

1 Introduction

This is the sixth Newsletter of the Consortium for Small-Scale Modelling (COSMO) and the first one with a different format. The main purpose of this Newsletter is to serve as proceedings from the 7th COSMO General Meeting, which has been held in Zürich, Switzerland, from 20-23 September 2005. In addition, there are some contributions (not presented at the General Meeting) from "external" users of the LM, who report about their work.

Because of the large number of contributions for this issue, we had to waive all the other information we usually give within the Newsletter, e.g. on the COSMO structure and the Operational Applications of the LM. These can be obtained within a short time from the COSMO Web Page <http://www.cosmo-model.org>.



Figure 1: Participants of the 7th COSMO General Meeting in Zürich

In 2005, the format of the General Meeting had been changed. To give the contributing scientists more time to present their work, parallel Working Group sessions have been held on the first day. Most articles in this Newsletter are write-ups from the corresponding presentations. To reflect the Working Group structure, the different contributions for this Newsletter are also grouped together under the corresponding Working Groups.

There are some other important changes to the structure of the COSMO activities. The procedure to define the work plans of the Working Groups has been revised to improve the efficiency of the COSMO cooperation. To reduce the number of Work Packages (some lasting for several years) and to emphasize important work, so-called *Priority Projects* have been introduced, to which every COSMO member must contribute 2 persons per year. These projects have been initiated to ensure that resources are available for necessary work to be done. It is planned to run them with as few as possible but as much as necessary formalism, to control the work done. More information about the Priority Projects can be found on the Web soon.

We would like to thank all the scientists who submitted articles to the Newsletter. Special thanks go to the external contributors, the AWI Bremerhaven, the DLR Oberpfaffenhofen, the CLM Community and the Universities of Frankfurt, Mainz and München, who provided papers about their work done with the LM. We would like to encourage also other groups to document their work, e.g. in form of a short progress summary or a longer report, to be included in the next Newsletters.

Finally we want to apologize for the late publishing of this Newsletter, which was planned to do much earlier. A couple of reasons could be given as excuse, but we are sure everybody understands that there is always too little time for such supporting activities. Nevertheless, we try to fasten up things for the next issue.

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