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| WEATHER CLIMATE WATER | **World Meteorological Organization**  **WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS**  **Nineteenth Session** 22 May to 2 June 2023, Geneva | **Cg-19/Doc. 3.2(1)** |
| Submitted by: Chair of the Plenary  31.V.2023  APPROVED |

**AGENDA ITEM 3: STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUDGET 2024–2027**

**AGENDA ITEM 3.2: United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative**

**United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative:  
ACCELERATING WMO’S ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF EW4ALL**



# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Introduction

1. The United Nations Secretary-General made an announcement, on the occasion of World Meteorological Day 2022, that the United Nations will spearhead a new action to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by Early Warning Systems (EWS) within five years. The initiative called Early Warnings for All (EW4All) is co-led by WMO and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

2. The Executive Council through its [Resolution 3 (EC-75)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11550#page=19) – United Nations Global Early Warning/Adaptation Initiative, requested SERCOM, in consultation with other WMO bodies and with the support of the Secretariat, to develop an initial action plan to respond to the Early Warnings for All initiative.

3. The Commission for Weather, Climate, Water and Related Environmental Services and Applications (SERCOM) and the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems (INFCOM) jointly hosted the [WMO Technical Conference on - the UN Global Early Warning Initiative for Climate Adaptation: Early Warnings For All](https://public.wmo.int/en/wmo-technical-conference-un-global-early-warning-initiative-climate-adaptation-early-warnings-all), (Geneva, October 2022), which profiled the work of a range of stakeholders including the private sector within the framework of an early warning services value cycle and where the participants, both the public and private sector, expressed their strong support and intentions to collaborate in the Initiative through a [Joint Statement](https://ane4bf-datap1.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/wmocms/s3fs-public/ckeditor/files/Statement_from_the_WMO_Early_Warnings_for_All_Conference__1.pdf?S_nct4q2KLEjjp_wZCbklz4MQeHdZxTP).

4. SERCOM-2 (October 2022) through its [Resolution 2 (SERCOM-2)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11528#page=15)– UN Global Early Warnings/Adaptation Initiative, requested the president of SERCOM to “take immediate action to advance preparations for the practical implementation of the challenge” in close coordination with other WMO bodies, and “inform a recommendation to EC-76 relating to the priority activities, proposed subsidiary body structures and supporting partnerships necessary”.

5. The [*Early Warnings for All: Executive Action Plan 2023–2027*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=22154#.ZD-oQHZByUk)was launched by the United Nations Secretary-General at the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC/COP 27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt in November 2022. The Executive Action Plan was developed under the WMO Secretary-General’s leadership and builds from and aligns with, WMO and other stakeholders’ foundational elements already in place to pursue the early warning goal, notably those developed under the technical commissions, the Capacity Development Panel and the Research Board.

6. The Executive Action Plan is organized along the four pillars of a multi-hazard early warning system (MHEWS):

 Pillar 1 – Disaster risk knowledge

 Pillar 2 – Observations and forecasting

 Pillar 3 – Dissemination and communication

 Pillar 4 – Preparedness and response

WMO leads the implementation of Pillar 2, and supports Pillars 1, 3 and 4.

7. The Executive Council through its [Decision 4(2)/1 (EC-76)](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-76/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-76/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Approved%20documents)/EC-76-d04(2)-UN-EARLY-WARNINGS-FOR-ALL-approved_en.docx&action=default) - UN Early Warnings for All Initiative Follow-Up, welcomed SERCOM’s establishment of an Expert Team on Early Warning Services (ET-EWS) under its Standing Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction and Public Services (SC-DRR). INFCOM further established a task team on Early Warnings for All and for the Implementation of Products from Non-traditional Sources to support the initiative.

8. [Cg-19/INF. 3.2(1)](https://meetings.wmo.int/Cg-19/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/Cg-19/InformationDocuments/Cg-19-INF03-2(1)-EW4ALL_en.docx&action=default) provides an overview of the progress to date on the Initiative.

9. The EW4All Initiative is a high priority initiative, which has been endorsed by many Members and development and implementing partners. This resolution agrees that the fulfilment of the WMO contribution to the successful implementation of the EW4All Initiative shall be accorded the highest priority in the WMO Strategic Plan 2024–2027.

**Expected action**

10. Based on the above, Congress is invited to adopt draft Resolution 3.2(1)/1.

11.

