Climate change is subject of both national and international political debate and draws much attention of the general public. The Climate-Policy Support Unit of the Department is involved in this by advising the national policymakers, by acting as national focal point for IPCC and GCOS, and through various outreach activities.

**Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC)**
The Climate-Policy Support Unit provides scientific support to the Netherlands Delegations to the bodies of the FCCC. In 2001 the Unit participated in the negotiations on GCOS-matters during CoP7 in Marrakech, and coordinated the detailed national GCOS-report that is part of the third Netherlands’ National Communication on Climate Change Policies, published by the Ministry of Spatial Planning, Housing and the Environment.

**Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**
The Head of the Department is the Netherlands’ Principal Delegate to the IPCC. Dr. A.P. van Ulden is the Netherlands’ focal point for IPCC Working Group I. The publication of IPCC’s Third Assessment Report (TAR) (early 2001, three volumes) was a milestone. TAR provides the scientific basis for climate policymaking until 2007. The Unit coordinated the national government review of all three volumes and represented the Netherlands in the acceptance of the Working Group I report (the Scientific Basis) in Shanghai. Subsequently many activities were undertaken (interviews, articles, symposia, brochures) so as to communicate the TAR’s content to both the general public and professionals (e.g. politicians, civil servants, water management, journalists, representatives on Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)). These activities included two symposia for experts in water management, a symposium for media meteorologists and a symposium for policymakers, journalists and NGOs. A very successful abstract of the TAR was prepared for water professionals.

**Climate monitoring and the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS)**
In order to understand the mechanisms behind climate change long-term datasets of many parameters of the global climate system are essential. In addition to weather related parameters, data are needed of the atmospheric composition, oceans, land surface and vegetation, snow and ice, and of the biomass. This is a worldwide activity covering a variety of disciplines, where coordination is essential. Addressing the Netherlands’ society, an informative website with various links was created on the organisation and methods of climate monitoring (Http://www.knmi.nl, onderzoek, monitoren van klimaatveranderingen; in Dutch). To further stimulate the co-operation between Institutions of various disciplines that contribute to climate monitoring a National Climate Monitoring Platform was initiated in co-operation with NWO/ALW. A first meeting, bringing together Alterra, ECN, NIOZ, NIVR, RIKZ, RIVM, RIZA, SRON and TUD is foreseen for early 2003. At a SBSTA/GCOS meeting in Offenbach (Germany) in 2002 contributions were made to discussions on the further development of GCOS, on ways to reverse the decline of global monitoring networks, on plans for a Regional GCOS Workshop in Eastern Europe, and on enhancing the co-operation between national GCOS focal points in Europe.

**Netherlands Centre for Climate Research (CKO)**
The CKO is a collaboration between RIVM, IMAU
and KNMI. It aims at achieving a coherent climate research programme by tuning the individual programmes and by undertaking joint activities. The Unit acts as CKO secretariat. CKO-activities include science projects, meetings, model support and the promotion of free exchange of scientific data. In 2002 an annual report was written for 2001. The CKO has been evaluated in 2001. The main conclusion was that CKO achieves its goals satisfactory within the limits set by the budget.

Public information
An important task of KNMI is to provide reliable information on the climate issue to the Netherlands’ society. KNMI researchers frequently appear in the media. The Unit coordinates these activities. In 2002 a KNMI Communication Plan on Climate and Climate Change was developed. We aim at getting across our message concerning 1) physical aspects of the climate system, 2) the scientific basis of climate policy, 3) climate monitoring, 4) specific aspects of climate change in the Netherlands and 5) the way KNMI scientists contribute to all of this. To this end a wide range of activities were undertaken.

Scientific publications and reports

**2001**
IGBP/WCRP Committee (including G.J. Komen), 2001. *Global change research in The Netherlands. Dutch research within the framework of the IGBP and the WCRP.* A. de Gier and L. Groen, KNAW (Eds.).

**2002**

Number of national presentations
**2001:** 16
**2002:** 15

Number of international presentations
**2001:** 2
**2002:** 2
Interviews and contacts with media
2001: 128
2002: 101

Advice, collective effort of the whole Department
At numerous occasions specific advice was given on climate and seismology related issues.

