

**WMO OMM**

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

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Subject: WMO State of Global Water Resources report and note of gratitude

Action required: To provide focal points for facilitating information sharing

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) published its first *State of Global Water Resources 2021* report (WMO-No. 1308) as formulated in the WMO operational plan. This report is designed to gather key hydrological information about changes in our water environment. It is planned to publish this report annually from now on. This report will benefit operational water management, policy development, and climate change mitigation and adaptation action. We thank all our Members who have provided us with focal points (in response to the letter: 05118/2022/DSG/W) and have contributed to the first report.

The first report presented the previous calendar year's observed and modelled streamflow, total terrestrial water storage, selected cryosphere data and an overview of the major hydrological disasters using maps and graphs. The report's scope will be amended in future reports to cover additional variables like soil moisture, groundwater, etc., under the guidance of a steering group established under the Chair of the WMO Hydrological Coordination Panel.

WMO's State of Global Water Resources report helps us to quantify the effect of environmental change and human-induced management on the hydrological state. It demonstrates the importance of hydrological monitoring and data sharing. Furthermore, this annual stocktake of the global freshwater resources report helps to monitor, compare and understand changes and thus allow to monitor and compare the changes in the hydrological status in river basins. At the same time, this report will increase the visibility of WMO operational hydrology activities for policymakers at national and regional level, while demonstrating the ability of Members and the large-scale hydrological expert community to join forces and to develop a trusted product based on the best available data and information.

WMO Members' ownership and cooperation with basin organizations are crucial to making this report a flagship publication. Therefore, today I would like to request our Members, if not already done, to nominate focal points to support us with the information needed (regarding annual streamflow, groundwater, soil moisture, etc., trends in the hydrological basins in the country) and contribute to co-developing this report annually to ensure the report is attractive, informative and leads actionable recommendations.

Once the WMO Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) is fully implemented, the information necessary for the State of Global Water Resources report can be derived directly from the HydroSOS portal currently under development.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

Dr Sulagna Mishra (Scientific Officer at WMO secretariat in Geneva) coordinates the State of Global Water Resources report's preparation and further integration with HydroSOS. Please submit your nominations to Dr Mishra at [smishra@wmo.int](mailto:smishra@wmo.int), with a copy to Dr Stefan Uhlenbrook (Director of the Hydrology, Water and Cryosphere Branch at WMO) at [suhlenbrook@wmo.int](mailto:suhlenbrook@wmo.int).

Please allow me to express my gratitude, in advance, for your willingness to assist in this important endeavour. I look forward to the participation of and cooperation with your national services in developing the WMO State of Global Water Resources report in the years to come.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Elena Manaenkova  
for the Secretary-General