more manpower required! The intermediate results have been presented during the workshop as one of the scientific presentations. Concerning the questionnaire, some important countries are still missing (UK, F, USA, China, Russia), but there are new efforts and new contacts to fill these gaps.

In France, the organisation of communication exchange will be improved through the CCRC which includes the main managers of meteorological measurement networks. This new association will propose recommendations for the exchange of data in France between these institutions and the end users.

4. Contacts to COST 717

The European Union has set up a COST action which is focused on the use of radar data in different applications. Working Group 1 (WG1) is called “Use of radar data in hydrology” and has launched a query in the meteorological community as well as the hydrological community in order to collect information on radar use in hydrology. The list of the national members of the working group can be found on the website of COST 717:

<http://www.smhi.se/cost717>

or can be obtained from the chairman of the working group, Michael Bruen (michael.bruen@ucd.ie).

One major question which could not be discussed in Pontresina is the policy regarding the collected information from the questionnaire of the Task Group: which information could be a contribution of the group to the work of the COST717 WG1.

5. Suggestions for new activities

Two important activities for 2001 and 2002 were discussed with a lot of passion.

- Rainfall Workshop in Yugoslavia with focus on network design and treatment of missing data
Jovan Despotovic asked for support of a workshop which should take place in autumn 2001 in a location in former Yugoslavia which still has to be determined. Key features of the workshop will include help and exchange of experience for the setup of new measurement networks after the war in Bosnia, Serbia and Montenegro. Jovan will send a draft of the presentation of the workshop through the mailing list for discussion and further planning.
- Rainfall Workshop in Malaysia with focus on tropical rainfall in connection with the International Conference on Urban Hydrology in the 21st Century
Mohamed Desa of Malaysia asked in an email for support from the GUR for activities on rainfall in connection with the above mentioned conference.

The GUR recommends the following and will send letters with corresponding contents to several international organisations (UNESCO, WMO, EU, UNEP):

- The GUR recommends the rainfall workshop in former Yugoslavia to be supported by the international organisations. Members of the GUR will actively be involved in the organisation of the workshop.
- The GUR recommends the rainfall workshop in Malaysia to be supported by the international organisations. Members of the GUR will actively be involved in the organisation of the workshop.

For both activities, funding is, of course, an important question. Jovan Despotovic will seek financial support for the workshop in former Yugoslavia, Mohamed Desa is asked to give details about funding possibilities for the workshop from his side – other sources may have to be searched from the side of the GUR, once more details are known.

6. Forthcoming events

There are numerous conferences in the next year in the field of urban drainage. Among the most important for the members of the GUR are

- Interurba II, Lisbon (February)
- Conference in Toronto (22-23 February)
- EGS, Nice (March)
- UDM 2001, (May)
- Novatec, Lyon (June)
- UNESCO conference, Marseille (June)
- AMS radar meteorology, Munich (19 - 25 July)
- IWA 2001 Berlin (October)
- Workshop in former Yugoslavia (October?)

7. Membership Update

The GUR welcomes as new members Luca Lanza (Italy) who replaces Stefano Pagliara who is not active any more and Marianna Sztobryn (Poland).

8. Miscellaneous

- Location of the GUR web page: <http://www.einfalt.de/GUR>
- Next meeting: during the workshop in former Yugoslavia – date and location will be communicated in 2001.