

Short report on the ETC-AQ workshop organised in the frame of the 5th Model Harmonisation Conference, Rhodes, Greece, 18-21 May 1998

With the participation of about 25 conference attendees, the so far experience with the Model Documentation System (MDS) was discussed and opinions on its future were collected. After brief remarks of Jan Macoun on the PTL involvement in task 6, all workshop participants agreed on the usefulness of the MDS and – with only few exceptions – stated that they have easy access to the system. Nevertheless it appears advisable to foresee a mirroring e.g. at the RIVM site. With regard to the future, the following recommendations were made:

- a) Creation of a Documentation System for meteorological preprocessors to dispersion models, possibly in collaboration with the newly formed COST 715 action.
- b) Inclusion of hyperlinks to sites where input data may be found (e.g. orography and landuse, emission factors etc.)
- c) Agreement with US EPA on a linkage of the systems (which, however, will have to be maintained).
- d) Expansion to information on model validation. There was agreement that ETC-AQ should be modest in the beginning, e.g. by starting with the adoption of specific symbols to denote that a certain type of validation has been performed for individual models. Scientific backing for this expansion should come from a board of experts, something like a “European Model Validation Committee” to consist of representatives from at least EEA, EUROTRAC, COST, DGXII and the ad hoc initiative. With such a body it would be easier to achieve that the aims of the ad hoc initiative be expanded also to types of models other than the single stack short range dispersion models.