



Our ref.: WMOPF-416544395-6420398/2025/ASG/PFPO

29 July 2025

Annexes: 2

Subject: Sub-regional Workshops on WMO Strategic Plan 2028–2031

Action required: Participate in one or more of the online workshops

Dear Sir/Madam,

At its latest session in June 2025, the Executive Council (EC) adopted [Resolution 10 \(EC-79\)](#) – Approach to the Development of WMO Strategic Plan 2028–2031, which foresees a highly participatory, inclusive and Member-driven process. To ensure that all Members have an opportunity to raise their voice and contribute to determining the strategic direction of the Organization, EC endorsed a series of informal consultations to be held virtually in September–October 2025.

Permanent Representatives with WMO and Hydrological Advisers are kindly invited to take part in one or more of the workshop sessions listed in [Annex I](#), depending on their language preferences and (sub-)regional interests. It is to note that the workshops are informal and that no interpretation will be provided. They are intended as a mechanism for collecting early input from Members on their needs, priorities and vision for the future. They are further designed as platforms for interactive dialogue on topics, such as:

- Global and regional trends relevant to WMO and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) future
- Transformations required to ensure that WMO and NMHSs are effective players in delivering on their mandate in the future
- Identification of sub-regional priorities, including key proposed actions in the short-, medium- and long-term

The input collected will be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee, the EC subsidiary body on policy and strategic matters, for consideration in the identification of WMO strategic priorities for 2028–2031. It will also be provided to the presidents of regional associations for further, more formal discussion at regional association sessions.

More information on the objectives and modality of the consultative workshops is available in [Annex II](#). The timeline for the development of the Strategic Plan is contained in [Decision 3 \(EC-78\)](#) – Approach to the strategic planning process 2028–2031.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO; Hydrological Advisers

cc: Presidents of Technical Commissions, Chair of Research Board

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and count on your active participation and engagement in forging a bright future for WMO.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Saulo', written in a cursive style.

Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF SUB-REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON
THE WMO STRATEGIC PLAN 2028–2031**

| Date | Time (UTC) | Target Sub-Region | Language |
|--------------|-------------------|--|-----------------|
| 26 August | 14:00–17:00 | Central America, Caribbean, South America | Spanish |
| 4 September | 14:00–18:00 | North, Central and South America and the Caribbean | English |
| 8 September | 3:00–7:00 | South-West Pacific | English |
| 15 September | 7:00–11:00 | East and Southeast Asia | English |
| 18 September | 09:00–13:00 | East, West and Southern Africa | English |
| 23 September | 09:00–13:00 | North, West and Central Africa | French |
| 25 September | 12:00–16:00 | Eastern and Southeastern Europe | English |
| 30 September | 8:00–12:00 | North and Northeast Africa and West Asia | Arabic |
| 2 October | 8:00–12:00 | Europe and Central Asia | Russian |
| 7 October | 7:00–13:00 | Central and Western Europe | English |

Note: Members are welcome to join more than one workshop based on their interests and language preferences. Small group discussions could also be organized upon request.

CONCEPT NOTE

CONSULTATIONS WITH WMO MEMBERS ON STRATEGIC PLAN 2028–2031¹

Background

EC-78 adopted an approach to the development of the WMO Strategic Plan 2028–2031, which envisions informal consultations with Members in the second half of 2025 to identify and explore suitable responses to emerging needs and priorities. The input will be consolidated and, together with data from the WMO Monitoring System, will be presented to the Policy Advisory Committee, the EC subsidiary body on policy and strategic matters, for consideration.

Past experience shows that Members' input to the Strategic Plan has been unevenly collected due to the schedule of constituent body sessions (some early and others late in the intersessional period) and to the lack of opportunity to participate in meetings or forums (for example, some least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS) due to time difference, distance and low capacity). The approach has varied from one region to another and has mostly involved formal consultations on regional prioritization at Regional Association sessions. Their staggered schedule throughout the intersessional period has resulted in late input when the Strategic Plan is at its final stages of preparation.

Objectives

- Identify regional priorities to inform the development of the WMO Strategic Plan through a Member-driven, dynamic, engaging and region- or subregion- focused approach;
- Provide an informal and accessible platform for interactive discussion, adapted to language preferences, subregional specificities and common themes;
- Ensure timely input from Members for the development of the WMO Strategic Plan, regardless of the schedule of constituent bodies.

Participants

Permanent Representatives (PRs) with WMO and their international advisers; hydrological advisers; partners from key regional and subregional organizations (for example, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO), the African Union) and the WMO Secretariat.

Modality

Half-day virtual consultations (workshop style, approx. 4 hours) organized by subregion, moderated and held in the predominantly spoken language to the extent possible (for example, in English for eastern and southern Africa, in French for West Africa, in Spanish for Spanish-speaking Members of the Americas and the Caribbean and likewise, in English for English-speaking Members). Consultations for Members with common interests or challenges are also envisioned (for example, SIDS, LDCs).

Simple questionnaires will be sent to Members in advance of the virtual consultations to understand the changing roles and operations of NMHSs in the development of meteorological and hydrological services across the sectors. The questionnaires will cover key issues and

¹ As approved by EC-79 (Annex to [Resolution 6.2](#) – Approach to the Strategic Plan 2028–2031)

challenges for Members to address with their mission of protecting lives and property as the authoritative voice.

Timeline

Q3-Q4 2025

Illustrative Agenda (to be adapted as required)

Part 1: About the Workshop

- Introduction by the WMO Secretariat (purpose, objectives, approach) – MS Senior Director and/or Regional Director and Chief of Planning, Foresight and Performance Office
- Introduction of participants
- Remarks by Regional Association president or vice-president

Part 2: The Present

- The mission of WMO outlined under [Article 2](#) of the WMO Convention (*Basic Documents No. 1* (WMO No. 15))
- Changing roles and operations of NMHSs in the development of meteorological and hydrological services across the sectors, including key issues and challenges for Members to address with their mandate of protecting lives and properties as the authoritative voice
- Insights from WMO monitoring (regional level)

Part 3: Imagining the future

- Global signals: societal trends, technological advancements, geopolitical dynamics, climate, weather and water trends, and other factors that will shape WMO and the NMHS operational and strategic environment in the short, medium and long-term – a brief presentation based on PAC/TCC workshop
- Regional and subregional signals: reaction from the participants (how do these resonate in your region/subregion? anything missing? anything region- or subregion specific that we are not accounting for?)
- The NMHS of the future (breakout groups): what does the hydromet service of the future look like? What changes, if any, do we expect in its mandate, role, functions, operations? What about the role of academia and the private sector? What shall we do to ensure we are future-ready?
- Plenary discussion

(break)

Part 4: Preparing for the future

- Highlights from the PAC/TCC workshop on vision and strategies (transformations required, gaps, pathways)
- Regional trends and emerging priorities – a short presentation from regional partner organization (e.g. SPREP, ECLAC, CMO, African Union) – to be identified by the Regional Offices
- Prioritization (work in breakout groups):
Where should WMO focus its efforts to achieve its vision, complete its mission, support its Members and make the most difference? 45 min
- Plenary and closing

Expected outcomes

- Shared understanding of global trends built and (sub-)regional ones (i.e. trends, disruptions, etc.) identified
 - Transformations required to ensure that NMHSs are relevant and effective players in delivering on their mandate in the future
 - Subregional priorities outlined, including key proposed actions in the short-, medium- and long-term
 - Strengthened relationships between the WMO Secretariat, WMO Members and regional/subregional partners through sharing information and insights
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