# DRAFT RESOLUTION

## Draft Resolution 3.2(1)/1 (Cg-19)

**United Nations Early Warnings for All initiative**

THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS,

**Noting:**

[Resolution 3 (EC-75)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11550#page=19)–United Nations Global Early Warning/Adaptation Initiative (2022),

[Decision 9 (EC-75)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11550#page=82) –Revision of the WMO Capacity Development Strategy (2022),

[Resolution 2 (SERCOM-2)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11528#page=15)– UN Global Early Warnings/Adaptation Initiative (2022),

[Decision 4(2)/1 (EC-76)](https://meetings.wmo.int/EC-76/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=/EC-76/English/2.%20PROVISIONAL%20REPORT%20(Approved%20documents)/EC-76-d04(2)-UN-EARLY-WARNINGS-FOR-ALL-approved_en.docx&action=default) – UN Early Warnings for All Initiative Follow-up (2023),

**Welcoming** the announcement of theUnited Nations Secretary-General on the occasion of World Meteorological Day 2022 calling on WMO to lead efforts to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by EWS within five years, and the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan adopted by the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC/COP 27) that welcomed and reiterated the United Nations Secretary-General’s call made on World Meteorological Day on 23 March 2022 to protect everyone on Earth through universal coverage of EWS against extreme weather and climate change within the next five years and invites humanitarian and *[Switzerland]* development partners, international financial institutions and the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism to provide support for implementation of the Early Warnings for All initiative,

**Recognizing:**

(1) That the objectives and ambitions of the United Nations Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative are fully in line with the mission of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in providing meteorological, hydrological and related services in support of relevant national needs including protection of life and property, and thus would provide a new opportunity and momentum of achieving this mission through a global partnership and robust resource mobilization,

(2) The fundamental role of the NMHSs as the official and authoritative providers of early warnings for hydrometeorological and climatological *[Ireland]* hazards,

(3) The contributions by all Members *[Ireland]* to the WMO Strategic Plan Long Term Goals and the importance of using this valuable national, regional and global prioritized information for design and delivery of the Early Warnings for All Initiative.

(4) The need of an inclusive multisector, multidisciplinary approach in the planning, development and implementation of the EW4All initiative with full participation of Members concerned, and a key stakeholder in the public and private sectors, academic and research communities, and civil society at large *[Curaçao and St. Maarten]*,

(5) The arrangements made by the Technical Commissions and Regional Associations regarding their working structures contributing to the EW4All initiative,

**Reaffirming:**

(1) That it is the primary responsibility of the national governments to establish multi-hazard early warning systems and therefore, the commitments of the governments with their strong ownership and leadership are indispensable;

(2) That the whole value cycle of multi-hazard early warning systems is built on collaborative efforts of various national and international stakeholders inclusive of multilateral and bilateral development partners, in the public, private, and academic sectors, and their collective and collaborative efforts at global, regional, and national levels are fundamentally needed,

**Acknowledging:**

(1) That there are a number of ongoing and planned activities by various organizations including bilateral and multilateral development partners to support Members, and therefore coordination of such activities is essential to ensure that the EW4All Initiative avoids duplication of effort and is implemented in a coordinated manner, and that the Secretariat’s role in this coordination effort is essential to ensure success *[Secretariat, Guyana, Germany],*

(2) That the EW4All Initiative requires strong strategic partnerships with organizations at national, regional and global levels, including but not limited to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affair (OCHA), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), *[Switzerland]* the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP) Secretariat; as well as partners from development assistance and financing institutions, like the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Adaptation Fund, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the World Bank (WB) Group, the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office and the Climate Investment Fund (CIF) and other regional partners,

(3) That, existing initiatives in which WMO is one of the lead agencies, such as the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) and the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF), should play a key financing and implementation role in the EW4All Executive Action Plan and the Regional Action Plans that may be developed,

(4) That a number of Members already committed to support the EW4All Initiative by endorsing high-level statements such as the Beijing Statement on Early Warnings for All under the Belt and Road Initiative, endorsed by 22 Members, and the Abu Dhabi High-level Statement on EW4All for Implementation of Climate Adaptation, endorsed by 24 Members, which underscores the importance of early warnings and of sustained efforts across borders to build a more resilient world.

(5) That the ongoing changes to the cryosphere and the resulting downstream impacts on countries and territories *[British Caribbean Territories]*, including SIDS and LDCs communities will only accelerate, and that the EW4All Initiative must be underpinned by continued research and action in the cryosphere and the resulting downstream impacts on communities *[British Caribbean Territories]* to ensure its success, in alignment with Strategic Objective 1.5.

**Mindful** of the ambitious time frame, the complexity of the technological, social and economic aspects, the capacity development gaps *[Guyana]* of countries and territories *[British Caribbean Territories]* and the urgency implied by the increasing threats and risks from natural hazards,

**Noting** the [UN Early Warnings for All Executive Action Plan](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=11426) developed under the WMO Secretary-General’s leadership, which builds from and aligns with, WMO and other stakeholders’ foundational elements already in place to pursue the early warning goal, notably those developed under the technical commissions, the Capacity Development Panel and the Research Board,

**Noting further:**

(1) That the Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, held on 18–19 May 2023 in New York highlights the importance and urgent need for successfully implementing the UN Early Warning for All Initiative and the key role of WMO in this UN-wide initiative,

