

Copenhagen, 07/07/2008

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to invite you to the first Plenary Meeting of FAIRMODE, the Forum for AIR quality MODelling in Europe. FAIRMODE is a new common initiative of the Joint Research Centre in Ispra (JRC, Italy) and the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen (EEA, Denmark). The major aim is to give guidance on the use of models for assessing current and future air quality in relation to requirements of the Air Quality Directives and in preparation to the revision of those Directives.

The FAIRMODE kick-off meeting will take place on 10th October in Cavtat, Croatia, following the 12th International Conference on Harmonisation within Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling for Regulatory Purposes (HARMO, 6th – 9th October 2008).

FAIRMODE is steered by a Committee consisting of representatives of JRC, DG Environment, EEA and its European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change, a core group of model users within EIONET (EEA's country partnership network, funded by EEA) and a group of leading scientists in the field (funded by JRC). Two working groups have so far been established:

- Guidance on the Use of Models and
- Quality Assurance of Models (see also FAIRMODE's website: <http://pandora.meng.auth.gr/modnet/>).

The Kick-off meeting aims to:

1. Introduce participants to FAIRMODE's concept and terms of reference;
2. Inform participants about the work progress in the two working groups and invite them to participate actively;
3. Invite participants to share their expectations and to provide input to shape FAIRMODE's future work.

This invitation is open to anyone in the EU Member States and the EEA Member Countries who is interested in the FAIRMODE initiative. Both, model users as well as model developers and scientists are welcome. A detailed draft agenda will be sent out in the second half of August 2008.

Contact for this meeting:

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For signing up to the FAIRMODE meeting, please go to <http://www.eionet.europa.eu/events/FAIRMODE%20-%20kick-off/>. If you encounter any problems, please contact catherine.brytygier@eea.europa.eu. The number of participants for this meeting is limited to 50 interested colleagues, so please make sure to sign up early.

The first FAIRMODE Plenary Meeting is hosted by the Meteorological and Hydrological Service of Croatia (Zagreb), as the HARMO Conference. Meeting place on 10th October is Hotel CROATIA in Cavtat. Please organize your travel arrangements and accommodation via the HARMO web site: <http://meteo.hr/harmo12/>. EEA will only cover the hotel and travel costs for the five EIONET model users who are members of the FAIRMODE Steering Committee.

The organizers of the HARMO Conference have scheduled all presentations relevant to FAIRMODE on the 9th October. A single day participation fee has been arranged for those of you who intend to join the conference on the 9th only.

We look forward to seeing you in Croatia.
Best regards,



Anke Lükewille (EEA)



Panagiota Dilara (JRC)

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