



Our ref.: 6497053/2025/S/RCP

16 December 2025

Annexes: 2

Subject: Inaugural Session of the Antarctic Climate Forum and Meeting of the Antarctic Regional Climate Centre-Network Management Team, 28-30 January 2026, Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Action required: Confirm your participation in the mentioned meeting not later than **23 December 2025**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have a pleasure to inform you that WMO is organizing the Inaugural session of the Antarctic Climate Forum (AntCF-1) and the Meeting of the Antarctic Regional Climate Centre-Network (AntRCC-Network) Management Team from 28 to 30 January 2026, hosted by the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) in Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Details regarding the events can be found in the concept note (Annex 1).

I am pleased to invite you to participate in and contribute to the aforesaid events, given your relevant knowledge and expertise. Should you be unable to attend please propose a name of relevant expert from your institution. I would appreciate it if you could kindly notify the WMO Secretariat (sdiouf@wmo.int) about your participation (in person or online) at your earliest convenience, but not later than **23 December 2025**.

Regarding insurance coverage for non-staff members, may I draw your attention to the following:

Non-staff members of WMO who are authorized to travel at the Organization's expense and/or who are receiving a DSA from WMO must ensure they are fully responsible for expenses incurred in the event of death, illness or injury during official travel and attendance at meetings on behalf of the Organization. They are, therefore, fully responsible for arranging life, health, and accident, as well as any other forms of insurance with an adequate level of coverage for the duration of such meetings and events.

WMO liability is limited to the performance of services or attendance at a meeting on behalf of the Organization, is covered by an injury and illness benefit insurance which provides limited coverage for medical, emergency, and supplementary official travel expenses.

The agenda of the meeting as well as the logistical details will be provided to the participants in due course. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Wilfran Moufouma Okia (wmokia@wmo.int), Chief, Regional Climate Prediction Services Section and Ms Anahit Hovsepyan (ahovsepyan@wmo.int), Scientific Officer, Regional Climate Prediction Services Section.

to: List of participants (see Annex 2)

cc: Permanent Representative of China with WMO (limited distribution)

I take this opportunity to thank you for your support to the WMO activities related to Antarctic and in particular the implementation of the Antarctic Regional Climate Centre-Network and look forward to your active contribution to the objectives of the event.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Stander', with a stylized, looping flourish.

Dr. Johan Stander
Senior Director
Services Department

Inaugural Session of the Antarctic Climate Forum and Antarctic Regional Climate Centre-Network Meeting

28-30 January 2026, Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Concept note

Polar and high-mountain regions are among the most climate-sensitive areas on Earth. Irreversible changes in cryosphere - including the loss of sea ice, ice sheets, glaciers and snow cover - have far-reaching consequences well beyond their geographical boundaries, influencing weather, climate and ocean circulation patterns at a planetary scale.

Recognizing their global significance, the World Meteorological Congress has progressively increased its focus on these regions, adopting key Resolutions to strengthen observation networks, advance climate prediction capabilities and foster international cooperation for delivering tailored climate services. These include:

- [Resolution 40 \(Cg-17\)](#) and [Resolution 48 \(Cg-18\)](#): Laid the foundation for coordinated action to strengthen polar and high-mountain services.
- [Resolution 6 \(Cg-19, 2023\)](#)¹: Prioritized implementation of Polar and High Mountain Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Networks and Climate Outlook Forums, addressing emerging requirements for cryospheric products and capacity development needs.

The WMO EC Panel on Polar and High Mountains Observations, Research, and Services (PHORS) supports and guides WMO Member's activities in polar and high mountain regions, including those that are Party to the Antarctic Treaty System, as outlined in Article 2 of the WMO Convention. Furthermore, the PHORS Antarctica Advisory Group (AntAG) carries out tasks related to implementation and coordination of strategic priorities of WMO-related activities in Antarctica.

Building on the success of the [Arctic Climate Forum \(ACF\)](#) and the [Third Pole Climate Forum \(TPCF\)](#) — established in 2018 and 2024, respectively — WMO convened the [Scoping Workshop on the Establishment of the Antarctic Climate Forum \(AntCF\)](#) in November 2024 (Bologna, Italy). This workshop engaged operational, research, and user communities to define the scope and content of the AntCF, which will provide a dedicated platform for developing consensus-based seasonal outlook for the entire Antarctic region, fostering a dialogue between climate information providers, research communities, users, key stakeholders and partners.

The inaugural session of the AntCF (AntCF-1) will be held from 28 to 30 January 2026, hosted by the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, under WMO general guidance and support.

The AntCF-1 will serve as a regional sustainable mechanism to strengthen collaboration between climate service providers, research community, key stakeholders and users in the Antarctic region through regular interaction, knowledge and information exchange. The Forum will focus on the development of the first consensus climate statement for the Antarctic region, focusing on the upcoming Southern Hemisphere summer season (sea-ice break-up period). It will also discuss the potential implications of anticipated climate conditions for decision-making across key socio-economic sectors and will demonstrate the initial suite of the AntRCC-Network products and services.

The forum will be followed by the AntRCC-Network Management Team Meeting which will focus on reviewing the Network's progress and defining priority actions. The meeting will also outline work plans for the initiation of the Network's demonstration phase and discuss strategies to enhance coordination among participating institutions, ensuring the effective delivery and long-term sustainability of Antarctic climate services under the AntRCC-Network mandate.

¹ Resolution 6 (Cg-19) replaces Resolution 48 (Cg-18) which is no longer in force.

**Inaugural Session of the Antarctic Climate Forum and Antarctic Regional
Climate Centre-Network Meeting****28-30 January 2026, Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland****List of participants**

Name	Organization/ Service	Country	Role	Email
Shoudong Zhao	Beijing Climate Center	China	Representative of CMA	shoudongzhao@cma.gov.cn
Emilia Kyung Jin	Korea Polar Research Institute	Republic of Korea	Representative of WCRP/CIIC Scientific Steering Group	jin@kopri.re.kr
Anne Treasure	South African Environmental Observation Network	South Africa	Representative of SAON	annetreasure@sun.ac.za
Jane Rumble	Foreign & Commonwealth Office	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Head of Polar Regions Department	jane.rumble@fcdo.gov.uk