

World Meteorological Organization Organisation météorologique mondiale Secrétariat

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Weather • Climate • Water Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: SG/CER/CPA/GEN

GENEVA, 20 October 2014

Subject:

Videos "weather report from the year 2050"

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you know, the next annual session of the Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-20) will be hosted by the Government of Peru from 1 to 12 December 2014. I am writing to request your support in raising global public awareness of this extremely important event being held in RA III. Our plan is to invite TV weather presenters from RA III Member countries and elsewhere to contribute a "weather report from the year 2050." These videos, together with a short message from UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres, will be distributed through the WMO website. It is also expected that the videos will also be shown during COP 20 in Lima at the UN common exhibition space.

WMO is working with weather presenters around the world to engage them as climate change communicators. Weather presenters are experienced communicators, they are well known and liked by their audience, and they are practiced in talking to the public about the weather and extreme events through which people experience climate change. To promote last month's Climate Summit in New York and assist weather presenters to learn about climate science, WMO published an international series of 14 "weather reports from the future." An RA III contribution came from Brazil. You can view these videos, many with Spanish subtitles, on the WMO website: www.wmo.int/media/climatechangeimpact.html.

To ensure that we include RA III videos in this new series, I would be most grateful for your assistance in identifying a leading weather presenter in your country who may be willing to contribute. We would then ask the presenters to consult with their NMHS and with national climate experts to produce a scientifically credible weather scenario for any day in 2050 based on the IPCC's business-as-usual, high-emissions climate scenario; WMO will also provide guidance. In addition, the presenters will be encouraged to describe a particular scientific issue relevant to their country or to interview an expert on this subject -- the videos at the above link offer useful models of how to do this. The statement by Ms Figueres will then provide positive encouragement on how we can avoid these negative weather scenarios by taking effective action against climate change. We will continue to work with these weather presenters on climate change and other WMO related issues over the long term.

To: Permanent Representatives Members of Regional Association III (AMS-494)

The WMO colleagues responsible for implementing this video series are Mr Michael Williams (mwilliams@wmo.int) and Mr Stefano Belfiore (sbelfiore@wmo.int). The Director of the Regional Office for the Americas, Mr Miguel Rabiolo, will kindly facilitate communication with the Region.

Thank you very much for considering this proposal.

Yours faithfully,

(M. Jarraud) Secretary-General