Education and organisation of workshops
2001
Baede, A.P.M., Open Science Conference, Session on Science and the Policy Process: IPCC and beyond, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 10–13 July, convenor.
Komen, G.J., Climate modelling in Europe (COACH/PRISM Summer school), Les Diablerets, Switzerland, 25–29 June, organiser.
Komen, G.J., professor of Climate Dynamics, University of Utrecht.
Komen, G.J., Watersymposium RIKZ and WL, Den Haag, the Netherlands, 25 September, organiser.
Verbeek, J., 2001, National Symposium IPCC’s Third Assessment Report, Amsterdam, organiser

2002
Komen, G.J., professor of Climate Dynamics, University of Utrecht.
Komen, G.J. and J. Verbeek, Symposium Weer en Water in de 21ste eeuw: Omgaan met scenario’s, Den Haag, the Netherlands, 21 November, organisers.
Monna, W.A.A., Workshop on COST Action 720, Integrated ground-based remote sensing stations for atmospheric profiling, L’Aquila, Italy, 18–21 June, co-organiser.
Verbeek, J., Klimaatpanel NOVEM Vijfde Energy Awardsdag, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, 9 December, organiser, chairman.
Verbeek, J., Landelijk Seminar Klimaatverandering voor Beroepsmeteorologen, De Bilt, the Netherlands, 17 December, organiser, chairman.
Verbeek, J., Wetenschapsdag KNMI, De Bilt, the Netherlands, 20 October, organiser.
Verbeek, J., Workshop Een strategie voor het IPCC, Utrecht, the Netherlands, 23 May, organiser.
Verbeek, J., Workshop Klimaatportaal NOVEM Vijfde Energy Awardsdag, Nijmegen, 9 December, organiser and chairman.

Committees
Baede, A.P.M., Bestuur COACH, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Bestuur Sectie Lucht, Vereniging voor Milieukundigen VVM, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Bestuur Stichting Ruimte Onderzoek Nederland (SRON), chairman.
Baede, A.P.M., Externe Beoordelingscommissie Milieuonderzoek (ECN), member.
Baede, A.P.M., GCOS Atmospheric Observations Panel, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Interdepartementale Begeleidingsgroep OMI (BOMI), KNMI representative.
Baede, A.P.M., Interdepartementale Coördinatiegroep IPCC, chairman.
Baede, A.P.M., Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Netherlands representative.
Baede, A.P.M., Platform Ruimtevaart NIVR, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Raad voor de Raad voor Aarde en Klimaat (RAK) van de KNAW, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Steering Group Ozone SAF EUMETSAT, member.
Baede, A.P.M., Stuurgroep Nationaal Onderzoeksprogramma Klimaatverandering (NOP), member.
Baede, A.P.M., WMO Commission on Atmospheric Sciences, member.
Komen, G.J., Advisory Board National Geographic Magazine Netherlands and Belgium, member.
Komen, G.J., Bestuur COACH, member.
Komen, G.J., CKO Programme Board, chairman.
Komen, G.J., European Network for Earth System Modelling (ENES), co-coordinator.
Komen, G.J., IGBP/SOLAS, member Scientific Steering Group.
Komen, G.J., Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Netherlands representative.
Komen, G.J., KNAW IGBP/WCRP committee, member, vice chairman.
Komen, G.J., Nederlands Vervolgprogramma Klimaat Onderzoek (NVKO), co-chairman programme board.
Komen, G.J., NWO/ALW CLIVARNET committee, chairman.
Komen, G.J., Scientific Board SRON, member.
Monna, W.A.A., COST-720, chairman.
Monna, W.A.A., Netherlands Delegation CoP7, member.
Monna, W.A.A., GCOS, Netherlands national focal point.
Monna, W.A.A., Guest Editor EGS Physics and Chemistry of the Earth, 26, 3, 8 (Special Issue).
Monna, W.A.A., Guest Editor Meteorologische Zeitschrift, 10, 6 (Special Issue).
Monna, W.A.A., National Preparation Committee World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, member.
Monna, W.A.A., VROM/TKP, member.