

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
Organización Meteorológica Mundial
Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
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Subject: Outcomes of the UNFCCC COP27
(Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 6–20 November 2022) relevant to WMO Members

Action required: Members and their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) are requested to follow up on relevant COP27 outcomes

Dear Sir/Madam,

This is to inform you of the WMO-related outcomes of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27), which was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022. The Conference included meetings of the three governing bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 4); the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 17); and the fifty-seventh session of the Subsidiary Bodies for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 57) and Implementation (SBI 57).

For the first time, countries agreed to recognize the need for finance to respond to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, and quickly established a fund and the necessary funding arrangements, with the details to be worked out over 2023, towards COP28.

Other key elements of this package were the work programmes on urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). On mitigation, developed and climate-vulnerable countries pushed for a strong outcome to ramp up efforts to reduce emissions before 2030, calling this “the critical decade”. Finally, countries agreed to a process that will explore topics, which are to be decided, and to identify opportunities and gaps to reduce emissions.

The following is a brief account of major decisions and events which involve the WMO community, in a broader context.

Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Implementation Summit

At the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Summit, over 100 Heads of State and Government attended on 7 and 8 November to give speeches and engage in roundtable discussions. The six roundtables addressed food security, innovative finance, just transition, investing in the future of energy: green hydrogen, climate change and the sustainability of vulnerable communities and water security.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

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

WMO flagship reports submitted to SBSTA 57 and COP27

WMO and its co-sponsored bodies submitted the following flagship reports and initiatives to SBSTA 57 and COP27:

- [Provisional State of the Global Climate in 2022](#)
- [State of the Climate in Asia 2021](#) (WMO-No. 1303)
- [State of Climate in Africa 2021](#) (WMO-No. 1300)
- [State of the Climate in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021](#) (WMO-No. 1295)
- [State of the Climate in Europe 2021](#) (WMO-No. 1304)
- [Launch of the Executive Action Plan of Early Warning System \(EWS\) for All](#)
- [State of Climate Services – Energy \(2022\)](#) (WMO-No. 1301)
- [United in Science 2022](#)
- [WMO Greenhouse Gas Bulletin \(2021\)](#)

These reports received widespread global attention in traditional and social media.

Implementation of the Global Climate Observing System

COP27 adopted a Decision on the Implementation of the Global Climate Observing System (GCOS). It noted the important role of the GCOS in meeting the need for climate observation and climate services under the Convention and recognized the vital importance of robust Earth observation systems and related long-term data records for an enhanced understanding of the global climate system and its changes, and adaptation and mitigation action. The Decision welcomed the [2022 GCOS Implementation Plan](#) and the [2022 GCOS essential climate variables requirements](#) encouraging parties and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to work towards the implementation of the 2022 GCOS Implementation Plan. It further emphasized the need to address systematic observation gaps, particularly in developing countries and for the oceans, mountains, deserts, polar regions and the cryosphere, in order to improve understanding of climate change, climate-related risks, tipping points and adaptation limits, and to ensure enhanced delivery of climate services and early warning systems.

For further reading of the original document please refer to the [Implementation of the Global Climate Observing System](#).

UN Early Warnings for All Initiative

The launch of the UN Early Warnings for All Executive Action Plan by the United Nations Secretary-General at COP27 captured all contributing partnership priorities for the UN Early Warnings for All related to the four pillars of Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) and received resounding political support from the governments, partner agencies and stakeholders.

Section VII of the Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan refers to Early Warning for All and systematic observation. It 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. It emphasizes the need to enhance 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. It further welcomes and reiterates the United Nations Secretary-General's call 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.

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Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan

The Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan is a set of two overarching cover decisions, which launched new work programmes and set out new intentions among parties. The aforementioned Implementation Plan sets science as the guiding criteria and multilateralism based on the United Nations values as principles for the implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement.

The Implementation Plan recognizes the contributions of Working Groups II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC); the importance of the best available science for effective climate action and policymaking; and takes note of the 2022 adaptation gap and emissions gap reports of the United Nations Environment Programme, and recent global and regional reports of the WMO on the state of the climate.

The Implementation Plan reiterates that the impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5°C compared with 2 °C and resolves to pursue further efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C; and it recognizes the impact of climate change on the cryosphere and the need for further understanding of these impacts, including of tipping points.

For further reading of the original document please refer to [Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan](#).

Fifty-seventh Session of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 57)

At the Opening Plenary of SBSTA 57, representatives from WMO, GCOS and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) made statements, along with IPCC and the Joint Committee on Earth Observation Satellites.

For further reading of the original document please refer to:

- [WMO Statement](#)
- [WCRP Statement](#)
- [GCOS Statement](#)

The SBSTA conclusions on research and systematic observations are in document [FCCC/SBSTA/2022/L.20](#). The SBSTA 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 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.

The SBSTA noted with appreciation the progress in supporting systematic observation, 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.

For further reading of the original document please refer [here](#).

Earth Information Day 2022

Earth Information Day 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 COP27, drawn from submissions under guidance by the SBSTA Chair, were:

1. Updates on the state of the climate and the GCOS
2. Earth Observations for Mitigation
3. Earth Observations for Adaptation and Early Warning Systems

This event also included a poster session. WMO played an active role throughout the event.

For further information please refer [here](#).

UN System Side Event

WMO and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) co-led a high-level side event titled "Scaling up early warning and early action through comprehensive disaster and climate risk management". The event addressed the challenges facing the developing vulnerable countries, like the small island developing States in addressing the climatic impacts and building future resilience, and coordination at the national level to address the challenges.

For further reading consult the following [link](#).

Science for Climate Action Pavilion

This year, WMO co-hosted the Science for Climate Action Pavilion with IPCC and the [MERI Foundation](#). The pavilion provided a platform to explain the latest climate science and services to support COP 27 negotiations and helped secure ambitious climate action. It hosted around 66 side events which were streamed live, throughout COP27.

For consultation on the events and presentations, visit the following [link](#).

Statistics of attendance

In total, 33,449 people attended COP27, including 16,118 delegates from parties, 13,981 observers, and 3,350 members of the media. COP27 was the second most attended Conference after COP26 in Glasgow.

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 (RA) for Africa (RA I), Asia (RA II) and RA V (South-West Pacific). Approximately 195 delegates from around 81 NMHSs had registered at the UNFCCC portal among whom around 140 accompanied their national delegations to this Conference and supported WMO-related events and discussion areas. There were also around

80 senior meteorological and climatological experts from academia, scientific societies, and institutions at this COP. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to all those delegates from NMHSs and other entities who actively participated in the WMO-organized events, as well as contributed to the negotiation process by sharing their scientific knowledge and information.

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The Road to COP28

COP27 accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to host the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28), the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 18) and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 5). Subsequently, it was decided to revise the dates for the second sessional period in 2023 to Thursday, 30 November, to Tuesday, 12 December.

I would recommend that the Permanent Representatives with WMO continue to initiate active interaction with the 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.

I look forward to our continued cooperation in future events.

Yours faithfully,



Prof. Petteri Taalas
Secretary-General