

FIRST CIRCULAR
THE 25th INTERNATIONAL TOVS STUDY CONFERENCE (ITSC-25)

Dear Colleague,

We have started preparations for the Twenty-Fifth International TOVS Study Conference (ITSC-25). We shall be gathering in Goa, India from Thursday, 8 May through Wednesday, 14 May 2025. These dates are firm, so you may mark them on your calendars. This Circular is primarily to advise you of the conference dates and location, and to solicit your input on the scientific program.

Conference Location

The conference location will be the [Resort Rio](#) near Baga Beach in Goa, India. The Resort Rio is located approximately 38 km from Dabolim Goa International Airport (GOI) and 29 km from Manohar International Airport (GOX). ITSC-25 will be hosted by the National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) of India in cooperation with CIMSS/SSEC/UW-Madison.



More information on the conference venue, logistics, and accommodations will be forthcoming in the 2nd Circular along with a call for abstracts. Below is a summary of key dates for ITSC-25.

2nd Circular (call for abstracts)	1 August 2024
3rd Circular	1 October 2024
Abstracts Due	15 October 2024
Draft Program	15 December 2024
Final Program	31 January 2025
Registration deadline	15 February 2025
Hotel reservation deadline	15 March 2025
ITSC-25	8-14 May 2025

Please note that for ITSC-25, the deadlines are much earlier than you are used to. Many attendees will require letters of invitation and visas, so it will be important to register promptly. More information on visa applications will be provided in the second circular.

For logistical matters the ITSC-25 organizing committee can be contacted at:
Maria.Vasys@ssec.wisc.edu

Financial Support

Limited financial support is available for the meeting and we may be able to offer partial support to participants. If you anticipate the need for travel assistance, please contact us as soon as possible, indicating your likely needs. Note that financial support usually goes first to people making a presentation.

Conference Topics

The conference will cover a wide range of topics concerning atmospheric sounding, its applications, and related issues. We propose that key issues for this meeting include:

- Evaluation of sounder data from FY-3E, FY-3F and FY-4B, INSAT-3DS;
- Preparation for assimilation and exploitation of data from MTG-IRS, IASI-NG and Himawari-10;
- Assimilation of microwave and infrared sounder data over Tropical regions and use of low-inclination orbit sounders;
- Retrieval of temperature and moisture profiles from microwave and infrared sounding data;
- Climate Data Records derived from infrared and microwave sounder data;
- Direct readout software for Metop, Metop-SG, FY3, and JPSS sounders;
- Low-latency sounder data from DBNet;
- Impact and mitigation of Radio Frequency Interference;
- Radiative transfer model development and validation;
- Studies and results for future infrared and microwave sounders including commercial instruments;
- Updates on Satellite Programs and International Coordination (WMO, CGMS), including proposed expansion of the satellite sounding observing network and GEOSS.

Other relevant issues include: updates on exploitation of current operational sounders; the validation and tuning of surface models; preparation for retirement of NOAA-18/19, Metop-B/C, and Aqua satellites; use of sounder data for derivation of atmospheric chemistry analysis; and absolute calibration and cross-calibration of the global satellite observing system.

Papers on these and related topics are encouraged. More information on the conference format and details on how to submit an abstract will be given in the 2nd Circular.

ITWG Web site

All information related to ITSC-25 will be posted on the ITWG Web site at:
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/itwg/>

Mailing List

It is important to continuously maintain and update the ITWG mailing list. It would help us greatly in keeping our mailing list up-to-date if you could notify us of any changes. The ITWG mailing list can be reached at the following email address:

itwg@g-groups.wisc.edu

Previous Reports and Publications

Reports from all previous conferences are available on the ITWG website.

Concluding Remarks

The Co-Chairs serve to further the activities of the ITWG. We welcome your comments on the issues above or other topics. Please send questions and comments to both Co-Chairs at the email addresses below, or use the link on the ITWG Web Page. Please forward this circular to any others you think may be interested. We hope to see you at ITSC-25!

Sincerely,
Reima Eresmaa and Fiona Smith
ITWG Co-Chairs



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