

FIRST CIRCULAR
THE 14th INTERNATIONAL TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE

Dear Colleague:

Preparations for the Fourteenth International TOVS Study Conference, ITSC-14, are underway. We shall be gathering in Beijing, China from Wednesday 25 May 2005 through Tuesday 31 May 2005. These dates are firm, so you may mark this time on your calendars. This Circular is primarily to advise you of the conference dates, to solicit your input on the scientific proceedings.

Accommodation and conference venue

The ITSC-14 will be hosted by the Chinese National Satellite Meteorology Center (NSMC). The conference location and the conference accommodations are still under consideration, Roger is visiting in early October to finalise the details. More information will be forthcoming in the 2nd Circular along with a call for abstracts. Below is a summary of key dates regarding this conference.

2 nd Circular	15 November 2004 (to indicate attendance)
3 rd Circular	1 February 2005
Draft Program	15 April 2005
Final Program	15 May 2005
ITSC-14	25-31 May 2005

Financial Support

Some financial support is available for the meeting. We will be able to offer at least partial support to a number of participants. If you anticipate the need for travel assistance, please contact us as soon as possible, indicating your likely needs. Note that financial support usually goes first to people making a presentation.

Conference Topics

The conference will cover a wide range of topics concerning atmospheric sounding, its applications and related issues. We propose that key issues for this meeting include:

- Operational processing and exploitation of ATOVS and EOS data
- New applications of ATOVS and EOS data in numerical weather prediction and nowcasting
- Use of ATOVS and EOS data over land and ice surfaces
- Generation of geophysical parameters with emphasis on cloud and precipitation
- Applications of (A)TOVS data in climate monitoring and global change research
- Preparations for future infrared and microwave sounders. Examples include CrIS, ATMS, CMIS, IASI, MHS, FY3, GIFTS and others.

Other important and related issues include the validation and tuning of radiative transfer models, surface models, direct broadcast and community software, etc. We solicit your

recommendations on other important issues which should be included. Papers on these and related topics will be welcome.

Conference and Working Group Formats

We ask participants to consider the following guidelines for the conference:

- Authors will be asked to provide short initial abstracts for their papers by 1 March 2005 to assist with preparation of the agenda. These initial abstracts will be published on the ITWG Web site.
- Authors must submit their final paper in a timely manner before or shortly after the conference. Following the conference, an Executive Summary (hardcopy) and the Technical Proceedings (CD) will be published.

ITWG Web site

All information related to ITSC-14 will be posted on the ITWG Web site at:

cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/itwg

If you have any science or news items of interest to the ITWG membership which you would like to share with the community, please send them to our Web Master or contact the Co-Chairs, and we shall try to include them in the Web page contents.

Mailing List

It is important to continuously maintain and update the ITWG mailing list. It would help us greatly in keeping our mailing list up-to-date if you could notify us, without delay, of any changes.

Previous Reports and Publications

Copies of the ITSC-XII (Lorne, Australia) and ITSC-XIII (Sainte Adéle, Quebec) Reports and Technical Proceedings are available from the co-chairs on request.

Concluding Remarks

The Co-Chairs serve to further the activities and successes of the ITWG. We welcome your comments on the issues above or other topics. Please send questions and comments to both Co-Chairs at the addresses below, or use the link on the ITWG Web Page. Please forward this circular to any others you think may be interested. We hope to see you at ITSC-14.

Yours sincerely,
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ITWG Co-Chairs

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