

Opening Session - Speakers

12 September 2011 | Berlin | Germany

Fritz Neuwirth, EMS President **Chair Opening Session**

Fritz Neuwirth was elected President of the European Meteorological Society for a three-year term 2008-2011.

Until November 2009 he served as director of the Austrian Weather Service ZAMG. He joined ZAMG in 1966, and was head of the Department for Climatology, Deputy Director from 1984, and appointed Director in 2004. Fritz Neuwirth has been chairman of Council of EUMETNET - the network of European meteorological services, the Austrian Meteorological Society, the Finance Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee of ECMWF, the Administrative and Finance Group of EUMETSAT, the COST Technical Committee Meteorology, and the Joint Harmonisation Group of ECMWF, EUMETSAT and ECOMET.

Gerhard Adrian, President of the Deutsche Wetterdienst DWD **Speaker Opening Session**

Gerhard Adrian became President of the Deutscher Wetterdienst in July 2010.

Since 1999 he had been head of DWD's Business Area Research and Development, from 2006 on he served as Vice-President of the Deutscher Wetterdienst. He was appointed Professor of Meteorology at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in 2003.

Gerhard Adrian serves as Germany's Permanent Representative with WMO and Member of the Executive Council. He chaired the Scientific Advisory Committee of ECMWF between 2006 and 2009 and the Political Advisory Committee of EUMETSAT from 2009 to 2011.

Helmut Mayer, German Meteorological Society (DMG) **Speaker Opening Session**

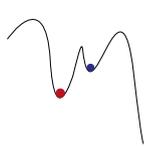
Helmut Mayer was elected president of the German Meteorological Society for the three-year term 2011-2013.

Helmut Mayer graduated in Meteorology 1974 at the LMU Munich, and became Director of the Meteorological Institute at the University of Freiburg, Germany, in 1992 – a position he holds until this day. His main research interests are forest meteorology, urban climate, air pollution and regional climatology. He has organized important conferences in the field of meteorology and is an editor of the journals *Climate Research* and *International Journal of Biometeorology*.

Uwe Ulbrich, Vice-Dean for research, Faculty of Geosciences, FU Berlin **Speaker Opening Session**

Uwe Ulbrich is the acting director of the Institute for Meteorology and Vice-dean for research of the faculty of Geosciences of Freie Universität Berlin.

Uwe Ulbrich started his scientific career at the University of Cologne, where he obtained a diploma in geophysics and a PhD in Meteorology, followed by a habilitation in 2000. Since 2004 he is a professor for Meteorology at Freie Universität Berlin. His research focusses on physical processes in the atmosphere, with a particular focus on meteorological extreme events and their impacts. In this context, he serves inter alia as a member of the advisory board of the German Committee for Disaster Reduction, and is a member of the editorial board of the journal *Natural Hazards and Earth System Sciences*. He is also a member of the scientific boards of Clivar's MedCLIVAR programme for research on the Mediterranean Climate Variability, and the COSMOS initiative for Earth System Modelling.



Opening Session - Keynote Speakers

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Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization**Keynote speaker Opening Session**

Mr. Michel Jarraud was appointed Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization by the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress in 2003, and re-appointed in 2007 and 2011 respectively.

He was Deputy Secretary-General of WMO from 1995 till 2003. Part of his career was devoted to the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF), where he was appointed Deputy Director of the Centre in 1991 having served as Director of the Operational Department since 1990.

Mr Jarraud started his career with Météo-France, as a researcher in 1976. He rejoined the French National Meteorological Service in 1986 as Director of the Weather Forecasting Department, until 1989.

Laura Ferranti, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecast**Keynote speaker Opening Session**

Laura Ferranti is a senior scientist at ECMWF, responsible for the operational products of the monthly and seasonal forecast systems.

From 1988 to 2001 she worked for the ECMWF Research Department carrying out diagnostic and numerical experimentation studies. She analysed flow dependent systematic error in the medium and extended range forecasts, systematic errors of the coupled systems and predictability sources on the seasonal and sub-seasonal time scales. Since 2002 she works in the Operational Department developing products and assessing the skill of the extended range ensemble forecasts. Laura Ferranti holds a degree in physics from Bologna University and a doctorate in meteorology from Reading University. Her PhD dissertation dealt with the predictability of the Asian summer monsoon. Her current interest is to develop forecast products that can assist the users in dealing with probabilistic information.

Susanne Theis, Deutscher Wetterdienst**Keynote speaker Opening Session**

Susanne Theis is a senior scientist at DWD.

