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## Introduction by John Burrows, IAMAS Vice-President

Immediately after the First World War in 1919, recognising the international and rapidly evolving nature of meteorology and atmospheric sciences, IAMAS was created, joining the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) to foster scientific cooperation and research in these societally important fields. It has since evolved and prospered into a global scientific framework, now comprising 11 commissions dedicated to the diverse components of our discipline.



The current IAMAS year of 2026 is now well underway, marking a key phase in its four-year cycle during which commissions convene their own quadrennial or biennial symposia and workshops between the IAMAS and IUGG assemblies. These gatherings are not only milestones of scientific exchange but also vital catalysts for advancing atmospheric research across disciplines. Notable events this year include the iCACGP-IGAC Joint Science Conference “Atmospheric Chemistry within the Earth System: Understanding Changes and Impacts” (7–11 September 2026, Heraklion, Crete), the 18th International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity (ICAE 2026, 13–17 July, Barcelona), and the ICDM symposium on “Diabatic Processes Across Scales in the Extratropics” (28 April–1 May, Vienna). Together, these meetings reflect both the diversity and the growing urgency of contemporary atmospheric science.

IAMAS is also currently assessing the first phase of its cross-cutting Early Career Researcher (ECR) initiative. This effort extends beyond individual commission activities, aiming to build a more integrated and interdisciplinary global community of emerging scientists. As it evolves, IAMAS actively seeks input to strengthen and refine its approach, ensuring that the next generation is equipped not only with scientific expertise but also with the collaborative capacity required to confront increasingly complex Earth system challenges.

As part of IUGG, IAMAS is mandated to advance understanding of meteorology and atmospheric sciences for the benefit of society. Since the Industrial Revolution, scientific progress has transformed human wellbeing, supporting a global population that has grown from 1 billion to over 8 billion. Yet this transformation has come at a profound cost. Humanity is now widely recognised as a defining force of the Anthropocene, an era in which human activity is reshaping the Earth system itself—altering climate, atmospheric composition, and environmental stability at the planetary scale.

This reality underscores a fundamental truth, aptly captured by the crew of the Artemis II mission, who reminded us that we are all travelling together on “a spaceship called Earth.” In such a system, there are no atmospheric borders—only shared consequences—and therefore no scientific isolation from societal responsibility.

Within this context, IAMAS and its commissions play a critical role. By enabling international collaboration and sustaining scientific excellence, they strengthen the foundations of atmospheric science and, in doing so, support humanity’s capacity to understand and respond to planetary change. Yet this capacity can no longer be taken for granted.

Across many regions, geopolitical fragmentation, declining trust in scientific consensus, and sustained pressure on public research funding are beginning to erode the foundations on which atmospheric science depends. At the same time, the need has never been greater: robust global observing networks, sustained modelling systems, and long-term coordinated international investment are essential if science is to continue providing the evidence base required for climate resilience, risk management, and sustainable development.

The central question, therefore, is no longer whether such systems are desirable, but whether the international community is willing to maintain them. If they are not sustained, we must ask honestly, on what basis will humanity claim to understand the planet it is so rapidly transforming?

## **The CliC Open Science Conference**

**Wellington, New Zealand**

**Keith Alverson, IAMAS Secretary-General and Marilyn Raphael, Member-at-Large**

The World Climate Research Programme Climate and Cryosphere Project (WCRP-CliC, [climate-cryosphere.org](http://climate-cryosphere.org)) held its first Open Science Conference in Wellington, New Zealand, 9-12 February, 2026 ([clic2026.com](http://clic2026.com)) at the Tākina Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre. IAMAS partnered with other groups to support the CliC Open Science Conference 2026. IAMAS, through its International Climate Commission (ICCL), was “silver” level sponsor of the meeting (<https://clic2026.com/partners/>). It was a very successful event bringing together 423 participants from 34 countries studying the interaction between climatic change and the ongoing rapid deterioration of the global cryosphere. The meeting also included high profile representation from indigenous communities, from both Southern and Northern Hemispheres, impacted by cryospheric loss. New Zealand’s Science, Innovation and Technology Minister Dr Shane Reti, spoke at the opening of the conference.

