



WMO OMM

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

Secrétariat

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300
CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse
Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11
Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81
wmo@wmo.int – public.wmo.int

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Our ref.: 24153/2023/MS/RAF

Annex: 1

The Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of Members with WMO to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva and has the honour to refer to the Invitation to a high-level Roundtable Ministerial Forum for the Implementation of Early Warnings for All (EW4All) in Africa Action Plan at COP28, 3 December 2023.

The Secretariat has the further honour to request the Permanent Mission's kind assistance in the transmission of the attached letter from the Secretary-General, Professor Petteri Taalas, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The WMO Secretariat avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of Members with WMO to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva, the assurances of its highest consideration.



10 November 2023

To: Permanent Missions of Members of Regional Association I to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Office of the Secretary-General
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Bureau du Secrétaire général
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Oficina del Secretario General

Всемирная метеорологическая организация
Бюро Генерального секретаря
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
مكتب الأمين العام
世界气象组织
秘书长办公室

Our ref.: 22967/2023/MS/RAF

10 November 2023

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: Invitation to a high-level Roundtable Ministerial Forum for the Implementation of EW4All in Africa Action Plan at COP28, 3 December 2023, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to extend an invitation to you to participate in the high-level Roundtable Ministerial Forum for the Implementation of Early Warnings for All (EW4All) in Africa Action Plan at the twenty-eighth United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties (UNFCCC-COP28). The side event is organized in collaboration with the Africa Union Commission (AUC) and lead agencies on the Early Warning for All in Africa: the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR); The International Telecommunication Union (ITU); and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) will focus on the implementation of EW4All in Africa.

You will recall recently, at the Africa Climate Summit 2023, in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa launched the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warnings for All Action Plan 2023–2027. The Ministerial Forum will focus on the implementation of the action plan.

The objective of the Forum is to bring together esteemed Ministers from across Africa to engage in a comprehensive dialogue towards the implementation of Early Warnings for All in Africa. We encourage Ministers to show their support on the implementation of Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warnings for All Action Plan and share success stories, lessons learned, and best practices in implementing early warning systems at regional, national and local levels as well as facilitate discussions on enhancing regional cooperation and collaboration in early warning systems. We believe that your valuable insights and experiences will greatly contribute to this important discussion.

In addition, discussions will also centre on policy frameworks and measures necessary for resource mobilization, including financial, technical, and human, to support the development and sustainability of early warning systems in Africa. To ensure the success of this Forum, we kindly request your presence and active engagement in the discussions. Together, let us work towards a safer, more resilient Africa.

I have the honour of enclosing the Concept Note and tentative programme for this Forum.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your participation to Dr Agnes Kijazi, Director of the WMO Regional Office for Africa (akijazi@wmo.int) with a copy to mgirma@wmo.int at your earliest convenience but not later than **20 November 2023**.

To: Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Member States of Regional Association I (limited distribution)

WMO Secretariat – 7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300 – CH 1211 Geneva 2 – Switzerland
Tel.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11 – Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81 – sgomm@wmo.int – public.wmo.int

I look forward to seeing you at the twenty-eighth Conference of Parties in Dubai and witnessing the collective efforts towards the implementation of Early Warnings for All in Africa.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected strokes that form a stylized representation of the name Petteri Taalas.

Prof. Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General

Concept Note

High-level Roundtable Ministerial Forum for the Implementation of EW4All in Africa Action Plan at COP28 3 December 2023 at Kenya Pavilion

: 22968/2023-13 MS/RAF

Introduction

The 28th United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties (UNFCCC-COP28) serves as a vital platform for global dialogue and action on the recently launched Early Warning for All (EW4All) in Africa Action Plan at the Africa Climate Summit (ACS) on 4 September 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. This follows the call of the Secretary General of the United Nations that seeks to ensure that every person worldwide is protected by early warning systems by 2027 and particularly in Africa as a result of extreme weather and climate events from the disproportionate impacts of climate change, with vulnerable communities facing the brunt of its consequences. WMO and other partners who have framed this Action Plan would seek to convince global partners the need to strengthen early warning systems in Africa, ensuring that timely and accurate information about natural hazards and impending disasters reach all segments of society, particularly the most vulnerable populations.

