

The current issue of the COSMO Newsletter presents results of a selection of many developments related to the activities of our consortium. The articles document not only the achievements of COSMO scientists in diverse areas of COSMO interests but also indicate a fruitful cooperation of the COSMO community with academic institutions. I am personally very pleased of it and I am convinced that such a cooperation and its strengthening will substantially assist in maintaining and reinforcing scientific quality of our research and, finally, the quality of our operational tools and software.

The year 2011 was especially important for our consortium. The COSMO General Meeting, which took place from 5 to 8 September in Rome, was the forum for presentations and discussions on the current work of the consortium; see the presentations at <http://www.cosmo-model.org/content/consortium/generalMeetings/general2011/default.htm>. During the meeting, the COSMO Standards for Source Code Development and the revised terms of reference for the main COSMO bodies like the Working Group Coordinators (WGCs), Source Code Administrators (SCA), Scientific Project Manager (SPM), as well as Scientific Management Committee (SMC) and Technical Advisory Group (TAG) were approved. The aim of the latter was to clarify the role and responsibilities of the COSMO bodies as well as to harmonize them with the approved coding standards.

The aim of the introduction of the coding standards is to assure the high quality of COSMO software, necessary for current development as well as future maintenance of the COSMO code. You can find the document at <http://www.cosmo-model.org/content/model/documentation/standards/default.htm>. As expressed by Marco Arpagaus, the former SPM, “Together with the COSMO Science Plan, the Priority Projects, Priority Tasks and Work Package Lists, the COSMO Standards for Source Code Development forms the main pillars of the COSMO development process”. With these, we are all very much invited, encouraged and obliged to implement the high COSMO standards into practice. Good luck!

For the next General Meeting, we will meet in Lugano, Switzerland, from 10 to 13 September 2012.

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Figure 1: Participants of the 13th COSMO General Meeting in Rome