

**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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Ref.: 20490/2023-2.3 S/CS

Our ref.: 20490/2023/CS/UNFCCC-COP 28

27 September 2023

Subject: COP28 and CMP-18/CMA-5 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), 30 November to 12 December 2023

Action required: Representatives from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) are requested to advise on their participation in COP28 by **31 October 2023**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you know, the following sessions will be held during the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates from 30 November to 12 December 2023:

- Twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28), from Thursday, 30 November to Tuesday, 12 December 2023;
- Eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-18), from Thursday, 30 November to Tuesday, 12 December 2023;
- Fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA-5), from Thursday, 30 November to Tuesday, 12 December 2023;
- Fifty-Ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA-59) from Thursday, 30 November to Wednesday, 6 December 2023;
- Fifty-ninth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI-59) from Thursday, 30 November to Wednesday, 6 December 2023.

Referring to my previous circular letter on the outcomes of COP27 (00105/2023/UNFCCC-COP27/2nd dated 12 April 2023), you will recall that COP27 adopted the [Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan](#), which in Section VII emphasizes the need to address existing gaps in the global climate observing system, particularly in developing countries, and recognizes that one third of the world, including 60% of Africa, does not have access to early warning and climate information services. COP27 also noted the need to enhance the coordination of activities by the systematic observation community and the ability to provide useful and actionable climate information for mitigation, adaptation and early warning systems, as well as information to enable understanding of adaptation limits and attribution of extreme events.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers  
Permanent Missions to the UN in Geneva

The Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan welcomed and reiterated the United Nations Secretary-General's call made on World Meteorological Day on 23 March 2022 to protect everyone on Earth through universal coverage of early warning systems against extreme weather and climate change within the next five years and invites development partners, international financial institutions and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to provide support for the implementation of the Early Warnings for All initiative (EW4All).

The Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan also recognized the critical role of protecting, conserving and restoring water systems and water-related ecosystems in delivering climate adaptation benefits and co-benefits, while ensuring social and environmental safeguards.

This year, SBSTA-58 at the summer session took note of the [WMO Provisional State of the Global Climate 2022 report](#) and the 2021 [WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin](#) and welcomed the United Nations Global [Early Warning for All Initiative](#) for the Implementation of Climate Adaptation. The SBSTA recognized the ongoing efforts of the systematic observation community, as presented at Earth Information Day 2022, to provide updates on the state of the global climate, information for mitigation, including estimates of greenhouse gas fluxes, climate services for adaptation and early warning systems; to improve cooperation among observing networks; and to better integrate observations from multiple sources.

Furthermore, SBSTA-58 noted with appreciation the progress in supporting systematic observations, such as through the development of the Systematic Observation Financing Facility (SOFF). It encouraged the Facility to continue to prioritize the least developed countries and small island developing States in its provision of support and to evaluate opportunities to support developing countries. It also encouraged efforts to further strengthen support for sustained systematic observations of the ocean, cryosphere, land, biosphere, and atmosphere.

At COP28, WMO will be involved throughout the sessions, in particular through the following four main activities, and we look forward to engaging with you in these:

### **UN System Side Events**

WMO along with the leads of pillars of the EW4All initiative, namely the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), will organize a high-level UN System side event titled "Accelerating innovation in the Early Warnings for All initiative for adaptation". The time and date will be announced on the WMO dedicated web page for COP28, in due course. WMO will also contribute to other UN System Side Events, and other events and pavilions.

### **Earth Information Day 2023**

Earth Information Day (EID) provides a dialogue for exchanging information on the state of the global climate system and developments in systematic observation. The topics of this event at COP28, are currently being considered, according to submissions by Parties and observer organizations, including WMO, which has proposed the following topics to be included in the EID agenda. Your support on these areas would be appreciated.

- The Global Greenhouse Gas Watch
- Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF)
- Findings from the Annual State of the Climate Report for 2023, and
- The State of the Decadal Global Climate report covering 2011–2022.

## Science for Climate Action Pavilion

This year, WMO will co-host the Science for Climate Action Pavilion with IPCC, the MERI Foundation (Chile) and the National Centre for Meteorology (NCM) of the UAE. The pavilion will provide a platform to complement the COP28 thematic title of each day and debrief the latest climate science and services during the COP28 negotiations. The pavilion events will be web-streamed live. The programme will be available in due course on the WMO COP28 website and we invite you to visit and contribute to the activities in the pavilion.

## Launch of the WMO Flagship Reports and Press Briefings

WMO and its co-sponsored bodies will submit the following flagship reports to SBSTA-59 and COP28:

- Provisional State of the Global Climate in 2023;
- State of the Decadal Global Climate 2011–2021;
- State of Climate Services 2023 – Health.
- United in Science 2023;
- WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin for 2022;
- WMO State of Global Water Resources for 2022.

As in previous sessions, WMO and its co-sponsored bodies (IPCC, Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)) will make statements at the Plenary of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA-59).

Last year, it was my pleasure to note that 50 directors of NMHSs and Permanent Representatives to WMO attended COP27, including the First and Second Vice-Presidents of WMO and presidents of regional associations (RAs) for Africa (RA I), Asia (RA II) and South-West Pacific (RA V). Approximately 195 delegates from around 80 NMHSs had registered at the UNFCCC portal among whom around 140 accompanied their national delegations to this Conference and supported WMO-related events, decisions, areas of concern and discussion areas.

This year, I look forward to meeting you, in even greater numbers, at COP28. Although WMO will not be in a position to provide financial support for your participation in this Conference, 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. If you or your staff members are planning to attend COP28, please let us know no later than **31 October 2023**, to ensure your inclusion in future conference-specific correspondence.

Finally, I seize the opportunity to thank Dr Abdullah Ahmed Al Mandous, the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates with WMO and the President of WMO, who is actively supporting our preparations for participation at COP28 and promoting WMO priorities and key messages.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Petteri Taalas  
Secretary-General