The implementation of EW4All in Africa Action Plan brings a wide range of benefits that can significantly contribute to reducing risks and enhancing resilience in the face of disasters. EW4All equips individuals, communities, and institutions with timely and accurate information about potential hazards. Loss and damage have been a critical issue in the continent and the implementation of EW4All can lead to significant economic benefits by reducing disaster-related losses.

Additionally, when investments are made in early warning systems, the overall cost of future disaster response and recovery can be reduced, thus saving resources and enabling more efficient allocation of funds towards development initiatives. African communities are extremely susceptible and EW4All would play a crucial role in protecting vulnerable populations, including women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. By sharing knowledge, experiences, and best practices at policy level, countries can learn from one another and strengthen their collective response to regional hazards.

However, a successful implementation of the EW4All Action Plan requires financial contributions in critical parts of the value chain of the early warning systems. Therefore, financial instruments such as the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) and the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative as well as the African Development Bank, the European Union's development financing, including scaling up and alignment of funds related to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Paris Agreement such as the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, the Global Environment Facility or private sector investments across climate services value chain would be required.

It is in recognition of these that the African Union Commission (AUC), the EW4ALL Pillar leads (UNDRR, WMO, ITU and IFRC) from Regional Offices in Africa bring together the WMO Champion of EW4All, Ministers attending COP 28 including those from the initial 13 EW4ALL beneficiary countries. The drive is geared to address the pressing need for comprehensive and inclusive early warning services on the African continent that aim to enhance climate resilience, reduce vulnerability, and improve early warning capabilities across Africa.

Purpose of the Forum

The overall objective of the high-level dialogue is to kick-start the comprehensive implementation of the EW4All Action Plan in Africa to strengthen early warning systems, ensuring that timely and accurate information about natural hazards and impending disasters reach all segments of society, particularly the most vulnerable population.

Outcomes from the Event

The outcomes of the Forum would include:

- Strengthened collaboration and knowledge sharing between countries.
- Strengthened advocacy of the Action Plan at policy level; as well as
- Commitments from EW4All beneficiary countries

Participation at the Event

The High-level Ministerial Roundtable Forum for the Implementation of EW4All in Africa Action Plan will contribute to the COP28 thematic areas related to World Climate Action Summit, Adaptation, Finance and Loss and Damage. The Forum is expected to have the following personalities:

- The President of the Republic of Kenya, WMO Champion of EW4All.
- Representatives from AUC.
- Ministers from the 13 EW4All beneficiary countries

Opening segment: Moderator		
Time	Description of Activity	Speakers
10 minutes	Opening Remarks	Prof. Petteri Taalas (WMO SG) AUC Commissioner
10 minutes	Statement by WMO Champion for EW4ALL in Africa	H.E. President William Ruto, President of Kenya
30 minutes	High-Level ministerial roundtable on support for the Implementation of the Africa Action Plan on EW4ALL	Ministers' Statements
5 minutes	Closing Remarks	AMCOMET Chair

COP 28 THEMATIC PROGRAMME

Nov 30	 Opening Day	Dec 6	 Multilevel Action, Urbanization and Built Environment/Transport	CROSS-CUTTING THEMES Technology and innovation  Inclusion  Frontline communities  Finance 
Dec 1	 World Climate Action Summit	Dec 7	 Rest	
Dec 2	 World Climate Action Summit	Dec 8	 Youth, Children, Education and Skills	
Dec 3	 Health / Relief, Recovery and Peace	Dec 9	 Nature, Land Use, and Oceans	
Dec 4	 Finance / Trade / Gender Equality / Accountability	Dec 10	 Food, Agriculture and Water	
Dec 5	 Energy and Industry / Just Transition / Indigenous Peoples	Dec 11-12	 Final Negotiations	

High-level Roundtable Ministerial Forum for the Implementation of EW4All in Africa Action Plan at COP28

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Opening segment: Moderator		
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10 minutes	Opening Remarks	Prof. Petteri Taalas (WMO SG) AUC Commissioner
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