

**WMO OMM**

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

**Secrétariat**

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300  
CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse  
Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11  
Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81  
wmo@wmo.int – public.wmo.int

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- Subjects: (1) WMO-related outcomes of the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Bodies of UNFCCC
- (2) UNFCCC-related decisions of the seventy-eighth session of the WMO Executive Council
- (3) Role of NMHSs with regard to Nationally Determined Contributions
- (4) Preparations for COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is to inform you of the WMO-related outcomes of the sixtieth session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI, (SB 60)), which was held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 13 June 2024, the UNFCCC-related decisions of the seventy-eighth session of the WMO Executive Council (EC-78), the role of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in relation to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), and preparations for COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan (11–22 November 2024).

**WMO-related outcomes of SB 60**

The SBSTA noted with appreciation the statements delivered at the opening plenary of this session by representatives of WMO, the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The SBSTA emphasized the need to ensure the continuity and sustainability of research and systematic observation for data availability, which are fundamental for research, including GCOS and encouraged enhanced support in that regard. The SBSTA acknowledged the important role of national meteorological and hydrological services and similar organizations in providing timely, reliable, and actionable information. For more information, please refer to: <https://unfccc.int/event/sbsta-60?item=4>.

**UNFCCC-related decisions of EC-78**

The WMO Executive Council at its seventy-eighth session (EC-78), 10–14 June 2024, considered the outcomes of the 2023 United Nations climate change conference (UNFCCC-COP28) and the sixtieth session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 60) and defined the strategic role of WMO in the UNFCCC-COP29. I have already briefed you on the relevant outcomes of COP28, through my circular letter No. 00783/2024/S/UNFCCC-COP28/2nd dated 13 February 2024.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers  
Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations in Geneva and New York

Decision 5 (EC-78), invites Members:

(1) To provide high-quality climate and hydrological science-based information, knowledge, and services, through enhanced operational exchanges of climate and hydrological information products required to increase progression towards resiliency and adaptation capacity and low emission pathways as well as a net zero position by 2050 under the Paris Agreement and contribute to climate-related national processes, strategies, and investments for the formulation and implementation of the 2025 Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs);

(2) To engage with national and international institutions, stakeholders, and public and private financiers that can mobilize resources for enhancing Members' institutional and operational infrastructure and networks to enable effective design and use of climate and hydrological information services for climate action and achieve their country's climate ambitions;

(3) To coordinate participatory, gender-inclusive, co-produced and user-driven approaches to climate and hydrological information and services under the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) through dedicated national institutional platforms such as the National Frameworks for Climate Services, that can support the integration of context-relevant knowledge, perspectives and solutions in the preparation and implementation of nationally relevant policy documents.

Through the same decision, a number of actions are also requested by the Secretariat to enhance coordination and capacity development. For more information, refer to [Document 5.1 \(EC-78\)](#) on the list of approved documents.

### **Role of NMHSs to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**

NDCs are at the heart of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement and the achievement of its long-term goals. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive NDCs that it intends to achieve.

The timeframe for the implementation of the 2025 NDCs, or NDC 3.0, will extend through end 2035. All Parties are required to submit their NDC 3.0, by February 2025 at the latest, in order to allow sufficient time for the preparation of the compilation and synthesis report in advance of the seventh Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA7, November 2025). The contributions proposed in NDC 3.0 are expected to go beyond previous NDCs and should reflect the highest possible ambition. All Parties are strongly encouraged to submit their 2025 NDCs in a timely manner and it is hoped that their informative and useful nature will lead to concrete action.

Analysis of NDCs by WMO shows that the great majority of NDCs highlight the role of climate services (108) and early warning systems (103) to deliver against the Parties' commitments laid out in NDCs (as highlighted in the WMO State of Climate Services reports). In Parties' NDCs, climate services are recognized as a priority for supporting adaptation in agriculture and food security (85%), disaster risk reduction (88%), water resource management (78%) and health (60%).

Overall, NMHSs are key players in the NDC arena as they provide sound climate science information to define adaptation and mitigation efforts, but they have not always been involved in the development and implementation stages of those NDCs. The level of involvement varies between sectors, for example, climate information services are regularly recognized for supporting agriculture and food security.

