

## FIRST CIRCULAR THE 21st INTERNATIONAL TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE

Dear Colleague:

We have started preparations for the Twenty-First International TOVS Study Conference, ITSC-21. We shall be gathering at the Darmstadtium in Darmstadt, Germany from Wednesday 29 November through Tuesday 5 December 2017. These dates are firm, so you may mark them on your calendars. This Circular is primarily to advise you of the conference dates and to solicit your input on the scientific proceedings.



### Conference location

The ITSC-21 will be hosted by EUMETSAT. The local organization committee composed of Paul Counet, Sylwia Miechurska, Julija Mataityte and Dieter Klaes are working on the preparations of this meeting. The conference location will be at the Darmstadtium in Darmstadt, Germany ([http://www.darmstadtium.de/index.cfm/sp\\_id/2/](http://www.darmstadtium.de/index.cfm/sp_id/2/)). Located just 30 km south of Frankfurt am Main in Hesse, Darmstadt is approximately 30 minutes from the Frankfurt International Airport. More information on booking accommodations will be forthcoming in the 2nd Circular along with a call for abstracts. Below is a summary of key dates regarding this conference.



**2nd Circular (call for abstracts)** 1 April 2017  
**3rd Circular** 1 July 2017  
**Abstracts Due** 15 July 2017  
**Draft Program** 15 September 2017  
**Final Program** 15 October 2017  
**ITSC-21** 29 Nov. – 5 Dec. 2017

For logistical matters the local organising committee can be contacted through:

Email: [itsc@eumetsat.int](mailto:itsc@eumetsat.int)

Tel: +49 6151 807 6740 (Sylwia Miechurska)

Tel: +49 6151 807 6040 (Julija Mataityte)

### 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, 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:

- Evaluation of new polar microwave and infrared sounding data, such as from the JPSS-1, FY-3D, or Meteor-M N2-1 satellites;
- 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 blended products from polar orbiting and geostationary satellites;
- Use of microwave and infrared sounder data over land and ice surfaces;
- Generation of geophysical parameters from or for microwave or infrared sounding data;
- Applications of microwave and infrared sounder data in climate monitoring and GCOS activities;
- Direct readout software and retransmission services;
- 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. More information on the conference format and details on how to submit an abstract will be given in the 2nd Circular.

### **ITWG Web site**

All information related to ITSC-21 will be posted on the ITWG Web site at:

<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.

### **Previous Reports and Publications**

Reports from all meetings are on the webpage.

### **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-21.

Yours sincerely,

Niels Bormann and Mitch Goldberg  
ITWG Co-Chairs

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