The theme of the conference was “The Changing Cryosphere: Science, Impacts, and Adaptation.” Each conference day began with a plenary session, which included keynote talks followed by panel discussion on each

theme. The themes included:

- Indigenous Knowledge in Co-production: local and international perspectives, Policy, and Politics
- Crises in the Cryosphere: state of the cryosphere, tipping systems, and priorities for the future
- Storying the Cryosphere: past, present, and future; communicating cryospheric change for diverse audiences
- Science to Solutions: sea-level projections, high mountain glaciers, Antarctic ice sheet dynamics, and improving the science to solutions pipeline
- On the Horizon: IPY-5 and the Decade of Action for Cryospheric Sciences, geo-political landscape, and international collaboration.

The plenaries set the scene for the different oral sessions held in parallel over the course of the day. Poster sessions dominated the afternoons during the midweek. The poster area was a hive of activity with scientists gathered around posters that reflected the themes of the conference.

Conference evenings were also scheduled with activities including a focus on Early Career Researchers, a viewing of the award winning documentary *Mighty Indeed* and a public panel on *Impending Crises in the Cryosphere: Tipping Points and Their Consequences*.

Several workshops and business meetings were held before and during the conference, including the SCAR INSTANT Workshop, Antarctic Sea ice Processes (ASpeCt) Sea ice Day, International Permafrost Association meeting and the CliC Scientific Steering Group meeting.

IAMAS and our associated journal *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* shared a joint booth at the meeting and held an initial planning meeting for a CliC special issue of AAS. CliC thanks IAMAS for the sponsorship and cooperation and looks forward to building on this through future initiatives, including a proposed symposium on climate and the cryosphere at the IUGG Incheon congress next year.

The conference field trip occurred the day after it concluded. Participants were taken to South Island on a glaciological tour to the Kā Tiritiri o te Moana/the Southern Alps of New Zealand.



Planning a special issue of *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* at the CliC meeting in Wellington

## Call for resolutions to be considered at the IUGG assembly in July 2027

Resolutions to be considered at the next IUGG assembly are now being accepted and must be submitted to the IUGG secretariat by 31 March 2027. Resolutions should address geophysical matters of significant international impact or matters of significant policy importance for the international geodetic and geophysical community as a whole.

Draft Resolutions should follow the same format as in the past. In broad terms, the format comprises:

- A preamble in the form of ‘considering’, ‘recognising’, ‘acknowledging’, and/or ‘noting’ past events or decisions relevant to the proposed Resolution,
- either ‘recommends’ or ‘urges’ action by, e.g., institutions, governmental bodies, agencies, or a body within the IUGG, and/or
- ‘resolves’ that some specific action or decision follow.

[Past IUGG Resolutions](#) can be accessed online.

Draft Resolutions will be examined by the Resolutions Committee 2026-2027, which is chaired by Prof. Kathy Whaler, IUGG President 2019-2023. The Resolutions must be approved by both the IUGG Bureau and the IUGG Executive Committee before being presented and adopted by the IUGG Council at its meeting during IUGG2027.

For more information, please contact the IUGG Secretariat Chair of the Committee ([kathy.whaler@ed.ac.uk](mailto:kathy.whaler@ed.ac.uk)).

## Meeting report - Climate Impacts in a Changing World 2026

The international conference on Climate Impacts in a Changing World 2026 was held in Uppsala, Sweden on 9–11 March 2026, coordinated by the Swedish Centre for Impacts of Climate Extremes (CLIMES). The conference brought together around 200 researchers and practitioners from five continents to discuss the growing socio-economic and environmental impacts of climate extremes. Some early career researchers were able to participate in the conference thanks to support from IAMAS.

