



Our ref.: 04729/2022/CSG/SCO/WMD22

7 March 2022

Subject: Celebration of World Meteorological Day 2022

Action required: (1) Appropriate arrangements to be made for the celebration  
(2) Support for communication activities to raise awareness among national media and on social media using #WorldMetDay hashtag

Dear Sir/Madam,

Since 1961, World Meteorological Day has commemorated the coming into force on 23 March 1950 of the Convention establishing the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). The theme for 2022 will be "Early Warning and Early Action. Hydrometeorological and Climate Information for Disaster Risk Reduction."

The acclaimed *Atlas of Mortality and Economic Losses from Weather, Climate and Water Extremes (1970–2019)* (WMO-No. 1267), published jointly in 2021 by WMO and UNDRR, highlighted that weather, climate and water extremes are becoming more frequent and intense because of climate change.

As we know, greater coordination between national meteorological and hydrological services, disaster management authorities and development agencies is fundamental to better prevention, preparedness and response, especially in an era of pandemics and increasing compound hazards. Thanks to our concerted action, the death toll has fallen over the past 50 years even as economic costs have soared.

We are confident that the ceremony will inform debate ahead of the seventh session of the *Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction* (GP2022) scheduled to take place in May in Bali, Indonesia and the third Multi-Hazard Early Warning Conference (MHEWC-III), also planned for May and it will be enriched by the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report on Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation. It will also showcase the new WMO-UNDRR Centre of Excellence and our joint aspirations to build resilience and climate action.

This year the traditional ceremony at WMO headquarters will be virtual/hybrid, because of the uncertain COVID-19 restrictions. All Members are invited and encouraged to participate in the event from 1400 to 1600 CET via the Zoom platform. Interpretation will be available in all official UN languages. Further details of the programme will be forthcoming on the WMO website (<https://worldmetday.wmo.int/>).

The World Meteorological Day webpage develops the theme and provides outreach materials to support Members in their celebrations. The Secretary-General's World Meteorological Day message will soon be uploaded to the page. Should you desire any assistance with accessing, using or adapting these materials, please contact our Strategic Communications office at [ipa@wmo.int](mailto:ipa@wmo.int).

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

I would welcome the opportunity to post any related activities, news, photos, videos and other materials that you may produce on the WMO public website or via social media. WMO will be promoting all activities using the English-language hashtag #WorldMetDay.

I wish you every success with your celebration of World Meteorological Day.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected loops and strokes, representing the name Petteri Taalas.

Prof. Petteri Taalas  
Secretary-General