

**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, note of thanks and invitation to provide focal points and facilitating hydrological monitoring data sharing

Action required: Submit your focal point nominations

Dear Sir/Madam,

Following two consecutive years of successfully publishing the State of Global Water Resources report, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is now preparing the next version for the year 2023 which will be published in the third quarter of 2024. We are sincerely thankful for the contributions and cooperation of our Members which have made the launch of this crucial report possible. The report summarizes the global status of water resources for a given year and supports operational water management, policy development and climate change mitigation and adaptation actions; it also informs more broadly about water resources, an issue that is high on the WMO agenda as well as that of the wider United Nations system. The continued support and contributions from Permanent Representatives (PRs), Hydrological Advisers (HAs) and nominated Water Report Focal Points (FPs) are critical for the upcoming annual report.

The WMO State of Global Water Resources report provides an annual stock take for global freshwater resources and helps to monitor, compare and increase the understanding of changes, thereby facilitating the monitoring and comparison of the changes in hydrological conditions. It particularly demonstrates the importance of hydrological monitoring and data sharing. At the same time, this report increases the visibility of WMO Members' operational hydrology activities among policy makers at national, regional and global levels. It also demonstrates the ability of Members and the broader hydrological expert community to join forces in developing a reliable product based on the best available data and information.

The pilot report (2021) provided an overview of streamflow, total terrestrial water storage, selected cryosphere data and some major hydrological disasters. The scope of the second report (2022) was extended to provide insights into several additional components of the hydrological cycle, namely soil moisture, evaporation, groundwater, snow cover and glaciers, and reservoirs. Further amendments are anticipated for the third report (2023). While a combination of in-situ data, an ensemble of global hydrological modelling systems and remotely sensed products is used to produce the report, more in-situ observations are still needed to maximize the validation of modelled results. Once the WMO's Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) is implemented, as decided at Congress-19, it will be possible to derive the information needed for the State of Global Water Resources report directly from the HydroSOS portal, but this will take a few more years.

WMO Members' ownership and cooperation with basin organizations is crucial in developing this flagship publication and in ensuring that the report is attractive and informative and provides the basis for actionable recommendations. Therefore, I would like to request our Members, unless already done, to kindly nominate FPs to support the development of the WMO State of Global Water Resources Report.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

The nominated FPs would be responsible for:

- (1) The observational data and information sharing required for the report (annual streamflow, groundwater, soil moisture, etc.);
- (2) Assisting with the review of the draft report and validating the findings presented.

Please note that for effective and efficient processing of the information for the report, and in line with the WMO Unified Data Policy and Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) and [Resolution 24 \(Cg-19\)](#) - Hydrological Data Management in the WMO Information System 2.0, WMO highly encourages sharing of hydrological observation data through specific global data centres:

- (1) Global Runoff Data Centre (GRDC) for streamflow
- (2) International Soil Moisture Network (ISMN) for soil moisture
- (3) International Groundwater Resources Assessment Centre (IGRAC) for groundwater
- (4) HYDROLARE for lakes and reservoirs

Dr Sulagna Mishra (Scientific Officer, WMO Secretariat) coordinates the preparation of the State of Global Water Resources report. Please submit your FP nominations to Dr Mishra, smishra@wmo.int, with a copy to Dr Stefan Uhlenbrook (Director, Hydrology, Water and Cryosphere, WMO), 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,



Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General