Koninklijk Nederlands
Meteorologisch Instituut
Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat

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KNMI

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Contactpersoon
Jan-Fokke Meirink
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Onderwerp **Vacancy announcement**
Datum 16 July 2010
Nummer KNMI 2010/26

At the KNMI in De Bilt, The Netherlands, in the division of Climate Observations, there is a temporary position for

Postdoc Researcher (m/f)

General
The Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute *(*KNMI) is the Dutch national institute for weather, climate and seismology. KNMI provides weather information for traffic, economy, and environment to the general public, the national authorities, airliners, and shipping. KNMI performs research of climate change by monitoring, modeling and process studies, and provides climate information and data.
The Climate Observations division contributes to monitoring and understanding of the Earth‘s atmosphere by using satellite data. The division processes satellite data (especially GOME(-2), SCIAMACHY, OMI, and SEVIRI), distributes satellite data products to users, and uses the data to study processes and trends of atmospheric composition regarding trace gases (e.g. ozone, NO2), aerosols and clouds. A large part of the research is done in international collaborations, with funding from national and international agencies.

Job description
The postdoc researcher will work on the ESA Climate Change Initiative – ECV Clouds project, in a consortium of about ten European institutes. The aim of this project is to produce consistent multi-annual multi-instrument global datasets of cloud properties, which can be used for trend studies and for the evaluation of climate models. KNMI contributes to this project with two types of retrievals: (i) cloud physical properties from imagers (e.g., SEVIRI) and (ii) effective cloud fraction and cloud height from spectrometers (e.g., SCIAMACHY). Important steps towards the goal of the project are the inter-calibration of satellite measurements, a retrieval algorithm inter-comparison study, and an investigation of the potential synergy between polar-orbiting and geostationary instruments.

Tasks of postdoc researcher:
- Participate in the set-up and execution of an international retrieval algorithm inter-comparison study
- Work on inter-calibration of polar and geostationary satellite instruments
- Develop a methodology to relate cloud properties at a specific local time, as derived from polar orbiting satellites, to daily means, using information from the geostationary SEVIRI instrument
- Produce a consistent time series of effective cloud fraction and cloud height from spectrometers.

Required
- Ph.D. degree inphysics, astronomy, mathematics or meteorology.
- Ability to work with large datasets.
- Good programming skills.
- Good communication skills.
- Good English speaking and writing skills.

Preferred

- Background in atmospheric science.
- Experience in satellite remote sensing, cloud physics, and radiative transfer.

Working location: De Bilt, the Netherlands
Salary: Max € 4.380,72 gross per month

Details

The position is temporary for a period of 36 months. The selected candidate will be placed in the Stichting Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (SWO) KNMI.

More information can be obtained from dr. Piet Stammes, phone: (+31) (0)302206459 or
dr. Jan Fokke Meirink, phone: (+31) (0)302206420 or (+31) (0)634792891.

Applications should be sent before 23 augustus 2010 with reference to vacancynumber KNMI 2010/26 to:

Ministerie van Verkeer en Waterstaat
Werving en Selectie
Postbus 20906
2500 EX Den Haag

of e-mail: recruitment@minvenw.nl