There is considerable international activity in the development of numerical models for the purpose of climate simulation and for forecasting on various timescales. This publication is an attempt to foster an early interchange of information among workers in these areas. The material in the publication is the response to a "call for contributions" sent to scientists worldwide. Contributions obtained in response to this call are included if they are related to the CAS/JSC numerical experimentation programme, if they give new results, and if they are of suitable length and size. Reports that do not meet these criteria, have been previously published, or are purely theoretical may be rejected.

The most appropriate reports give results of new numerical experiments in the form of a succinct explanation accompanied by suitable tables and figures. The contributions are collected into subject groupings as appropriate. The range of subjects is expected to vary with time and depends on the submissions received. The large number of contributions from around the world indicates the wide scope of activities in numerical experimentation, and the valuable addition that this type of report makes to the refereed journals. Comments and suggestions for improvement to the publication are welcomed. To facilitate location of specific contributions, they are ordered alphabetically by author in the various subject areas. An overall index by author is also included. The publication is web-based and accessible at http://www.wcrpclimate.org/WGNE/blue_book.html.

For many years the WGNE Blue Book was prepared and edited at the Environment Canada. This multi-year initiative is highly appreciated. Now the Hydrometcenter of Russia has taken the lead on the activity.

Starting from this year, the contributions to the WGNE Blue Book are submitted through the web site of the Hydrometcenter of Russia http://wmc.meteoinfo.ru/bluebook/add_article.php. I'd like to thank Alexander Smirnov and Alexander Skomskov for setting up and supporting the web site and for their invaluable assistance in preparing the web version of this report.

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