She built up and leads a team that develops an ensemble prediction system for the convective scale. Susanne Theis is a member of the European SRNWP expert team of ensemble prediction and the TIGGE LAM panel. Before joining DWD in 2005, Susanne Theis worked as a research associate at the University of Bonn.

Her PhD thesis applied statistical methods to numerical weather prediction, spanning the fields of stochastic parametrization, probabilistic postprocessing, geostatistics, wavelet filtering and probabilistic verification. She received the young researcher award (Förderpreis) by the German Meteorological Society in 2007.

Silvio Tschudi, Cat Research & Development, Allianz Re**Keynote speaker Opening Session**

Silvio Tschudi joined Allianz Re in October 2009 as Head of Cat Research & Development.

He holds a diploma in applied geology and geophysics from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH) and a PhD in geology from the University of Bern. As a post doc fellow at the Geological Survey of Finland, he focused on glacial deposits and their dating in the arctic region of Karelia, Russia in order to validate large scale climate models. After he returned to Switzerland in 2002, he joined the Cat Perils team of Swiss Re as earthquake specialist. From 2005 to 2009, Silvio Tschudi took responsibility as manager of the Swiss Re Cat team at Swiss Re Germany in Munich.

Responsibilities: cat model evaluation and development, definition of modeling standards within Allianz Re and Group, support of cat related knowledge transfer, portfolio management, steering, support and subsequent application of Climate Change related activities within AZ Group, Cat Bond and other Cat related financial transactions support.

Jonathan T. Malay: President of the American Meteorological Society (AMS)**Speaker Opening Session**

Jonathan Malay is a Fellow and President of the American Meteorological Society (AMS).

As Director of Civil Space & Environment Programs at Lockheed Martin Corporation, he provides corporate liaison with NASA and NOAA. His first career was as an oceanographic and meteorological officer in the U.S. Navy with a specialization in space-based remote sensing applications. He retired from active duty in 1993 after various sea tours and shore assignments including the Naval Space Command and the Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy. As a civilian, he worked briefly at Orbital Sciences Corp. and at the Satellite and Information Service of NOAA, and then joined Ball Aerospace in 1995 and moved to Lockheed Martin in 2003. He is a Fellow and Past-President of the American Astronautical Society (AAS) and an Associate Fellow and recent board member of the American Institute for Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA). He is also the author of a 1983 novel "Seraphim Sky."

Aryan van Engelen, ECSN (GIE-EUMETNET)**Speaker Opening Session**

Aryan van Engelen is Programme Manager of the European Climate Support Network (ECSN) 2007-2011.

After his academic studies in geology and hydrology he was appointed at KNMI, the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, as climatologist, then as head of the Climatological Services and since 2007 as senior adviser climatology. He served GIE-EUMETNET, the co-operative network of 29 European NMHS's, first as chair and from 2007 onwards as programme manager of the ECSN programme and is appointed as (interim) capability manager for the succeeding climate programme for 2012. He is chair of the ECSN board, responsible for the scientific organization of the climate session programmes of the biennial EMS/ECAC's and EMS/ECAM's.

Aryan van Engelen is coordinator of the WMO – RAVI Regional Climate Centre on climate data, co-chair of WMO ET on DARE and principal delegate of KNMI at WMO-CCI.

Dennis Schulze: PRIMET**Speaker Opening Session**

Dennis Schulze is currently director of MeteoGroup's businesses in Germany and Poland.

He is the chairman of the Board of the German Association of Private Weather Companies *Verband Deutscher Wetterdienstleister*, and was involved in the consultation with the German government at the XIV Congress of the WMO in 2003. He is also involved in PRIMET, the Association of Private Meteorological Services in Europe, representing the interests of more than 35 private meteorological companies in Europe. Dennis Schulze studied meteorology at the FU Berlin and graduated in 1998. During his time at university he worked for private weather services as a forecaster and IT expert.

Ben Dieterink: HMEI**Speaker Opening Session**

Ben Dieterink has been chairman of The Association of Hydro-Meteorological Equipment Industry until 2010.

Ben Dieterink is the Chief Executive Officer of Kipp & Zonen B.V. He graduated in electronics and business in 1975. Before joining Kipp & Zonen in 1990 he worked for 15 years in the test and measurement industry for various companies around the world, among them Philips and Gould Electronics. He became CEO in 1992, and co-owner of the company in 2003.

In 2000 Vaisala and Kipp & Zonen founded with support of WMO the association of the Hydro and Meteorological Equipment Industry, HMEI. Ben Dieterink was elected as the first HMEI chairman in 2002. After completing the maximum of two terms, he is now succeeded by Brian Day of Campbell Scientific Canada.