



WORKSHOP on the ORGANIZATION and MAINTENANCE of TROPICAL CONVECTION and the MADDEN JULIAN OSCILLATION

13 - 17 March 2006

Miramare, Trieste, Italy

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), the Observing System Research and Predictability Experiment (THORPEX) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) will organize a **Workshop on the Organization and Maintenance of Tropical Convection and the Madden Julian Oscillation**, to be held in Trieste from 13 to 17 March 2006.

The Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) dominates tropical variability on sub-seasonal timescales. It is known to have global influences through tropical-extratropical interactions, it is intimately related to active/break cycles of the Australian and Asian Monsoons, and is increasingly recognized as setting the scene for high impact weather events. Yet a complete understanding of the processes involved in the initiation and maintenance of organized convection and the MJO, and an adequate simulation of it by GCMs has continued to be elusive. This workshop will review the current status of knowledge of tropical organized convection, with specific reference to the MJO, by bringing together scientists working in both weather and climate within the combined communities covered by THORPEX and the WCRP.

The specific objectives of the Workshop are:

- i) To review our fundamental understanding of the initiation and maintenance of organized tropical convection and how it relates to tropical weather systems, its 2-way interaction with extratropical weather systems through propagation and Rossby-wave dispersion, and how its simulation in weather and climate prediction models can be improved leading to advances in predictive capability;
- ii) To review the state of knowledge and future directions in observing, simulating, modeling and predicting the MJO and its socio-economic implications; and
- iii) To prepare a Workshop report that includes priorities for THORPEX/WCRP research and forecast demonstration projects.

PARTICIPATION

Scientists and students from all countries which are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA may attend the activity. As it will be conducted in English, participants should have an adequate working knowledge of this language. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help researchers from developing countries, through a programme of training activities within a framework of international cooperation, scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by the home institution. However, limited funds are available for participants who are nationals of, and working in, a developing country. Every effort should be made by applicants to secure support for their airfare (or at least half-fare). Financial support is available only for those who attend the entire activity. There is no registration fee.

The **Application Form** is obtainable from the ICTP WWW server: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1672> (which will be constantly up-dated) or from the activity Secretariat. It should be completed and returned before **20 December 2005** to:

Workshop on the Organization and Maintenance of Tropical Convection and the Madden Julian Oscillation

(smr 1672 - c/o Ms. Nadia van Buuren)
the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
Strada Costiera 11, 34014 Trieste, Italy.

or

smr1672@ictp.it (please save and send file attachments in RTF format)

Applicants who wish to present their recent work as a poster or oral contribution should send its title and abstract with the application form.

Telephone: +39-040-2240-111 Telefax: +39-040-2240-304 E-mail: smr1672@ictp.it
ICTP Home Page: <http://www.ictp.it/>

Trieste, November 2005



CO - SPONSORS:

THORPEX
(The Observing System Research
and Predictability Experiment)

WCRP
(The World Climate
Research Programme)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Julia SLINGO (WCRP / CGAM, UK)
Franco MOLTENI (WCRP / ICTP, Italy)
Mitch MONCRIEFF (THORPEX / NCAR, USA)
Mel SHAPIRO (THORPEX / NCAR., USA)

MAIN TOPICS:

- Fundamental understanding of Tropical Organized Convection
- Fundamental understanding of the Madden Julian Oscillation
- Tropical-extratropical interactions
- Predicting Organized Convection and the Madden Julian Oscillation
- Impacts of Organized Convection and the Madden Julian Oscillation

DEADLINE

for requesting participation

20 December 2005