The conference fostered dialogue across disciplines and sectors on the wide-ranging consequences of climate extremes for both human and natural systems. The scientific sessions spanned the natural sciences, health sciences, social sciences and more – reflecting the increasingly cross-cutting nature of climate impact research.

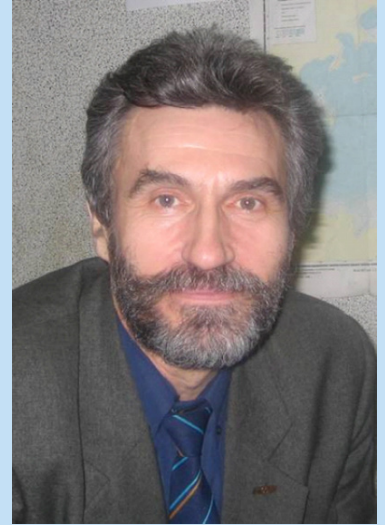
A central theme of the conference was the need to move beyond the study of climate hazards alone and instead also focus on their socio-economic and environmental consequences. Presentations highlighted how extreme events—such as heatwaves, floods, droughts, and storms—affect infrastructure, ecosystems, the economy, and human health and wellbeing. Understanding these impacts requires collaboration across scientific domains and sectors, including engagement with decision-makers. This is essential for building resilient societies in the face of accelerating global change.

Overall, the conference demonstrated the growing maturity of climate impact research and the value of shared meeting platforms for this community. It is the hope of the organisers that the conference can be the first of a series of similar meetings.

## Obituaries

### *Igor I Mokhov*

We are very sorry to hear of the passing of Prof. Dr. Igor I. Mokhov of the A. M. Obukhov Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. Igor had a long association with IAMAS having been an active member of the International Commission on Dynamical Meteorology and the International Commission on Polar Meteorology for many years. He was a Member-at-Large and Member of the IAMAS Executive over 1999-2007 and served as the Russian delegate at IAMAS plenaries. Nationally, he was a member of the Russian National Commission of Meteorological and Atmospheric Sciences (NCMAS). Igor was an outstanding atmospheric physicist with broad interests in meteorology, with his contribution to science being recognised by his election as an Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences.



### *Johannes Verlinde*

IAMAS is sad to report the passing of Prof. Johannes Verlinde on 6 March 2026 in State College, Pennsylvania where he was a professor at Pennsylvania State University. Born in Pretoria, South Africa, he earned his PhD in atmospheric sciences at Colorado State University in 1992 and moved to Pennsylvania State in 1993, where he spent the rest of his distinguished career. An expert in observational meteorology, he was closely associated with the IAMAS International Commission on Clouds and Precipitation and attended a number of their scientific symposia.

## Activities of the Members-at-Large

### *Promoting IAMAS activities in China – Prof. Mu Mu, Member-at-Large*

As an IAMAS Member-at-Large, and also in my capacities as Chair of the Chinese National Committee for IAMAS (CNC-IAMAS) and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the IAMAS associated journal *Advances in Atmospheric Sciences* (AAS), I have been actively promoting IAMAS since the 2025 General Assembly in Busan, South Korea. This has involved promoting the mission and visibility of IAMAS within China, across Asia, and internationally. Specifically:

#### a. Leading the Chinese National Committee for IAMAS (CNC-IAMAS)

As Chair of CNC-IAMAS, I have worked to engage the Chinese atmospheric sciences community and fulfil our national committee's responsibilities:

- CNC-IAMAS at the 6th Congress of China Geodesy and Geophysics: A significant gathering of our community took place during this congress in Shanghai in January. Of the total participants, 568 were

CNC-IAMAS scientists, demonstrating the strong engagement of the Chinese IAMAS community. This accounted for approximately one-third of all congress attendees.

- CNC-IAMAS Committee Meeting: During the congress, I chaired a formal meeting of the CNC-IAMAS committee. We reviewed the national committee's activities over the past year and celebrated the active participation of our scientists and discussed plans for 2026-2027.



