



World Meteorological Organization
 Organisation météorologique mondiale
 Organización Meteorológica Mundial
 Всемирная метеорологическая организация
 المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
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Our ref.: 21774/2018/CLW/CLPA/CCA/UNFCCC-COP24

13 August 2018

Subject: COP 24 and CMP-14/CMA 1.2 of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC), Katowice, Poland, 3 to 14 December 2018

Action required: Representatives from NMHSs are requested to advise on their participation in COP 24 and identify how WMO can further support the NMHS engagement in UNFCCC processes

Dear Sir/Madam,

The twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP 24) will be held in Katowice, Poland, from 3 to 14 December 2018. COP 24 will also be the venue for the fourteenth session of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 14) and the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1.2). The High-Level Segment of COP 24 and CMP 14 will be held from 10 to 12 December 2018. These events include the forty-ninth sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 49) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 49).

WMO will actively participate in these events by organizing three side-events:

1. UN system side-event on Water in support of Sustainable Development Goals No. 6 (SDG6),
2. A joint side-event with UNFCCC on Integrated Greenhouse Gas Information System (IG3IS) and its contribution to the Paris Agreement,
3. A side-event with IPCC on climate science featuring IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (SR15) and current state of the climate.

In addition, WMO will be partnering with other UN system side-events on agriculture and food security, health, energy, quality education and oceans.

WMO will also join the One UN Exhibition under the thematic area "Revitalize the global partnership (SDG 17) - Climate science and information" to showcase the role of climate science in the work of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The dates of the events relevant to WMO, as well as related documentation and materials, will be featured on the WMO webpage for COP 24 at (<https://public.wmo.int>).

There are a number of emerging issues which provide great opportunities for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) to provide scientific, technical and operational advice to the implementation process of the Convention in general and the Paris Agreement in particular. Climate change negotiations under the presidency of COP 23 from Fiji were built around the Talanoa Dialogue questions, namely: *Where are we now? Where do we want to go? And how do we get there?* The Talanoa questions paved the way for WMO to

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

cc: Hydrological Advisers to Permanent Representatives

report on the status of global climate system and envision a roadmap for transformative climate action, centered on the continued and sustained provision of climate services for high-level policy processes at global, regional and country-level scales. In my next circular letter, I will send a policy brief, which will provide information on how WMO community contributes to global efforts on adaptation and mitigation by providing science-based information.

In the context of SBSTA constituency, WMO and its co-sponsored bodies; Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) are major contributors to research and systematic observation and feed their updated information to Research Dialogue, which has proved to be very informative to Parties. SBSTA, at its forty-eighth session (SBSTA-48) in May 2018, recognized the importance of continued and enhanced support for climate change research, including enhancing research capacity, particularly in developing countries. It further emphasized the following:

- (a) Science for action – strengthening the link between the research community and action to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement;
- (b) Global research on the carbon cycle and its observation requirements should continue in support of the Paris Agreement.

SBSTA-48 noted the importance of the progress of the WCRP Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP), Phase 6 of the IPCC sixth Assessment Report (AR6) and the WCRP Coordinated Regional Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX) for climate services.

It encouraged Parties and relevant organizations to address gaps and needs with regard to:

- (a) Increasing open access to climate-relevant data;
- (b) The role of the ocean in the global climate system, including for the global energy balance and carbon cycle, and impacts related to, inter alia, ocean acidification, sea level rise and ecosystem services;
- (c) The recent and ongoing rapid changes in the Arctic region;
- (d) The analysis of the global carbon cycle;

SBSTA-48 also noted the urgency for enhanced science communication and welcomed the work of the scientific community on science communication.

SBSTA noted the importance of regional institutions and networks and the importance of providing and exchanging knowledge at the regional, national and local level. WMO network of Regional Climate Centres (RCCs) and Regional Training Centres (RTCs), play an important role in this area.

As regards to implementation issues, SBI-48, invited WMO and other relevant organizations to continue their efforts to provide capacity-building to developing countries, on the analysis of climate data and the development and application of climate change scenarios in vulnerability and risk assessment.

In another development, I would like to bring to your attention the Memorandum of Understanding concluded in November 2017 between the Secretariats of UNFCCC and WMO, encompassing the following strategic collaboration projects:

- (a) Annual reporting on concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and the state of the global climate,
- (b) Climate services for adaptation planning and implementation,

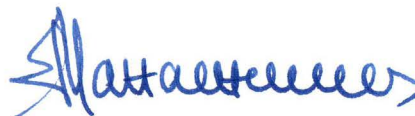
- (c) Observations-based tools for improved national greenhouse gas emission estimates, and
- (d) Regional collaboration for supporting adaptation and mitigation action.

Last year, 30 Directors of NMHSs and Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO attended COP 23, among whom there was the president and the vice-president of regional association for Africa (RA I) and the vice-president of regional association for North America, central America and the Caribbean (RA IV). Overall, 110 delegates from 70 NMHSs attended as part of their national delegations. I encourage you to consider participating in COP 24 as a member of your national delegation to strengthen the role of NMHSs as contributors to the UNFCCC process.

Although WMO will not be in a position to provide financial support to your participation at COP 24, I would appreciate any suggestions you may have as to how WMO can assist your Service in supporting the implementation of the UNFCCC processes, particularly the Paris Agreement. In case you or your staff members are planning to attend COP 24, please let us know not later than **31 October 2018**, for inclusion in future conference-specific correspondence.

I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to WMO Programmes and activities.

Yours faithfully,



(E. Manaenkova)
for the Secretary-General