



Our ref.: RES/AER/Urban

GENEVA, 23 September 2016

Subject: Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), Quito, Ecuador, 17-20 October 2016

Action required: Representatives from NMHSs are requested to advise their national delegation on urban-related activities

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) will be held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016 (<https://www.habitat3.org/>). The Resolution 66/207 of the United Nations General Assembly calls for the organization of the Habitat III Conference in line with the bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996, 2016) to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization and to focus on the implementation of a "New Urban Agenda". It is an opportunity to discuss and chart new pathways in response to the challenges of urbanization and the opportunities it offers for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

WMO regards urban matter as important, and in this regard, I would like to refer to Resolution 68 of the Seventeenth World Meteorological Congress (Cg-17) that calls for the establishment of a WMO Cross-Cutting Urban Focus and Decision 15 (EC-68) that requests the implementation of a WMO Cross-Cutting Urban Focus.

WMO will participate in Habitat III and co-lead the side event "Building Climate-Smart Cities through Integrated Urban Weather, Environment and Climate Services for Sustainable Development", which is scheduled on 20 October 2016.

At this side event, WMO, together with partner cities, other UN Agencies and major urban communities, will introduce its focused effort to enhance Members' capability to provide the science-based integrated urban services supporting safe, healthy and resilient cities through the development of Integrated Urban Weather, Environment and Climate Services.

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6930)

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

Although WMO will not be in a position to provide financial support to your participation at Habitat III, I would appreciate any suggestions you may have as to how WMO can assist your Service in supporting your government in implementing urban activities in your country. In case you or your staff members are planning to attend Habitat III, please send the information concerning your attendance, not later than **7 October 2016**, to Ms Nathalie Avondo-Bedone ([navondo-bedone@wmo.int](mailto:navondo-bedone@wmo.int)) and for any questions you may have, do not hesitate to contact Mr Alexander Baklanov ([abaklanov@wmo.int](mailto:abaklanov@wmo.int)), the WMO focal point at the HABITAT-III conference.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected loops and strokes, characteristic of a cursive or semi-cursive style.

(P. Taalas)  
Secretary-General