



Major Decisions and Action Items from the BALTEX SSG Meeting #19

Göteborg, Sweden; 23-24 May 2006

Decisions

1. Hartmut Graßl resigned from his position as BALTEX SSG chair.
2. The BALTEX SSG unanimously elected **Joakim Langner** as the **new chair of the BALTEX SSG**. Joakim is director of the research department at the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI) in Norrköping, Sweden. He is associated professor in meteorology and his key interest and specialisation include atmospheric dispersion modelling, development and application of various chemistry-transport models from local to global scales, and atmospheric chemistry.
3. The BALTEX SSG unanimously elected **Timo Vihma**, senior research scientist at the Finnish Meteorological Institute (FMI), Helsinki, Finland, as **new vice-chair of the BALTEX SSG**. Timo's specialisation and interest include boundary-layer meteorology, sea-ice thermodynamics and dynamics, polar meteorology, meso-scale atmospheric modelling and air-sea interaction. The BALTEX SSG also unanimously confirmed **Anders Omstedt**, Professor for Oceanography at Göteborg University, Earth Science Centre, Göteborg, Sweden, as **vice-chair of the BALTEX SSG**.
4. The BALTEX SSG approved new terms for SSG chairs and vice-chairs. Their term will be for 3 years with one possibility for a prolongation of again up to 3 years. The maximum term for chairs and vice-chairs is 6 years.
5. The BALTEX SSG approved new terms for SSG members. Terms of SSG members will be for 3 years with the possibility of prolongation. No maximum term for members shall be imposed.
6. The BALTEX SSG considered it premature to finally decide on terms and members for suggested BALTEX working groups. Instead, a revised concept of how BALTEX Phase II objectives correspond to the present and suggested working groups shall be established by the new BALTEX SSG chairs and vice-chairs and be finally discussed at the forthcoming BALTEX SSG meeting in December 2006. This will include suggestions and discussions on BALTEX SSG membership and additional possible management means and structures for BALTEX.
7. The BALTEX SSG decided to strengthen the cooperation and strategic alliance with HELCOM (Helsinki Commission). Timo Vihma will act as the liaison person to HELCOM within the BALTEX SSG.
8. The BALTEX SSG will convene for its 20th meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia, on 7 and 8 December 2006.

Action Items

- #1 Timo Vihma to ask HELCOM for its willingness to co-organise the 5th BALTEX Study Conference in 2007, as soon as possible;

Action Item already completed.

Timo Vihma contacted Anne Christine Brusendorff by E-mail. She confirmed that HELCOM is looking forward to the next joint conference and that her anticipated presence at the next BALTEX SSG meeting in St. Petersburg will also serve the preparation of the joint conference.

Hans-Jörg Isemer had also been in contact with Juha-Markku Leppänen about the willingness of HELCOM to co-organize the 5th Study Conference in 2007, which was confirmed; HELCOM appears on the conference flyer with its logo as co-organizer.

#2 Timo Vihma to contact Sylvain Joffre at FMI and investigate possibilities for BALTEX to contribute to the “Baltic Sea and European Marine Strategy” Conference, 13 to 15 November 2006, in Helsinki, as soon as possible;

Action Item already completed.

Timo discussed this with Sylvain Joffre, who is a member of the organizing committee of the "Baltic Sea and European Marine Strategy" conference to be held in Helsinki, 13 to 15 November, 2006. The Conference will include invited talks (speakers already invited) and exhibition stands and posters, focusing on the following themes: eutrophication, sustainable use of marine resources, reconciling human activities and ecosystems, protection of biodiversity, decreasing risks from hazardous substances, and linking science and policy. An exhibition stand was reserved for BALTEX at the Conference. Information on the Conference is available on www.eu2006balticsea.net.

#3 Timo Vihma to contact the Executive Secretary of HELCOM, Anne Christine Brusendorff, to invite her to the next BALTEX SSG Meeting in St. Petersburg to strengthen strategic alliance with HELCOM, as soon as possible;

Action Item already completed.

Timo Vihma contacted Anne Christine Brusendorff by E-mail and informed her of the new BALTEX BSSG chairs and invited her to the next BSSG meeting in St. Petersburg. Anne Christine Brusendorff answered positively, indicating that she is ready to come to St. Petersburg, but she did not yet confirm her attendance.

#4 Chairs to complete terms of reference for BALTEX SSG membership and chairs, including necessary implementation details such as voting procedures and rules, next BALTEX SSG meeting;

#5 Chairs/Secretariat to thank Clemens Simmer and Anders Lindroth for their past leadership to BALTEX, as soon as possible;

Action Item already completed.

Hans-Jörg Isemer sent E-mails to both Clemens and Anders, thanking them on behalf of the BALTEX SSG for their outstanding contributions to the leadership of the BALTEX programme.

