

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

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27 October 2021

Annexes: 4

Subject: The fourteenth WMO Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET-14),
Online, 22-25 November 2021

Action required: For information and distribution to appropriate staff to represent the
Organization, for registration **not later than 17 November 2021**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a part of its Education and Training Programme, once every four years, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) organizes a worldwide Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET), which is normally attended by educational and training experts from WMO Regional Training Centres (RTCs), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), development partners and other institutes involved in meteorological, hydrological and climatological education and training.

It is my pleasure to inform you that the fourteenth Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET-14) will be held from Monday, 22 November to Thursday, 25 November 2021, and will be conducted entirely online. The main theme of the SYMET-14 is "Education and Training in a Period of Rapid Change". This will be a timely opportunity for the education and training community to come together to discuss how best to capitalise on the rapid innovations we have been making in response to challenges we are facing. It will also provide the opportunity to discuss greater international collaboration to meet the scale and breadth of training required for the changing roles demanded of earth system scientists in a weather- and climate-resilient future.

The world has recently experienced dramatic and rapid shifts in our ways of living, interacting, and educating as we have all adjusted to the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has accelerated changes to the delivery of meteorological, hydrological and climate training, leading to the requirement of new delivery modes, new forms of instructional media and new pedagogical approaches. However, rapid change has been recognized as the new normal for much longer, and in many more ways than those resulting from the pandemic. Technological innovations and social evolution continue to change our lives and work, society expects greater accuracy in and increased usability of weather and climate predictions, climate change has accelerated and demands immediate action, professions are becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, research uncovers new opportunities each year for service improvements, and globalization means that we all interact and rely on each other more than ever. With these rapid changes in mind, the goals of the symposium are to:

- Identify the key issues for international, regional, and national actions in future Education and Training, particularly in response to the rapid changes we are experiencing;

To: Internationals Organizations

- Apprise WMO RTC's and training partners of the goals and status of the WMO strategic plan and programmes;
- Further the work of the WMO Global Campus initiative to aid Members in responding to needs for developing and delivering education and training to meet growing and evolving needs;
- Recommend collaborative platforms for coordination of education and training activities between stakeholders.

The symposium Programme Outline and themes (Annex I) and the Provisional Agenda for SYMET-14 (Annex II), illustrate the key areas considered for discussion. Several prominent experts are being invited to present keynote addresses. A panel session and working group discussions (including core-session groups and regional groups in extended sessions at convenient times) will allow as many participants as possible to share their thoughts on critical issues. The outputs of the working group discussions will lead to the SYMET-14 Statement, as well as to action plans for follow up after the symposium. Several virtual poster sessions will provide all participants the opportunity to share their own challenges and strategies for confronting rapid change and discuss these with participants. Plenary presentations will be accompanied by simultaneous interpretation to six official WMO languages, but English will be the working language in many breakout group interactions. Due to the limited time available for live discussion during the symposium, discussions on the symposium website and the poster session site will offer additional venues for sharing ideas and discussing them.

The SYMET-14 Website at <https://etrp.wmo.int/course/view.php?id=220> has an online registration form (see Annex III for instructions) and a poster abstract submission form (see Annex IV for instructions) and several resources available, but these will be increased as the symposium approaches, including updated information on the SYMET-14 programme and meeting logistics.

I should be grateful if you could give this symposium the widest possible publicity to eligible participants in your organization. Representatives of education and training offices of the United Nations Family of Organizations are welcome to contribute and benefit from SYMET-14. However, it is advised that participants should have the support of their Directors before making commitments to the action plans that result from the working groups during the symposium. Therefore, participation in those working groups should be allocated appropriately by each Organization.

Finally, I invite all prospective participants to register to attend the SYMET-14 by submitting the online registration form (see Annex III) **not later than 17 November 2021**.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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Fourteenth WMO Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET-14)

“Education and Training in a Period of Rapid Change”

(Online, 22-25 November 2021)

Programme Outline

The provisional agenda calls for approximate start and closing times from 10:45 to 16:15 UTC each day. Regional working group discussions will be held outside core hours, once pre-session and once post-session, to allow for time zone and language differences. Simultaneous interpretation into six WMO official languages will be provided during plenary sessions.

