



Our ref.: 6779400/EM/NYO/UNGA

4 September 2026

Subject: Preparation for the High-Level week of the eighty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA81)

Action required: Permanent Representatives are invited to liaise with WMO New York Office if they plan to attend the UNGA81 High-Level week

Dear Sir/Madam,

The United Nations headquarters in New York will host hundreds of world leaders, policymakers, experts and advocates in September for the High-Level week of the eighty-first session of the [UN General Assembly](#) (UNGA81). The first day of the high-level General Debate will be **Tuesday, 22 September 2026**.

The WMO Secretariat is organizing a range of engagements to showcase the work of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services during this important diplomatic moment. The events include sessions in the United Nations and neighbouring Permanent Missions on El Niño and the power of seasonal forecasts, heat and cities, early warnings systems, and ocean observations.

The priorities I will pursue at UNGA81 are on the areas where collective international action adds the greatest value for Members. I will be calling for renewed international commitment to:

- Support National Meteorological and Hydrological Services, the global observing system, and the international exchange of data on which forecasting and climate services depend.
- Close remaining early warning gaps and expand seasonal and longer timescale information services.
- Harness technological innovation, including through validated Artificial Intelligence, capacity development and stronger public-private engagement, while investing in the shared global systems that underpin weather, climate and water services.
- Advance public-private engagement for weather and climate intelligence, combining public infrastructure and authoritative information with private-sector innovation, technology and investment to accelerate solutions, close capacity gaps and expand equitable access.

I will be in New York from 21–23 September 2026 and will hold meetings with public, private and philanthropic partners. Should you and/or your delegation be attending UNGA81, I would be pleased to meet with you. To arrange a bilateral meeting, please contact the Office of the Secretary-General at SGOMM@wmo.int.

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO

cc: Hydrological Advisers

Should you require further information, including on WMO engagements or to communicate your participation, **please contact the WMO New York Office** (wmony@wmo.int).

I look forward to meeting you and your delegation during the UNGA81 High-Level week.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Saulo', written over a horizontal line.

Prof. Celeste Saulo
Secretary-General