



Our ref.: 6490118/2025/SI/YSA2026

9 December 2025

Annex: 1

Subject: WMO Research Award for Young Scientists 2026

Action required: Submission of nominations by **6 February 2026**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, the World Meteorological Congress, at its seventeenth session, held in May/June 2015, encouraged its Members to continue to support the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Research Award for Young Scientists through the submission of papers related to atmospheric science and hydrology. It also approved the guidelines to be followed for the presentation of the award (see [Annex](#)).

In accordance with these guidelines, I have the pleasure to invite you to submit the nomination of candidates for the 2026 award. The number of nominations submitted by each Permanent Representative should not exceed two. The nominations should be submitted in electronic format via email to Ms Kate Solazzo (ksolazzo@wmo.int) together with a short curriculum vitae of the candidate (the candidate's date of birth and email address should be mentioned on it).

It would be very much appreciated if your nominations for the award could reach us no later than **6 February 2026**.

Yours faithfully,

Ms Ko Barrett
for the Secretary-General

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)

GUIDELINES TO BE USED FOR THE GRANTING OF THE WMO RESEARCH AWARD FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the WMO Research Award is to encourage young scientists, preferably in developing countries, working in the fields of meteorology, climatology, environmental science and hydrology.

2. CRITERIA FOR GRANTING AWARDS

- (a) Each award shall be made for an outstanding scientific research paper;
- (b) Awards shall be made to young scientists not exceeding the age of 35 at the time of nomination;
- (c) Only one paper should be submitted for each candidate;
- (d) Workers in all fields of meteorology will be eligible, but members of the WMO Executive Council may not submit papers authored by themselves for the award;
- (e) Awards to nominees from a Region may be divided. An award may also be divided between two co-authors if both meet the other criteria for the granting of the award;
- (f) Only papers which have been published in scientific journals will normally be eligible for consideration. However, a summary of a successfully defended PhD thesis would also be acceptable;
- (g) Papers published in languages other than the working languages of WMO will be eligible for consideration if accompanied by full translations in one of the working languages plus an extended summary;
- (h) Only papers published during the four-year period immediately preceding the year in which the nomination is made will be eligible for consideration;
- (i) Papers that have previously won international prizes will not be eligible.

3. METHOD OF SUBMISSION OF CANDIDATURES

- (a) All Permanent Representatives of Members of a WMO regional association will be invited to submit nominations during a specified period in accordance with a schedule established by the Secretary-General. Preference, however, should be given to the nomination of young scientists coming from developing countries who have prepared their work there;
- (b) Nominations, together with four copies of papers in a WMO working language (original or translation) and an adequate summary should be submitted by permanent representatives to the president of the regional association concerned through the WMO Secretariat before the specified time limit;

- (c) The number of nominations by each Permanent Representative should not exceed two.

4. METHOD OF SELECTION

- (a) Each president of a regional association should nominate three persons as assessors who should be distinguished scientists normally resident within the Region and who will not themselves be eligible for the award. The Secretary-General should obtain a list of regional assessors to facilitate this procedure;
- (b) Each assessor should allot a mark to each paper, which should be a digit in the range 0 (lowest) to 5 (highest) and submit these evaluations to the president of the regional association. The evaluation should be based on the following: significance of the topic, novelty of ideas and methods, value of results and quality of presentation, with equal weight being assigned to each of these sectors. Based on the experts' marks, the president of the regional association will forward to the Secretary-General the name of the candidate receiving the highest aggregate marks (if two candidates tie for top place, both nominations may be submitted);
- (c) The final selection of the award-winner(s) from among the candidates from all Regions will be made by a Selection Committee of not more than four members of the Executive Council, specially constituted for this purpose at its session immediately following Congress;
- (d) The nominations submitted by each Region, together with the original papers, will be provided to each member of the Executive Council Selection Committee by the Secretary-General at least two months before a session of the Executive Council;
- (e) The Executive Council Selection Committee may not recommend an award if none of the papers submitted is of sufficiently high standard.

5. NATURE OF THE AWARD

The award will consist of a citation and an amount of US\$ 1 000.

6. AWARD CEREMONY

Arrangements for the presentation of the award will depend in each case upon the prevailing circumstances and will be decided by consultation between the permanent representative who submitted the nomination and the Secretary-General.
