



SECOND CIRCULAR

THE 22nd INTERNATIONAL TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE (ITSC-22)

Dear Colleague:

In just 8 short months from now the International TOVS Working Group (ITWG) will be meeting again for the Twenty-Second International TOVS Study Conference (ITSC-22) in Saint-Sauveur, Québec, Canada from Thursday 31 October through Wednesday 6 November 2019. ITSC-22 will be hosted by Environment and Climatic Change Canada in cooperation with CIMSS/SSEC/UW-Madison.

The purpose of this Second Circular is to invite you to let us know if you plan to attend ITSC-22, and also to submit abstracts to the conference by completing the ITSC-22 registration and abstract submission form:

https://www.ssec.wisc.edu/register/index.php?action=view_form&mid=123650&fid=1236501

We would appreciate your early response if you plan to attend!

This circular also includes information on accommodation options. We strongly encourage participants to book early to avoid higher rates.

Call for abstracts

If you wish to give an oral or poster presentation at ITSC-22, please submit your abstract via the website before the **31 May 2019 deadline**, and indicate whether you would prefer an oral or poster presentation. As the pressure on the program is increasing with every conference, participants will be allowed at most one oral presentation. We will again have several poster sessions and the posters will be on display throughout the conference. We feel that these poster sessions have been very productive and we will work to continue improving their effectiveness. We aim to publish a draft program by mid-August 2019.

Reports from Space Agencies about the current status and plans for future programmes will be covered in a special poster session with brief introductions using a limited number of slides, as at previous conferences. A similar special poster session will again be dedicated to **Reports from Numerical Weather Prediction Centers**. We invite space agencies and NWP centers to submit abstracts for these special sessions. To allow more space for specific science topics, we are very unlikely to accept overview status reports as oral presentations.

Following the conference, an electronic copy of the **Working Group Report and Proceedings** will be published on the ITWG website. Your oral presentations and posters submitted to us in electronic form will be made viewable on the ITWG web site (as PDF files, or with your approval as PPT files if animation is part of the presentation).

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit a conference paper to be included in the proceedings. Details on the format for the conference papers and the paper submission will be provided in the next circular.

Accommodation

Below you will find information on the ITSC-22 conference hotel. Please book as early as possible using the links in the table below to get the discounted ITSC-22 room rate. The hotel booking deadline is **28 September 2019**.

ITSC-22 Conference Hotel: Manoir Saint-Sauveur
 246 chemin du Lac Millette
 Saint-Sauveur, Quebec Canada J0R 1R3
 Tel: +1 450 227-1811 or +1 800 361-0505

Room Rates

| | Room only | Room + Breakfast |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| Single Occupancy | \$161 CAD (~\$197 CAD with taxes & fees) | \$183 CAD (~\$223 CAD with taxes & fees) |
| Double Occupancy | \$161 CAD (~\$197 CAD with taxes & fees) | \$205 CAD (~\$249 CAD with taxes & fees) |
| Reservation Links | English / French | English / French |

- If you make your reservation by phone, please request the **ITSC-22** room rate.
- All reservations must be guaranteed with a credit card.
- For triple and quad occupancy, there is an additional charge of \$20 CAD/person/night. For the triple and quad occupancy with the breakfast option, there is an additional \$42 CAD/person/night charge (extra person \$20 + breakfast \$22). Maximum is 4 people in a room.
- Four different room styles are available for single occupancy, but only two for double occupancy or more.
- Federal tax of 5%, Provincial tax of 9.975%, tax on lodging of 3.5% based on room rate, per night according to the law and a \$5 CAD resort fee per room, per night are applicable. Taxes are extra and subject to change without notice.

Registration Fee

There will be a registration fee for the conference. For those paying **before 30 August 2019**, an **early registration fee of \$500 USD** will be collected. The registration fee covers all lunches (except Sunday), the icebreaker, one group dinner, morning and afternoon coffee breaks, conference facilities, and logistics. Instructions on how to pay the fee online will be provided separately in the 3rd circular.

After 30 August 2019, the registration fee will be **\$600 USD**. If you pay the registration fee **after 30 September 2019** or at the conference, the registration fee will be **\$700 USD**, which you must pay by credit card; there will be no cash option.

The fee for accompanying adult guests will be \$150 USD to cover the group dinner and icebreaker. Children are free.

Visa Applications

To find out if you will need to obtain a visa and to learn the visa application requirements, please visit: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

For those conference attendees who will need a letter of invitation, please contact Maria.Vasys@ssec.wisc.edu

Important Dates

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3rd Circular | 15 May 2019 (last call for abstracts) |
| Abstracts deadline | 31 May 2019 |
| Draft Program | 15 August 2019 |
| Deadline for early registration fee | 30 August 2019 |
| Final Program | 15 September 2019 |
| Deadline for late registration fee | 30 September 2019 |
| ITSC-22 | 31 October – 6 November 2019 |

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:

- Evaluation of new polar microwave and infrared sounding data, such as from Metop-C (and synergy of 3 Metops), FY-3D, and NOAA-20;
- Evaluation of and preparation for sounding capabilities from geostationary orbit (e.g., FY-4A, MTG-IRS);
- Updates on operational processing and the exploitation of ATOVS, ATMS, SSMIS and hyperspectral sounder data (AIRS, IASI, CrIS);
- New applications of microwave and infrared sounder data in numerical weather prediction and nowcasting (e.g., new assimilation techniques, bias tuning, use of cloudy radiances), including applications in coupled NWP;
- Use of microwave and infrared sounder data over polar regions;
- Generation of geophysical parameters from microwave or infrared sounding data;
- Applications of microwave and infrared sounder data in climate monitoring and GCOS activities;
- Direct readout software and retransmission services (e.g., DBNet);
- Radiative transfer model development and validation, especially of fast radiative transfer models;
- Studies and results for future infrared and microwave sounders; and
- Updates on Satellite Programs and International Coordination (WMO, CGMS).

Other relevant issues include the validation and tuning of surface models, satellite sounding requirements for GEOSS, and absolute calibration and cross-calibration of the global satellite observing system. Papers on these and related topics are encouraged.

The Working Groups will review issues and provide recommendations and actions related to:

- (i) the exploitation of sounder data for data assimilation / NWP

- (ii) climate applications of satellite sounder data
- (iii) sounding products and applications, including community software for direct readout stations
- (iv) radiative transfer and surface property models
- (v) advanced sounders
- (vi) international co-ordination, including frequency protection

A report of the working group discussions and actions will be prepared after the meeting for consideration by WMO, the space agencies and users.

Financial Support

Limited financial support is available for the meeting. We will be able to offer partial support to participants. If you anticipate the need for travel assistance, please contact us as soon as possible (**at the latest by the abstract deadline**), indicating your likely needs. Note that financial support usually goes first to people making a presentation. We will consider all requests for financial support in July. Note that for those receiving support we will purchase air tickets or assist with the hotel cost: **No reimbursements will be made.**

ITWG Web site

All information related to ITSC-22 will be posted on the ITWG Web site:

<http://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. The ITWG mailing list can be reached at the following email address:

itwg@lists.wisc.edu

Previous Reports and Publications

Reports from all meetings are available from the web page.

Concluding Remarks

The Co-Chairs serve to further the activities 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-22.

Sincerely,
Vincent Guidard and Liam Gumley
ITWG Co-Chairs



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