

RESOLUTION ON REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF THE PURCHASE PRICE FOR KEEPER'S COTTAGE

*Adopted by the Council at its 63rd session (June 2005)
ECMWF/C/63/M(05)2 para. 75 ii) and Annex 3*

At its session on 13-14 June 2005, the Council of ECMWF, taking into account the recent exchange of correspondence between the Director of ECMWF and the Chief Executive of the Met Office acting on behalf of the UK Government, on the request from ECMWF for reimbursement of the purchase price for Keeper's Cottage, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

The Council of ECMWF

Recognising

1. the outstanding role of ECMWF in global modelling of the atmosphere and oceans;
2. the great scientific, technological and economic benefits to all European Member States from this co-operation;
3. that the amendments to the Convention unanimously adopted by the Council at its 62nd session on 22 April 2005, will allow a number of European States, not currently Member States, to accede to the convention of ECMWF in the near future;
4. the important and growing role of ECMWF as Specialized Meteorological Centre for Medium-Range Forecasting in the World Meteorological Organization, a specialized agency of the United Nations;
5. the expected growing role of ECMWF in environmental monitoring, in particular as a participant to the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS);
6. that an international organisation should have the potential to grow in order to meet its objectives, supported by the host nation;
7. the requirement of ECMWF to have its headquarters in an appropriate physical environment;

Noting

1. that Article 3 of the Headquarters' Agreement commits the Government of the United Kingdom to use its best endeavours to provide ECMWF with additional premises;
2. the great financial benefit accruing to the UK as host nation, which will increase with the extension of the activities of ECMWF;
3. the current large investments of the Member States of ECMWF in the improvement of the infrastructure of the organisation;

4. that the additional land adjacent to the south of the original site made available by the Met Office is less than the two acres requested by the Council to meet the future needs of ECMWF ;
5. that the land of the Keeper's Cottage adjacent to the north of the original site is sufficient to meet the future needs of ECMWF;
6. that the Keeper's Cottage is the only land available for future development in the vicinity of ECMWF;
7. the established practice that land required for infrastructure extensions by international organisations is provided by the host nation;

Requests the Government of the United Kingdom to take such steps as are necessary to purchase Keeper's Cottage for ECMWF, to reimburse the purchase price for the Keeper's Cottage to ECMWF and to take ownership.