

**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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Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Invitation to the Regional Association I (RA I) high-level segment on the
'Early Warnings for All' Initiative (EWS4ALL)
16 February 2023, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Your Excellencies,

I have the honour to inform you that at the kind invitation of the Government of Ethiopia, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Government of Ethiopia will organize the eighteenth session of Regional Association I (RA I Africa) in Addis Ababa, on 16 and 17 February 2023.

The United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres has called on WMO to lead a new initiative that will provide every citizen on the planet with Early Warning Systems in the next five years. As a result, WMO has developed and launched the *Early Warnings for All: Executive Action Plan 2023–2027* at COP-27. This call comes against the background of low capacity of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Africa to produce and disseminate early warning services as stated in the WMO publication, *2020 State of Climate Services: Risk Information and Early Warning Systems* (WMO-No. 1252). The report stated clearly that multi-hazard early warning system coverage is exceptionally low in Africa: only 44 out of 100 people are receiving early warnings.

The African Continent is very vulnerable to the impacts of hydrometeorological events which will increase in frequency and severity according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) fifth assessment report with significant impacts in key socioeconomic sectors and the overall development perspectives in the continent, including the aspirations of the African Union (AU) agenda 2063.

Therefore, during the RA I session, a virtual high-level segment on the 'Early Warnings for All' Initiative (EWS4ALL) is organized to take place on 16 February 2023 (see [annex](#)), to discuss the Executive Action Plan 2023–2027, and the challenges and opportunities for Africa.

In this regard, I have the further honour of inviting you to attend this important high-level meeting to contribute to the discussions on the topic of Early Warning Systems. Virtual connections will also be arranged. Details for the virtual connections will be sent to you upon your confirmation. It would be appreciated if your participation could be confirmed to Ms Agnes Kijazi, Director of the Regional Office for Africa at akijazi@wmo.int with a copy to Ms Metsehet Girma at mgirma@wmo.int.

Please accept, Your Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration

Prof. Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General

To: Ministers of the Members of the Regional Association I

**Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the
WMO Regional Association I (Africa) Phase III
16–17 February 2023**

**DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT ON
THE EARLY WARNINGS FOR ALL (EWS4ALL) INITIATIVE**

16 February 2023
0900–1200 (East Africa Time)

Moderator or Master of Ceremony: D/MS

1. Opening Ceremony of RA I-18 session and High-level segment
(Separate programme 30 min)
 2. Welcoming Remarks for the high-level segment, Chair of AMCOMET (5 min)
 3. Outcome of RA I Regional Conference RECO, 13–15 February 2023, Addis Ababa PRA I
(10 min)
 4. Presentation of the 'Early Warnings for All' (EWS4ALL) initiative, WMO SG (30 min)
 5. Panel Discussions with Ministers and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) (45 min)
 6. Open Discussions (45 min)
 7. Summary and Recommendations for RA I (Member State) (10 min)
 8. Closing Remarks by H.E Minister of Ethiopia (5 min)
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