



Met Office Board

Summary

February 23rd 2010

- The minutes of meeting held on 26 Jan 2010 were agreed and highlighted actions closed. Two actions, both referring to the review of MOSAC Terms of Reference were merged.
- John Hirst reported on recent bilateral visits by Australian and French Met Services. He also advised the Board of his visit to the Portuguese Met Service, including potential for future working together, the support provided during the recent severe weather in Madera and on-going collaborative work aimed at providing better services in sub-Saharan Africa.
- The Board discussed the progress of the work looking at the future plans for medium range forecasting.
- Public Sector Information issues were discussed and John Hirst reported that in a recent meeting with the National Archive there had been recognition that the Met Office's approach represented best practice.
- The Board reviewed the progress towards the KPTs. The Board noted that the Met Office short-term forecasting had been good this winter and discussed finding effective ways of communicating this.
- The finance report included a review of business profitability and the ROCE KPT. The Board agreed that the current shortfall in ROCE, due to ICP funding withdrawal, should be raised as an issue at the Met Office Owners Council.
- The Board discussed insurance cover arrangements.
- The Board approved the outline proposals for KPTs, noting that final target values would be available after the end of the current year.
- Denise Harker presented the Audit Committee Update Report. DH reported that David Filkin had stepped down from the MOOC and the Audit Committee and the Board recorded their thanks to Mr Filkin for his long association with the Met Office.
- DH informed the Board that the Audit Committee had received an update on business continuity from Keith Groves.



- The Board were given a presentation on the measures being taken to reduce the Met Office's carbon emissions. The Board heard that: performance on recycling compares favourably to other organisations; with regards to energy use, waste heat is recycled where possible; the new supercomputer is more efficient, emitting less carbon per petaflop.
- Diana Chaloner updated the Board on HR issues.
- The Meteosat Third Generation business case was outlined to the Board and it was explained that the Met Office were working towards submission for Ministerial approval in March. The Board endorsed the submission to the Minister and recommended including a short presentation for the Minister during the Met Office Owners council.
- The Board were given an informative presentation by Peter Stott on Climate Trends. The presentation covered the last 160 years- the instrumental period, and also the last 400,000 years. The effects of natural variability and other factors which helped explained peaks and troughs were discussed.
- Working implications of the forthcoming election were discussed.
- The next meeting was conformed as being in London on March 30th.
- **Close of Meeting**