IAMAS attendees at the 6th Congress of China Geodesy and Geophysics

- Preparations for the IUGG 2027 General Assembly: A key decision from our meeting was to commence work on the IAMAS National Committee report for the IUGG (2023-2026). In line with our established practice, this report will be published as a special issue in AAS and formally presented to the IUGG at the upcoming assembly in Incheon in July 2027.

#### b. Strengthening the IAMAS-AAS Partnership

A central focus of my work has been to foster the excellent cooperative relationship between IAMAS and AAS.

- Dissemination of information on IAMAS activities: To ensure the broader community is informed about IAMAS's flagship events, I facilitated the solicitation and publication of a comprehensive meeting report on the BOCA-25 conference in AAS. This report, which highlighted the scientific successes of the conference, was led by IAMAS Secretary-General Keith Alverson and is available online <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00376-025-5583-2>.
- Support for the IAMAS Commissions: Continuing our support for IAMAS's scientific commissions, AAS published a special issue <https://link.springer.com/journal/376/volumes-and-issues/43-2> dedicated to the International Radiation Symposium 2024, which was organized by the IAMAS International Radiation

Commission (IRC).

- Promoting IAMAS Leadership: In line with our policy to support the IAMAS community, AAS continues to waive publication fees for individual studies submitted by IAMAS Executive Committee officers.

c. Advancing AAS as a Leading Journal

In my role as Co-Editor-in-Chief, I have been actively guiding the strategic direction of AAS to ensure it remains a premier outlet for atmospheric science and a valuable asset to IAMAS.

- Editorial Board Meetings: I convened two AAS editorial board meetings during the reporting period, which were held in August 2025 in Hohhot, China and January 2026 in Shanghai, China.
- Refining Journal Scope: A major outcome of these meetings was a comprehensive review and refinement of the journal's scope and position. After extensive discussion among the Editors-in-Chief and Co-Editors-in-Chief, we have sharpened AAS's focus to better distinguish it amongst leading journals.

*Recent activities of Prof. Neil Holbrook, IAMAS Member-at-Large*

I have been heavily involved in the investigation of the important phenomenon of marine heatwaves (MHWs), which are discrete and prolonged warm ocean temperature extremes that can cause devastating and long-lasting ecological impacts. A better understanding of the characteristics, mechanisms, predictability, and future projections of these events is required as they are of paramount importance. I have therefore been engaged in several initiatives related to MHWs:

a. The CLIVAR Research Focus Group "Marine Heatwaves in the Global Ocean." This aims to help improve understanding of MHWs globally, including detection, surface and subsurface characteristics, mechanisms, connection with climate change and biogeochemical extremes, in order to increase preparedness and promote efficient adaptation planning, while contributing to the training of the next generation of scientists and providing input to observational programs. I attended a meeting of the focus group in Bali in September 2025 and gave an invited presentation on the drivers and predictability of MHWs. The CLIVAR Research Focus Group activities are particularly relevant to IAMAS through the International Commission on Climate.

b. The SCOR Working Group on Subsurface MHWs. This 4-year project has been established to disentangle the drivers, dynamics and widespread impact of MHWs. I am participating as an Associate Member of this Working Group.

c. The UNESCO International Working Group on MHWs. I am an original co-lead for this project of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030. The IWG website also hosts a near-real-time marine heatwave tracker (<https://www.marineheatwaves.org/tracker.html>), developed by Robert Schlegel.

d. The European Space Agency's CAREHeat project. I participated as an invited speaker at the workshop "Marine Heat Waves from Space: From Detection to Prediction," which took place in hybrid format in Frascati, Italy, on October 13-16, 2025.

*Recent Meetings in South Africa. Dr. Tirusha Thambiran, IAMAS Member-at-Large*

The Second International Conference on Chemical Weather and Chemical Climate (CWCC) took place from October 14–16, 2025, in Marrakesh, Morocco, hosted by the University Mohammed VI Polytechnic and co-organized by Fudan University, the World Meteorological Organization/Global Atmosphere Watch Program, the MAP-AQ International Research Program, the African Group on Atmospheric Sciences (ANGA), and IGAC. The conference theme was “Science, Risks, Impacts, Health and Governance Associated with Sustainable Development in Different Regions of the World,” and explored the latest advances in atmospheric, environmental, and interdisciplinary Earth system research.

