

**Hong Kong Observatory**  
**Financial Year 2005/2006**

**International**

The websites on worldwide official weather forecasts and warnings operated by the Observatory on behalf of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) became part of WMO's routine operation.

Led a WMO pilot project to provide high-tech weather forecasting support through the internet to developing countries in the Asian region.

Mr Lam Chiu-ying, Director, was invited to deliver an invited speech to the WMO Executive Council. The speech was published in the WMO Bulletin.

Mr Lam Chiu-ying, Director, was invited by WMO to serve as a consultant to the Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka, to prepare a master development plan.

Mr Yeung Kai-hing, Assistant Director, represented WMO in special visits to Pakistan and Myanmar to help study the setting up of a tsunami warning system. Mr Yeung visited Pakistan as a WMO consultant again after the occurrence of a major earthquake, to formulate an action plan to rehabilitate the meteorological services after the disaster.

Hosted an international seminar on quality management in the provision of aviation meteorological services.

Organized on behalf of WMO two training courses for developing countries on "aviation weather service" and "public weather warning service".

**Collaboration with Partners**

Organized the campaign "Safer Living" in cooperation with several government departments, to carry out a series of activities to promote the public's understanding of disaster prevention and mitigation.

Organized in cooperation with 30 government departments a publicity programme “Science in the Public Service” to promote the public’s understanding of science.

Cooperated with local universities to provide training and research opportunities for young scientists.

Collaborated with Radio Television Hong Kong in producing an award-winning documentary TV series “Meteorology Series III” and in organizing a tropical cyclone naming contest.

Cooperated with the educational community to support extra-curricular activities. Examples included “Weather Diary” activity, weather station in school. Partners included the Hong Kong Education City, etc.

### **Weather Services**

Established a lightning location network covering the Pearl River delta area and provided lightning location information service.

Enhanced the information in the Observatory website, such as territory-wide gust information, real-time weather images, Fengyun-2C satellite imageries, imageries from the new Japanese geostationary weather satellite, weather charts from numerical models etc.

The world's first LIDAR Windshear Alerting System to support the windshear warning services began operation at the Hong Kong International Airport.

Began trial operation of SMS weather warning service for mobile phones.

Announced to the public the projection of Hong Kong rainfall in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Began issuing seasonal climate forecast on an experimental basis.

## **Technological Development**

The “nowcasting” system developed by the Observatory invited to participate in a WMO forecast demonstration project to support the weather services for the 2008 Beijing Olympic.

Obtained a tsunami numerical model, conducted test runs and related research.

## **Extension Activity**

Continued the “Guided Tour of the Observatory for the Public”. Received 17,000 visitors during the Observatory’s Open Day.

Conducted public courses for a total of over 2,000 participants.

Conducted tailor-made seminars for different sectors in the community, such as fishermen, property management, container operators, media, parent teacher associations, government officers, outdoor workers etc.

Number of members of “Friends of the Observatory” exceeded 7,000.

[More information on the work of the Hong Kong Observatory in 2005 can be found in the 27<sup>th</sup>\*, 28<sup>th</sup>\* and 29<sup>th</sup> issues of the “Friends of the Observatory” newsletter (\* in Chinese only)]