

**INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON
UNDERSTANDING AND PREDICTION OF SUMMER AND WINTER MONSOONS
JAKARTA/BANDUNG (INDONESIA), NOVEMBER 21-24, 2005**

***PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:* 9 COUNTRIES (INCLUDING 7 MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE CENTRE**

***NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:* 37 SCIENTISTS AND PROFESSIONALS FROM 9 COUNTRIES**

The NAM S&T Centre organised an International Roundtable on 'Understanding and Prediction of Summer and Winter Monsoons' in Jakarta/Bandung, Indonesia during 21-24 November 2005 in association with the Indonesian National Agency of Meteorology and Geophysics (BMG), Government of Indonesia and the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. This event was designed as a step to formulate collaborative programmes aimed at strengthening the capability of the NAM and other developing countries in climate prediction and modelling areas, including their application in various efforts to cope with the impact of climate variability with particular focus on the impact of interactions between monsoons, ENSO and the Indian Ocean Dipole Mode, and to define a firm ground for joint projects, the best path to be taken up as well as the best ways to achieve the objectives and accomplish the mission.

37 scientists and professionals from 9 countries, including Dr. John Mc. Bride from the Bureau of Meteorology, Australia; Dr. Ko Ko Oo, Director General, Ministry of Science & Technology, Myanmar; Dr. Tariq Masood Ali Khan, Research Officer in the National Institute of Oceanography, Karachi, Pakistan; Mr.Chien.Wan Tham, Head R&D, Meteorological Services Division, National Environment Agency (NEA), Singapore; Dr. Chandima Gomes, Senior Lecturer in Physics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka; Mr. Eliakim E. Matari, Manager, Central Forecast Office (CFO), Tanzania Meteorological Agency; and Mr. Abushen Wamubi Majugu of the Department of Meteorology, Kampala, Uganda; and several participants from the host country Indonesia attended the technical sessions of the Roundtable and presented their papers. The Indian participants were Dr. A. K. Bohra, Dr. Akhilesh Gupta, Ms. P. Maini and Ms. Munmun Das Gupta from NCMRWF; Mr. S. R. Kalsi and Mr. S. K. Banerjee from India Meteorological Department, New Delhi; Prof. S K. Dash from the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi; Mrs. S. K. Patwardhan from Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune; Mr. Gopal Krishna Patra from the CSIR Centre for Mathematical Modelling and Computer Simulation, Bangalore; and Prof. P. N. M. Vinayachandran from the Centre for Atmospheric & Oceanic Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

The Roundtable started with an opening speech by Ir. Sriworo B. Harijono, Director General of BMG and a keynote speech by Prof. Kusmayanto Kadiman, Minister of Research for Science and Technology, Indonesia, which was followed by three technical sessions.

The first session was on Monsoon Science and had two sub-sessions, namely on Variability, Predictability & Prediction and Ocean-Atmosphere-Land Interactions &

Monsoon. In this session it was proposed to organise the second International Roundtable in India in the year 2007 with the scientific themes of monsoons: Variability, Predictability and Prediction, Ocean-Atmosphere-Land Interactions & Monsoon, and Monsoon Processes: Cloud Interaction.

The second session was on Applications, which again had two sub-sessions, namely on Extended Climate Prediction: Status and Challenge and Climate Change and Monsoons. The recommendations made during this session were (a) to exchange the data and organise a short-term training programme in 2006 related to the weather prediction on topics, viz. data assimilation programme, sectoral application of medium range weather forecast and statistical and dynamical downscaling techniques, (b) to exchange the data and organise a short period training programme in 2006 on extended climate prediction with the statistical and dynamical downscaling techniques, and (c) undertake joint operational activities in 2007 related to climate change and monsoons with the topics of monsoons in the warming scenario.

Discussion in the third session on Geophysical Instrumentation: Design and Production resulted in the planning of joint design and production, development of radiosonde transmitter and the advanced instrumentation and network.

Besides the above, a special session was organised on the first day of the Roundtable, in which Dr. P.S. Goel (Secretary, Department of Ocean Development, India) and Dr. Prih Harjadi (BMG-Indonesia) delivered scientific lectures on Tsunami. Also the lectures by Prof. Vinayachandran of the Indian Institute of Science, India and Dr. John Mc Bride of Australia were held in Bandung Institute of Technology on 23rd November which were attended by ~100 persons, including the Roundtable participants, students and faculty members of the Institute. A visit to the venue of the Afro-Asian Conference was also organised in Bandung.

The outcome of the Roundtable has been not only in the form of a sound project concept road map addressing scientific as well as socio-economic aspects of monsoon prediction, but will soon be available in the form of a scientific proceedings to be brought out by the NAM S&T Centre.