The conference sought to deepen understanding of the complex interconnections between climate change, extreme weather events, air quality, and human health, while highlighting their implications for climate and environmental governance and the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Scholars, experts, and practitioners from around the world gathered to engage through keynote talks, thematic presentations, roundtable discussions, collaborative consultations, with awards presented for outstanding young scientists. The conference fostered academic exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration to address the interconnected risks and challenges posed by climate, pollution, and human health. It warmly welcomed researchers, students, technical personnel, and practitioners from universities, research institutes, and enterprises, emphasizing the importance of African and global perspectives in shaping sustainable solutions. The event offered a unique platform for bridging science, policy, and practice, advancing global understanding of chemical weather and climate issues, and highlighted how regional insights, from Africa and beyond, can inform effective environmental governance and sustainable development worldwide.

The 2025 CLEAN-Air Forum, the third in its annual series, was held from 15–17 July in Nairobi, Kenya, serving as a vital platform for Africa’s air quality communities of practice. Building on the success of the 2024 Lagos forum, which brought together over 80 policymakers and more than 200 global experts from 34 countries, the Nairobi forum had participants from across Africa and the globe, including researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and local community leaders. The event focused on the theme “Partnerships for Clean Air Solutions,” emphasizing the importance of cross-border, transdisciplinary collaborations to advance evidence-based strategies, capacity-building, and multi-regional partnerships for tackling air pollution in African cities.

Over three days, the forum facilitated knowledge sharing, networking, and collaborative problem-solving through keynote presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops. Participants explored the intersections of air quality, health, climate, and urban development, with particular attention to solutions that protect vulnerable communities disproportionately affected by pollution. By highlighting innovative policies, technological interventions, and practical experiences from diverse African cities, the forum strengthened both regional and international cooperation for sustainable clean air action.

The 2026 Africa Clean Air Forum will be held in Pretoria, South Africa over 15-17 July, under the theme Investment Case for Clean Air and Healthy Cities.

## News from the IAMAS commissions

### *The International Commission on Clouds and Precipitation*

In 2026, the ICCP virtual monthly journal club meetings continued. Speakers included Alexei Korolev, Audran Borella, Lei Zhu, Odran Sourdeval, Anna Tippett, Andreas Petzold, Martina Krämer and Luis Antonio Ladino. Planning for symposia and workshops associated with the 2027 29th General Assembly of IUGG are currently taking place. Further, ICCP is currently drafting a statement on the importance of air- and ground-based observations for cloud physics research which we expect to release in the near future.

### *The International Commission on Atmospheric Chemistry and Global Pollution*

The Atmospheric Composition and the Asian Monsoon (ACAM) activity, which is facilitated by the International Global Air Pollution Project (one of iCACGP's projects) held a training school and workshop in June 2025 in Bali, Indonesia. The training school was attended by 40 early career scientists (students and postdocs) while over 100 participants took part in the workshop. The ACAM training school focused on enhancing scientific and technical capacity in the areas of remote sensing of aerosols, cloud and atmospheric composition as well as chemistry-climate modeling and inverse modeling of greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to lectures presented by five scientists, the training school participants completed data analysis exercises and group projects using open-access tools and programming languages, involving satellite data and modeling focusing on Asian atmospheric pollution and regional monsoon climate.