General Schedule:

Day 1: Keynote Addresses and WMO Global Campus Panel Session

Day 2: Thematic Working Group discussions, Western Regional Working Group discussion

Day 3: Eastern Regional Working Group discussion, and reports to plenary of all Working Groups

Day 4: Development of the SYMET-14 Statement, discussion and approval

All days will also contain Poster Sessions.

Keynote Addresses:

Keynote 1: *“Preparing the Earth System Scientist of 2040”*, Dr Louis Uccellini, Permanent Representative of United States

Keynote 2: *“The increasing importance of education and training in promoting the paradigm shift to multi hazard early warning systems for NMHSs”*, Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati, Permanent Representative of Indonesia

Keynote 3: *“A Look at the Future of International Meteorological and Hydrological Education”*, Acad. Markku Kulmala, University of Helsinki

Keynote 4: *“Preparing for the rapid changes required in the operations of hydrological and climate services”*, Prof. Komi Sélom Klassou, Former Prime-Minister of Togo

Global Campus Panel Session:

"WMO Global Campus: Next Collaborative Directions", Dr Andrew Charlton-Perez (University of Reading), Dottoressa Marina Baldi (IBE, RTC Italy), Marínés Campos (SMN, RTC Argentina), Prof. Tingua Ma (NUIST, RTC China)

Ref.: 25407/2021-L4 MS/ETR

Working Group Themes:

Note: Working language for these groups will be English only during the plenary. Regional Working Groups are also planned, and can be conducted in other languages, but without simultaneous translation.

1. Securing institutional commitment to share learning resources
 2. Newly proposed WMO ETR Education and Training Board
 3. Micro-credentials and credit transfer, how could we proceed
 4. Considering new pedagogical approaches and assessment methods, including the future uses of blended learning
 5. Technological barriers to online learning, and using partnerships between online education providers to overcome them
 6. Supporting the lifecycle of professionals: From the decision to enter the discipline, to continuous learning, to maintaining job satisfaction and competency
 7. Where are the content area expertise gaps within in our academic teaching staff members? How do we identify and fill these?
 8. Review and input on the new Capacity Development Strategy draft developed by the Capacity Development Panel
 9. How do we identify the critical regional needs for the professional development of operational staff? How do we ensure that appropriately qualified participants who need to apply the planned training attend our training events?
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"Education and Training in a Period of Rapid Change"

(Online, 22-25 November 2021)

Provisional Agenda for SYMET-14

Monday, 22 November 2021

11:00-11:30 UTC	Day 1 Welcome remarks	
11:30-12:00 UTC	Opening Keynote 1	Preparing the Earth System Scientist of 2040 Dr Louis Uccellini, Permanent Representative of United States
12:00-12:30 UTC	Keynote 2	The increasing importance of education and training in promoting the paradigm shift to multi hazard early warning systems for NMHSs Prof. Dwikorita Karnawati, Permanent Representative of Indonesia
12:30-13:00 UTC	Keynote 3	A Look at the Future of International Meteorological and Hydrological Education Acad. Markku Kulmala, University of Helsinki
13:00-14:30 UTC	Poster Session 1	
14:30-15:00 UTC	Keynote 4	Preparing for the rapid changes required in the operations of hydrological and climate services Prof. Komi Sélom Klassou, Former Prime-Minister of Togo
15:00-16:00 UTC	WMO Global Campus Panel Session	WMO Global Campus: Next Collaborative Directions
16:00-16:15	Closing of Day 1	

Tuesday, 23 November 2021

10:45-11:00 UTC	Day 2 Welcome	
11:00-12:30 UTC	Thematic working group discussions	First 15-20 minutes: Assigning rapporteur, setting discussion topics.