It is highly recommended that NMHSs work with their designated national focal points on climate change in order to contribute to an inclusive NDC formulation and implementation process by coordinating national climate activities, such as the development and delivery of timely, accessible, and applicable climate services for climate policy planning and decision-making. For more information please refer to [EC-78-INF. 05-1\(2\)](#).

In the meantime, WMO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are collaborating to assist NMHSs to connect with the United Nations Resident Coordinators in their country to build relations between NMHSs and the United Nations Development System on the NDC 3.0 compilation.

The WMO Secretariat has established a Helpdesk to respond to questions and queries by NMHSs on NDC 3.0, through the following e-mail: [climatescience@wmo.int](mailto:climatescience@wmo.int).

## **The Road to COP29**

My last point deals with the preparations for the twenty-ninth Conference of Parties (COP29) of the UNFCCC, which will be held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, from 11 to 22 November 2024.

The WMO Secretariat is in close contact with the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan with WMO who, along with her team, directly reports to the President-elect of COP29. In the meantime, WMO, in consultation with its Climate Policy Advisors, is preparing top-level objectives for COP29. Further progress will be communicated in a circular letter in due course. [Report of the Climate Policy Advisors meeting](#).

High-level coordination is also taking place through engagements with the United Nations Climate Core Group, the United Nations COP29 Task Force, and the United Nations High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) of the COP29 and COP30 Working Groups.

WMO's interagency flagship initiatives, such as the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative and Global Greenhouse Gas Watch (G3W) are among our key contributions to the ambition of Parties to meet the targets of the Paris Agreement. WMO and partners will launch the second progress report of the implementation of EW4All ahead of COP29 to highlight good practices and examples of both global and regional initiatives. These also contribute to the COP29 Presidency initiatives on mitigation and adaptation, among which WMO contributes to the following:

- Green Energy Corridors
- Multisectoral Action Partnership (MAP) for Sustainable, Climate Resilient and Healthy Cities
- Water Initiative
- Cutting Methane from Organic Waste

As regards the MAP initiative, WMO contributes through EW4All, urban pollution monitoring and heat-health warning systems. At COP29 a declaration will be signed by ministers responsible for urban development, as well as by city leaders and subnational authorities, members of parliament, including those convening at the Third Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change at COP29.

[The UN Secretary-General's Call to Action on Extreme Heat](#) brings together the diverse expertise and perspectives of ten specialized UN entities (FAO, ILO, OCHA, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, WHO, and WMO) in a first-of-its-kind joint product, underscoring the multisectoral impacts of extreme heat.

Upon finalization of the list of the COP29 presidency initiatives, I will communicate further on them in my circular letter ahead of COP29.

Building on successful experiences originating from previous COPs, WMO will further enhance its collaboration with partners and interested Parties with regards to water and the cryosphere and in particular the [2025 International year of Glaciers' Preservation](#) where WMO and UNESCO collaborate closely.

In addition to the subjects outlined above, WMO will contribute to youth engagement and enhancement activities.

During COP29, WMO will play an active role in the next mandated event of Earth Information Day and we will lead a UN System side event entitled "Scaling-up climate finance for ambitious action on early warning systems for adaptation with a focus on the most vulnerable". Planning is also ongoing for a high-level event with the COP29 Presidency on EW4All.

As in previous years, WMO-IPCC and the MERI foundation (Chile) intend to join forces to organize a Pavilion at COP29 to provide a hub for delegates from NMHSs, IPCC and affiliated communities to meet and discuss relevant topics of the COP29 daily programme and negotiation tracks.

I would recommend that Permanent Representatives with WMO continue to initiate active interaction with the designated focal points of UNFCCC and national delegations in their respective countries to ensure an enhanced level of contributions from the WMO community and NMHSs to UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement processes. Such interaction will ensure your inclusion in the national delegation, which will allow you to attend the COP as a Party delegate with a negotiating role regarding your national priorities. On this point, the WMO Secretariat is planning to provide some training, perhaps in the form of a webinar, for Permanent Representatives and senior experts from NMHSs to aid understanding and familiarization of the UNFCCC process, for which we will provide details nearer to COP29.

I look forward to our continued cooperation in future events.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Celeste Saulo  
Secretary-General