



## 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

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Our ref.: 17111/2020/I/ES/Data-Conf-prep-workshops

15 September 2020

Annex: 1 (updated flyer)

Subject: Announcement of seven preparatory workshops and consultations prior to the WMO Data Conference, 16-19 November 2020, online only

Action required: (1) To note the revised date, time and online location for the Data Conference  
(2) To distribute the announcement to interested parties and to register for the workshops

Dear Sir/Madam,

Further to our announcement on 16 July 2020, I wish to confirm that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Data Conference will be held online only from 16 to 19 November 2020 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. CET on each day. Further information can be found at the [WMO Data Conference website](#). The updated flyer can be found in the [Annex](#).

In preparation for the Conference, a schedule of workshops and stakeholder consultations have been prepared. You are invited to participate in the sessions that match your interest and expertise. For more information and to register, please use the Data Conference website.

24 September 2020	Theme 1; Workshop; "Changing landscape of weather, climate and water data"	Data exchange in the 1960s and today; what has changed and what will need to change? WMO data policy for Members or for their NMHSs?
7 October 2020	Theme 2; Workshop; "Business models and data policy issues"	External views on WMO data policy; what works and does not work? Increasing the amount of data available to all users; policy as enabler and as a roadblock
14 October 2020	Theme 3; Workshop; "Filling the gaps in global data coverage"	Strengths and weaknesses of the efforts of WMO to address this? GBON/SOFF paradigm; extensions to other domains and disciplines? Access to prediction and analysis products
19 October 2020	Stakeholder Consultation 1; Hydrological data and WMO Data Policy – Interpretation available	The role of data exchange and of WMO data policy for hydrology. The implications of moving towards earth system monitoring and prediction

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

21 October 2020	Stakeholder Consultation 2; Research data and WMO data policy	WMO use of research funded data. Research access to operational data
23 October 2020	Stakeholder Consultation 3; Satellite data and WMO Data Policy	Role of satellite data in WMO. Ensuring equitable access to critical observations. Role of private sector satellite data.
28 October 2020	Theme 4; Workshop; "Data exchange for Earth System Monitoring and Prediction"	Earth system prediction as a policy driver. Data requirements and data maturity. Moving from requirements to policy.

The online meetings will feature keynote speakers followed by a moderated discussion with the opportunity for participation. The workshops and consultations will take place online from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CET and will be held in English, with the exception of the first stakeholder consultation regarding Hydrological data where there will be two time schedules to allow full regional participation, and interpretation in English, French, Russian and Spanish will be made available. Full details of the agenda for each workshop and consultation can be found at the [WMO Data Conference website](#).

This event is for representatives from WMO Members, space agencies, the private sector, global data users, academia, development partner organizations, other United Nations (UN) agencies and international organizations and other interested individuals.

I should be grateful if you could make this announcement widely known within your respective Service and beyond.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Wenjian Zhang  
for the Secretary-General



The WMO Data Conference aims to develop a common understanding among entities from all sectors of society of the roles, requirements and arrangements for international exchange of observations and other data for monitoring and prediction of the Earth System environment, including weather, climate and water.

The World Meteorological Organization and its predecessor, the International Meteorological Organization, have coordinated and regulated the free and unrestricted international exchange of observations and other meteorological data for the last 150 years. Building on this exchange, dramatic progress has been made in weather forecast and climate analysis capabilities over the last few decades.

Since the establishment of WMO in 1950, the activities of the organization have expanded into areas such as atmospheric composition, hydrology and space weather, leading to a holistic approach to Earth system modelling and prediction being adopted as a strategic priority of the Organization. In parallel, the explosive growth in demand for weather, climate, water and other environmental data from all sectors of society has led to a dramatic increase in the involvement of entities outside the traditional group of WMO National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in monitoring and prediction efforts.

In view of these developments, it is timely to review the WMO requirements and arrangements for data exchange, and the Data Conference is intended to provide a venue for involving a broad group of stakeholders in this review.

## Themes

- The changing landscape of weather, climate and water data
- Business models and data policy issues
- Filling the gaps in global data coverage
- Data exchange for earth system monitoring and prediction

## Intended Participants

Representatives from:

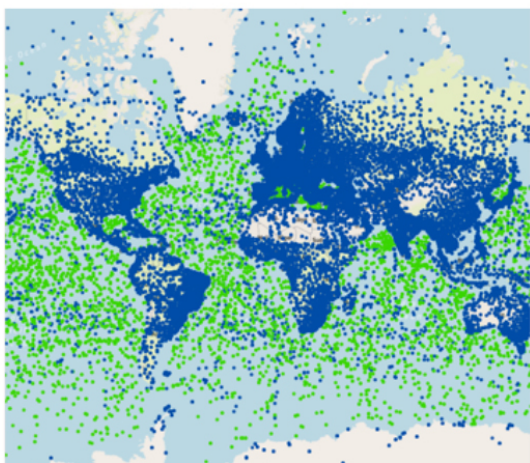
- WMO Members
- Space agencies
- Private sector
- Global data users
- Academia
- Development partner organizations
- Other United Nations agencies and international organizations

## Expected Outcomes

The Conference is expected to formulate recommendations to WMO and its partner organizations and stakeholders regarding current needs and modalities for data exchange and specifically regarding the ongoing WMO review of its data policies.

The Conference is expected to lead to:

- Common understanding among all sectors of data exchange and its role in supporting the goals laid out in the WMO Convention and the global agenda as articulated in the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
- Improved understanding of the role of the private sector in data provision; stronger links between the private and public sectors;
- Identification of the main obstacles to increased exchange of data and specific opportunities or activities to try to overcome them.



## Format

The conference will be fully virtual from 13h00 to 16h00 CET on 16, 17, 18 and 19 November 2020.

Each of the four theme sessions will feature guest speakers and contributed papers and will conclude with a moderated panel discussion with audience participation.

The closing session will formalize the conference outputs.

Interpretation in official UN languages will be provided as required.

## Abstract Submissions

Participants interested in contributing a paper should submit an abstract (max 250 words) to the email address below by 30 August.

## Contact

For information, registration, or to submit an abstract, please contact:  
DataConference@wmo.int

