

2 Organizational Structure of COSMO

2.1 General

The *Consortium for Small-Scale Modelling* (COSMO) was formed in October 1998 at the regular annual DWD/MeteoSwiss meeting. At present, the following national, regional and military meteorological services are participating:

DWD	Deutscher Wetterdienst, Offenbach, Germany
HNMS	Hellenic National Meteorological Service, Athens, Greece
IMGW	Institute for Meteorology and Water Management, Warsaw, Poland
MeteoSwiss	MeteoSchweiz, Zürich, Switzerland
UGM	Ufficio Generale per la Meteorologia, Roma, Italy
ARPA-SIM	Servizio Idro Meteorologico di ARPA, Bologna, Italy
AWGeophys	Amt für Wehrgeophysik, Traben-Trarbach, Germany

The general goal of COSMO is to develop, improve and maintain a non-hydrostatic limited-area modelling system to be used both for operational and for research applications by the members of COSMO. The emphasis is on high-resolution numerical weather prediction by small-scale modelling. COSMO is initially based on the "Lokal-Modell" (LM) of DWD with its corresponding data assimilation system.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the scientific collaboration in the field of non-hydrostatic modelling was signed by the Directors of DWD, HNMS, MeteoSwiss and UGM in March/April 1999. Meanwhile, the MoU has been replaced by an Agreement between the participating National Meteorological Services. The national weather service IMGW of Poland joined the consortium in 2002.

2.2 Agreement

The structure of the cooperation and both internal and external relationships of COSMO are defined and further detailed in an Agreement between the National Meteorological Services of the participating countries. On 3 October 2001, the final version of the COSMO Agreement has been signed by the representatives of the National Meteorological Services (DWD, HNMS, MeteoSwiss and UGM). The Director of the national weather service of Poland (IMGW) signed the Agreement on 4 July 2002.

There is no direct financial funding from or to either member. However, the partners have the responsibility to contribute actively to the model development by providing staff resources, by making use of research cooperations and by seeking for national funding whenever possible. A minimum of 2 scientists working in COSMO research and development areas is required from each member. In general, the group is open for collaboration with other NWP groups, research institutes and universities as well as for new members. For more details on the COSMO Agreement, please contact the present Chairman of the Steering Committee, Dieter Fröhwald (dieter.fruehwald@dwd.de).

2.3 Organizational Structure

COSMO's organization consists of a Steering Committee (composed of one representative from each National Meteorological Service), a Scientific Project Manager, Work-package Coordinators and Scientists from the member institutes performing research and develop-

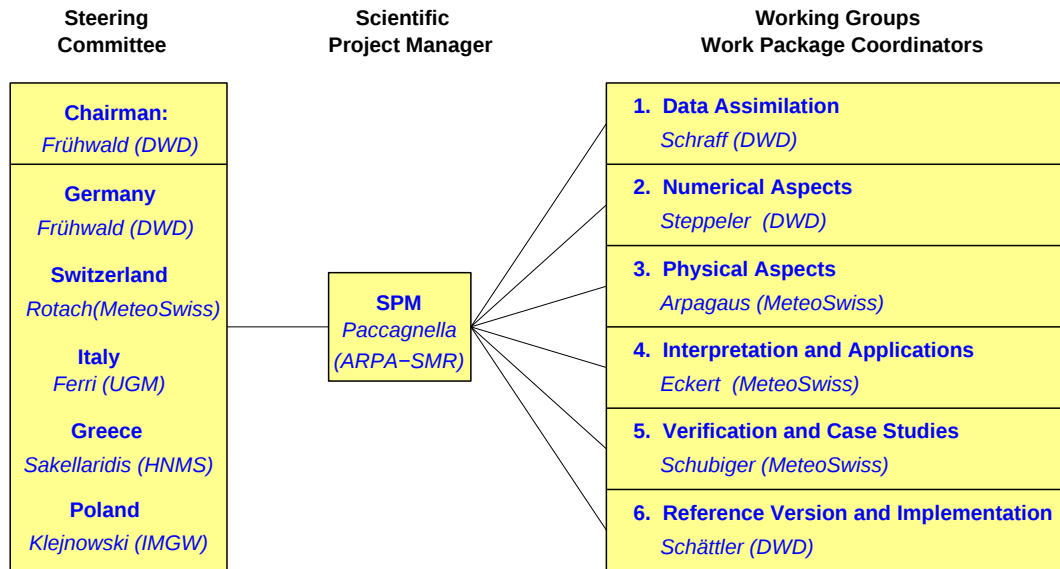


Figure 1: Organizational structure of COSMO as of January 2004

ment activities in the COSMO working groups. At present, six working groups covering the following areas are active: Data assimilation, numerical aspects, physical aspects, interpretation and applications, verification and case studies, reference version and implementation. The current organizational structure is sketched in Fig. 1 (see Section 7 for changes in the Steering Committee and WP-Coordinators).

COSMO's activities are developed through extensive and continuous contacts among scientists, work-package coordinators, scientific project manager and steering committee members via electronic mail, special meetings and internal workshops. Once a year there is a General Meeting of the COSMO group in order to present results, deliverables and progress reports of the working groups and to elaborate a research plan with new projects for the next annual period. Following this meeting, a final work plan for each working group is set up. The recent 5th COSMO General Meeting was held on 24-26 September 2003 in Langen (Germany). The 6th General Meeting is scheduled for 22-24 September 2004 in Rome (Italy).