#6 Andreas Lehmann, Daniela Jacob, Hans von Storch, Marcus Reckermann:

- to provide suggested terms of reference and draft memberships of the suggested Working Groups, July 2006;
- #7 Chairs to review the present leadership and management structure of BALTEX, in particular how the new objectives of BALTEX Phase II may best be implemented in this structure, including the future role and terms of the BALTEX Working Groups, and propose an improved concept, next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #8 Chairs, All to review the present BALTEX SSG membership and propose adjustments related to the new BALTEX Phase II objectives, as required, next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #9 Chairs to consider to discuss with Benjamin Smith and Bernd Schneider on their possible membership to the BALTEX SSG, as suggested at the 19th BALTEX SSG meeting, prior to the next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #10 Chairs to consider communications to present BALTEX SSG members with an apparent low activity profile in BALTEX, prior to the next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #11 Chairs/Secretariat to consider the future role of national Services in BALTEX and their proper representation at the BALTEX SSG, in particular Services with an apparent low profile in BALTEX (e.g. Baltic States, Belarus, Russia); to undertake action to contact Services (e.g. by conducting specific meetings with Services concerned, explore SIDA support for such meetings) and discuss future contributions of the latter to BALTEX, prior to next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #12 Chairs, All to consider a stronger contribution of leading scientists of the Baltic States to the BALTEX programme and its leadership, and identify potential candidates, next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #13 All to identify Study Courses/Summer Schools for participation of BALTEX as contributions to the 6th BALTEX phase II objective, continuous;
- #14 Jörgen Nilsson, Marcus Reckermann to establish a link at the BALTEX web site to the UNI-DART web site and explore possibilities for data access, availability and use in BALTEX, as soon as possible;
- #15 Jörgen Nilsson, Secretariat to provide a list of data links and their availability for BALTEX data users, to be published at the BALTEX web site, next BALTEX SSG meeting and continuously;
- #16 Jörgen Nilsson, Working Group on Data Management to provide a critical review of the performance (e.g. data availability, data request, data gaps, etc) of the presently existing BALTEX Data Centres, including possible suggestions for changes or amendments, next BALTEX SSG meeting;
- #17 Anders Omstedt, Timo Vihma, Secretariat

to identify climate data sets relevant for BALTEX, explore their availability for BALTEX research purposes, and establish internet links to these data sets at the BALTEX homepage and the relevant BALTEX Data Centres, next BALTEX SSG meeting, and continuous;

#18 Secretariat to announce and promote upcoming conferences and events relevant for BALTEX at the BALTEX web site;

#19 Marcus Reckermann

establish and demonstrate a revised draft BALTEX web site with emphasize on the planned outreach and education components in BALTEX Phase II, next BALTEX SSG meeting;

#20 Chairs, Valery Vuglinsky, Secretariat

to prepare for the 20th BSSG meeting (BSSG#20) to be held 7 and 8 December 2006 in St. Petersburg, Russia, to explore possible financial support through the Swedish SIDA.

Open or partially concluded action items from BALTEX SSG meeting #18

Action #10: Hans-Jörg Isemer to establish a draft list of BALTEX data sets and products to be offered as BALTEX data contributions to meet GEWEX phase I objectives, secondly to receive approval of these data sets' authors and other relevant persons having relevant intellectual property rights, thirdly organise the proper inclusion of these BALTEX data sets and products at the GEWEX data management website, **preferably in 2005**.

Action #14: the BALTEX Secretariat with the support of all BSSG members to establish presentation material (in particular a set of presentation slides (ppt files)) on i) major BALTEX Phase I achievements and results, and ii) BALTEX Phase II objectives and plans, preferably still **in 2005**.

Comment HJ Isemer: action started, but needs continuous update and completion.

Action #15: the BSSG co-chairs Hartmut Graßl and Anders Omstedt, with support by Hans-Jörg Isemer, to contact those BSSG members with an apparent low activity profile concerning BALTEX SSG meetings individually and discuss individual BSSG membership terms, still **in 2005**.

Action #18: Anders Omstedt to elaborate the importance of the carbon cycle in the climate system and its relevance for BALTEX Phase II research, establish relevant implementation strategies and project outlines for BALTEX Phase II, and report to the BSSG at its forthcoming meeting.

Action #19: Daniela Jacob to review existing Ph.D. schools and programmes (such as the International Max Planck Research School on Earth System Modelling) and possibilities to submit BALTEX-related Ph.D. proposals to these programmes, and report accordingly to BSSG at its forthcoming meeting.

Action #20: Daniela Jacob to establish closer relations between BALTEX and the COSMOS (Community Earth System Models¹) project and integrate BALTEX initiatives and projects into COSMOS, and/or vice versa, to the extent beneficial for both programmes, and report to BSSG at its forthcoming meeting for final approval.

¹ See <http://cosmos.enes.org>

Action #22: Jarmo Koistinen to provide an overview on how weather radar activities and research is expected to contribute to BALTEX Phase II objectives, in particular how the recently established cooperation of the BALTEX WG on Radar with NORDMET R&D activities contribute to these objectives, and report to BSSG at its forthcoming meeting accordingly.

Action #26: the BALTEX Secretariat and Valeri Vuglinsky to prepare for the 20th BSSG meeting (BSSG#20) to be held within the time period 4 to 8 December 2006 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Draft

Marcus Reckermann and Hans-Jörg Isemer
6 June 2006

Revised and approved

Joakim Langner, Anders Omstedt, Timo Vihma
12 June 2006

BALTEX SSG members
29 June 2006