The 3-day ACAM workshop represented four cross-cutting themes – (i) Field campaigns, modeling activities or satellite programs in the context of ACAM science, (ii) Aerosols/air quality characterization, aerosol-monsoon-climate interactions and feedbacks, (iii) Trace gas and greenhouse gas emissions – measurements, inventories, satellite observations and (iv) Chemistry-climate interactions and pollution transport to the upper troposphere/lower stratosphere (UTLS). The workshop concluded with a panel discussion reflecting on the past 10 years of ACAM activities and accomplishments as well as new opportunities and challenges in air pollution, chemistry and Asian monsoon climate. Altogether participants represented 17 countries from Asia, Europe, USA and Australia with 43 early career researchers attending the workshop, thanks to the generous support from both longstanding and new sponsors of ACAM.

### *The International Commission on Atmospheric Electricity*

Extensive work has taken place on planning the 18th International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity (ICAE 2026), the world's largest event dedicated to advancing the science of atmospheric electricity, which will be held in Barcelona, Spain from July 13 to 17, 2026. ICAE 2026 will provide an opportunity for researchers from all over the world to present the latest discoveries, exchange ideas, and importantly, learn and interact with colleagues. The deadline for abstract submission has passed with 294 abstracts from 37 countries having been submitted. Of these 74 were selected for oral presentation and 220 will be displayed as posters.

## Upcoming meetings

Meetings supported by IUGG are indicated by an asterisk

### 2026

- Space Climate 10 Symposium. 9-12 June 2026, Åland/Ahvenanmaa, Finland. [https://cosmicrays oulu.fi/space\\_climate2026/?page\\_id=53](https://cosmicrays oulu.fi/space_climate2026/?page_id=53)
- ITU Global Initiative on Resilience to Natural Hazards through AI Solutions, Geneva, Switzerland, 7-10 July 2026\*
- The 18th International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity. Barcelona, Spain 13-17 July 2026. <https://icae2026.upc.edu/119708/detail/18th-international-conference-on-atmospheric-electricity.html>
- Clouds, Precipitation and Urban Extreme Tropical Weather Workshop: The African Continent. 20-24 July 2026, University of Nairobi, Kenya. See <https://www.cloudsfor.africa/> .
- The 46th COSPAR Scientific Assembly will be held 1 – 9 August 2026 in Florence, Italy. See <https://www.cospas-assembly.org/assembly>
- 7th Conference on Cloud Physics (CCP)/ The 17th Conference on Atmospheric Radiation (CAR), Madison WI, USA, 3-7 August 2026\*
- The 12th Scientific Committee of Antarctic Research Open Science Conference. Oslo, Norway 8-18 August 2026. <https://www.npolar.no/en/arrangement/scar2026/>
- The iCACGP-IGAC 2026 conference will take place in Heraklion, Crete, Greece during 7-11 September 2026\* See <https://icacgp-igac2026.org/>
- The SCOR annual meeting. Helsinki, Finland, 8-10 September 2026.
- The 4th World Conference on Meteotsunamis will be held in Bath, UK, 14-16 September 2026. More information is available at <https://sites.google.com/view/meteotsunami26/home>
- The 10th International Conference on Fog, Fog Collection and Dew (IFDA 2026) will be held 22–26 September 2026 at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune, India. See <https://ews.tropmet.res.in/fogdew26/>
- Atmospheric Processes and their Role in Climate (APARC) General Assembly, Pune, India, 12-16 October 2026\* For more information see <https://aparc-climate.org/2026/02/10/aparc-general-assembly-2026/>
- The 6th International Atmospheric Rivers Conference. 19 – 23 October, 2026, Porto, Portugal. See <https://cw3e.ucsd.edu/iarc2026/>
- The American Geophysical Union annual meeting (AGU26) will take place in San Francisco from 7-11 December 2026. <https://www.agu.org/plan-for-a-meeting/agumeetings>

### 2027

- The 29th IUGG General Assembly will be held in Incheon, Republic of Korea, 16-22 July 2027. <https://geodesy.science/event/iugg-general-assembly-2027/>

### 2028

- The next IRC Quadrennial Symposium. Date and location to be confirmed.
- The next Quadrennial Ozone Symposium. Date and location to be confirmed.
- The 20th International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation (ICCP) will be held at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology. The date will be announced in due course.