



**Cooperative Institute for
Research in the Atmosphere**
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8 February 2018

Subject: Ninth Meeting of the WMO Virtual Laboratory Management Group (VLMG), Fort Collins, Colorado, USA, 16-20 July 2018

Dear Colleague:

At the invitation of the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA), and on behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), I am pleased to invite you to participate in or nominate a representative to attend the ninth meeting of the WMO/CGMS Virtual Laboratory for Education and Training in Satellite Meteorology (VLab) Management Group (VLMG-9). The meeting will be hosted by NOAA's Cooperative Institute at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, Colorado in the United States, from 16-20 July 2018.

At a time when many WMO members are experiencing a new generation of geostationary and low earth orbiting satellites, the VLMG-9 meeting offers an opportunity for all VLab partners to assess achievements, exchange experiences, address challenges, and make decisions to ensure that training meets user needs to fully utilize the new satellite capabilities. Active participation by all partners in the VLMG is essential and we therefore strongly encourage all Centers of Excellence (CoEs) and sponsoring Satellite Operators to attend VLMG-9.

It is imperative that the representative chosen to attend the meeting is well versed in VLab activities and has authority to make decisions regarding the support of the VLab goals within their CoE and/or Satellite Operator. Please refer to the description of VLab Expectations of CoEs and Satellite Operators, located on the meeting website, so that important decisions can be made during the meeting and followed up on afterwards.

The provisional agenda for the meeting and registration form is attached. All working documents and logistic information will be shared via the VLMG-9 meeting website as they become available <http://training.eumetsat.int/course/view.php?id=295>.

We kindly request the confirmation of your participation in VLMG-9 by returning the registration form no later than 30 April 2018. Send replies by e-mail to the VLab Technical Support Officer Luciane Veeck at luveeck@googlemail.com.

Sincerely,



Christian D. Kummerow, Director
and Professor of Atmospheric Science

cc. Louis W. Uccellini
Permanent Representative of the U.S. with WMO