		Produce recommendations for plenary
12:30-13:30 UTC	Poster Session 2	
13:30-15:00 UTC	Thematic working group discussions	Identification of actions and recommendations
15:00-15:15	Closing of Day 2	
15:45-18:00 UTC	Regional working groups Western time zone groups	Identification of actions and recommendations

Wednesday, 24 November 2021

08:00-10:00 UTC	Regional working groups Eastern time zone groups	Identification of actions and recommendations
10:45-11:00 UTC	Day 3 Welcome	
11:00-12:30 UTC	Plenary reports from thematic working groups	Report on identified of actions and recommendations
12:30-14:00 UTC	Poster Session 3	
14:00-15:30 UTC	Plenary reports from regional working groups	Report on identified of actions and recommendations
15:30-15:45 UTC	Closing of Day 3	

Thursday, 25 November 2021

10:45-11:00 UTC	Day 4 Welcome	
11:00-13:00 UTC	Poster Session 4	
	Develop Draft of Symposium Statement by assigned working group	Concurrent sessions
13:00-14:00 UTC	Discussion of Symposium Statement	Final considerations and comments on Symposium Statement
14:00-15:30 UTC	Final approval of Symposium Statement	Identification of leads for actions and follow-up timetable
15:30-16:00 UTC	Closing remarks	

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Registration Instructions

[**Register Now**](#)

Who should attend SYMET-14?

Representatives of all education and training institutions of WMO Members are invited to contribute and benefit from the SYMET-14. Additionally, stakeholders of capacity development initiatives and goals involving education and training should also consider attending.

What is required of participants?

Participating in the SYMET-14 will include attending the keynote addresses and question & answer periods, as well as the WMO Global Campus panel session discussion. Moreover, contributing to thematic and regional working group discussions and planning is a key part of achieving the desired the SYMET-14 outcomes.

However, participants in the working groups should have the support of their PRs and institutional directors before making commitments to the action plans that result from the working groups. Therefore, participation in those working groups should be allocated appropriately by each institution. Very large working groups could limit their productivity.

Participants should also be prepared to respond to the SYMET-14 Statement, which will be developed by an assigned working group made up of the symposium chairs and members of the International Advisory Committee (IAC), as well as other invited members. The statement will be based on discussions that take place during the event, and participants will ultimately approve the statement after comments and suggestions.

Participants should also contribute to the poster sessions either as contributors or by visiting and discussing presented posters (see Annex IV).

How to Register for the SYMET-14 (22-25 November 2021)?

Participants will need to register for SYMET-14 in order to receive important follow up communications, to access the symposium resources, and to participate in both live and asynchronous interactions.

Please visit [the SYMET-14 Website](https://etrp.wmo.int/course/view.php?id=220) at <https://etrp.wmo.int/course/view.php?id=220> to complete and submit the registration form not later than **17 November 2021**.

How to Register for the Quadrennial Meeting of Directors of WMO Regional Training Centres (26 November 2021)?

Those planning to attend the Meeting of Directors of WMO RTCs on 26 November 2021 also will be required to respond to an additional question included in the SYMET-14 registration. You need not be a Director of a WMO RTC to attend if the themes of the meeting meet your interest and you are already a SYMET-14 participant. Attendance at the WMO RTC Directors meeting can also include non-RTC participants of SYMET-14.

Note: Please contact tra@wmo.int for any clarifications needed.

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Fourteenth WMO Symposium on Education and Training (SYMET-14)

"Education and Training in a Period of Rapid Change"

(Online, 22-25 November 2021)

Poster Submission

All participating institutions are invited to contribute to SYMET-14 by submitting posters about local challenges and accomplishments. Posters should be proposed and prepared bearing in mind the SYMET-14 theme: "Education and Training in a Period of Rapid Change," or the Working Group Themes, as listed in Annex I.

Four virtual poster sessions of approximately 1.5 hours will provide all participants the opportunity to share and discuss their posters with participants. WMO ETR is pursuing the opportunities for virtual poster sessions that allow the use of both live chat and asynchronous discussion forums, as well as use of recorded video presentations. Together these will allow significant interaction with poster contributors. Posters will also be available for viewing and commenting outside these dedicated times, preserved on the symposium website and cited in the proceedings.

Simultaneous translation will not be provided during poster sessions.

Please visit [the SYMET-14 Website](#) to make your proposed abstract submission, including a short abstract and title. The **deadline for abstract submission** is **5 November 2021**. Each candidate will be informed shortly after submission of proposal as to whether the poster has been accepted.

Please Note: Submission of a poster proposal is not a substitute for registration to the SYMET-14, which is also required (see Annex III).

Note: Please contact tra@wmo.int for any clarifications needed.
