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World Meteorological Organization
Office of the Secretary-General
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Bureau de la Secrétaire générale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Oficina de la Secretaria General

Всемирная метеорологическая организация
Бюро Генерального секретаря
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
مكتب الأمين العام
世界气象组织
秘书长办公室



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21 October 2025

Annex: 1 (available in English only)

Subject: Interactive Dialogue between Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General, United Nations and the WMO Congress – Follow up to note verbale 2025-WMO-NV-UNSG, 16 October 2025

Your Excellency,

His Excellency Mr. António Guterres, will attend the Extraordinary Session of the World Meteorological Congress on Wednesday, 22 October, from 14:00 to 14:45, for an Interactive Dialogue with Members marking the 75th Anniversary of WMO as a United Nations specialized agency with a particular focus on the Early Warnings for All initiative. An agenda of the Interactive Dialogue is attached for your attention.

Each Member attending Congress in person will be allocated two seats for the event. The tickets will be distributed to the attending Principal Delegate to the World Meteorological Congress. The Interactive Dialogue will also be broadcasted in UNTV [[António Guterres \(UN Secretary-General\) at the World Meteorological Congress | UN Web TV](#)].

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General

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

2025 – WMO EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS

Interactive dialogue between Mr António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations and the World Meteorological Congress

Date 22 October 2025
Time 14:00–14:45
Location World Meteorological Organization
7bis, avenue de la Paix
CH-1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Background

In 2022, Mr António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, launched the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, announcing new action to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years. The initiative continues to be a key part of the UN Secretary-General's Acceleration Agenda, as an important contribution to delivering climate justice to those at the frontlines of climate change.

The World Meteorological Congress is the supreme governing body of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). It serves as the general assembly where all 193 WMO Members convene every four years to adopt key decisions about the organization's direction and operations. The Congress last convened in 2023. The Permanent Representatives of the WMO are the designated heads of their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services. Modern weather and climate predictions and services are widely available thanks to the international collaboration and work of WMO Members - setting standards, sharing data, developing models, and enabling services.

The 2025 Extraordinary Session of the World Meteorological Congress, scheduled for 20–23 October 2025, has been convened primarily to advance the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, along with other urgent strategic priorities that cannot wait until the next regular Congress in 2027.

This Extraordinary session takes place as the WMO celebrates its 75th anniversary. The WMO traces its origins to the International Meteorological Organization (IMO), established in 1873. This milestone celebrates the transformation from IMO to WMO in 1950, marking a shift from informal scientific collaboration to a formalized UN specialized agency driving global leadership in weather, climate, and water services. The anniversary theme “Science for Action” underscores WMO’s mission to transform scientific knowledge into practical solutions for a safer and more sustainable world.

Objective

This event presents a unique opportunity for Mr António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage with the representatives of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services at the heart of the early warnings value chain. A dialogue between the Secretary-General, the World Meteorological Congress and representatives of the Early Warnings for All pillar lead agencies, will enable all parties to explore how the Early Warnings for All initiative is progressing, and how implementation can be accelerated.

Programme

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| 14:00-14:16 | Opening remarks from Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous, President of World Meteorological Organization |
| | Speech by Mr António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations |
| | Remarks from Prof. Celeste Saulo, Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization |
| 14:17-14:28 | Reflections from Members of the World Meteorological Congress, represented by the attending Presidents of the WMO Regional Associations |
| 14:29-14:34 | Interventions from the Early Warnings for All Pillar Lead Agencies |
| 14:35-14:45 | Closing remarks, photo, and departure |
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