(2) The interventions made at the High-Level Dialogue “Early Warnings for All: Accelerating and Scaling up Action at the Country Level”, organized on 22 May 2023, illustrating requirements, engagements and additional commitments and challenges of WMO Members, the United Nations system, other international organizations and financial institutions towards advancing the implementation of the EW4All Initiative,

**Considering** that the role of WMO as a scientific and technical organization, is to support Members in the effective and efficient delivery of *[Guyana]* national early warning services, particularly through:

(1) Strengthening the WMO regional and global infrastructure, including the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON) and the WMO Integrated Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) *[Guyana, British Caribbean Territories]*, based on needs of Members, particularly of the least resourced,

(2) Developing technical standards and materials, including Technical Regulations, guides and corresponding non-regulatory publications training materials, and enabling the sharing of good practices for Members to design, build, and operate the whole value cycle of muti-hazard early warning systems in a most cost-effective and sustainable manner,

(3) Strengthening and implementing capacity development activities including mobilization of quality technical experts from Members as WMO experts to enable them to provide effective in-country supports,

(4) Facilitating the establishment and strengthening of strategic partnerships for EW4All and institutional arrangement *[Ireland]* with various key stakeholders across all the sectors including bilateral and multilateral development partnerships,

**Considering further** the need for WMO to enable access to authoritative information and the provision of expert advice from WMO Members to the UN and other humanitarian agencies, *[Switzerland]*

**Agrees** that the fulfilment of the WMO contribution to the successful implementation of the EW4All Initiative shall be accorded the highest priority in the WMO Strategic Plan 2024–2027;

**Requests:**

(1) The Executive Council to oversee progress on WMO’s contribution to the EW4All Initiative as a matter of highest priority and to provide advice and direction to ensure there is coordination and consolidation of all relevant WMO activities under the EW4All umbrella;

(2) The technical commissions, *,* the Research Board, the Capacity Development Panel, and the Hydrological Coordination Panel, under the guidance of the Executive Council, to:

(a) Identify high priority activities to address the urgent needs of Members in building effective multi-hazard early warning systems falling within their terms of reference and to incorporate them into their respective work plans for the next financial period;

(b) Identify, catalogue, and integrate priority emerging hazards, such as those due to changes in the cryosphere, in support of the development of necessary monitoring and early warning systems for affected Members;

(c) Implement the priority activities in a collaborative, coordinated, and synergetic manner;

(d) To regularly report progress to the EC for its guidance*.*

(3) The regional associations:

(a) With the assistance of the regional offices to ensure that focused actions on the implementation of the EW4All falling within their terms of reference are prioritized in their respective work plans for the next financial period; and

(b) To regularly report progress to the EC for its guidance;

(4) The Hydrological Coordination Panel:

(a) To ensure that the outputs of the WMO Plan of Action for Hydrology, which contribute to the EW4ALL, are prioritized for the next financial period; and

(b) To regularly report progress to the EC for its guidance;

(5) The Secretary-General, under the direction of the Executive Council, to:

(a) As appropriate and within the available budgetary and extrabudgetary resources, to take all necessary actions to support *[Germany]* WMO’s contribution to the EW4All Initiative and facilitate the involvement of co-implementing organizations;

(b) Regularly report to EC on the progress of activities supporting the Early Warnings for All initiative, including the engagement with the Early Warnings for All Advisory Panel and other high-level EW4All events, and to take direction from EC on future advancement of the initiative;

(c) Work with UNDRR to help ensure a coordinated approach with other initiatives contributing to early warnings;

(d) To make available those EW4All communications created and used by WMO, UNDRR and other partners, to secure global support for this initiative so Members can tailor this information for their own engagement with public and private partners,

**Encourages** Members to leverage the EW4All Initiative to assess their existing hydrometeorological observation, forecasting and MHEWS capacity in accordance with existing and forthcoming WMO Technical Regulations, guides and corresponding non-regulatory publications and, adopt measures to fill identified gaps, ensuring the necessary funding for the sustainable operation and continuous improvement of the national MHEWSs;

**Requests** Members to document and share, their national plan and expenditures supporting early warning systems in order to provide a complete picture of the investments made globally in support of the UN EW4All Initiative;

**Urges** Members to develop their own initiatives and to utilize all forms of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, including twinning arrangements, as well as original Public-Private Engagement (PPE) arrangements, to assist over the long term *[Guyana]* those Members with MHEWSs capacity gaps, to contribute to the fulfilment of the EW4All vision “that every person on Earth is protected by early warnings within five years”;

**Invites** the World Bank, UNDP, GCF, regional investment banks, other interested entities of the United Nations system, and bilateral development partners:

(1) To contribute to the timely and effective development of the initiative;

(2) To align their practices with the UN ambitious objective, including through the development of PPE arrangements across the Early Warning-Early Action value cycle; and*;*

(3) To promote original approaches to secure long-term operation and sustainability.

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