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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. 9** |
| Submitted by: Secretary-General  12.IV.2023  **DRAFT 1** |

**AGENDA ITEM 9: DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT CONGRESS**

# Date and place of next sessions of Congress

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| **Summary** |
| **Document presented by:** Secretary-General on the basis of Articles 10 and 14(f) of the Convention, Regulations 102–104 of the [*General Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14206#.ZArv1XbMI2w) (WMO-No. 15) and [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=295) – Extraordinary session of Congress in 2021  **Strategic objective 2020–2023:** 5.1 Optimize WMO constituent body structure for more effective decision-making  **Financial and administrative implications:** reflected in the draft Strategic and Operational Plans 2024–2027  **Key implementers:** Executive Council, President, Secretary-General  **Time frame:** 2024–2027  **Action expected:** adopt [Draft Resolution 9/1 (Cg-19)](#_Draft_Resolution_9/1) |

# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

### Introduction: sessions of Congress

1. The WMO Convention establishes that Congress shall normally be convened at intervals as near as possible to four years, at a place and on a date to be decided by the Executive Council, and that an extraordinary Congress may be convened by decision of the Executive Council or at the request of Members.[[1]](#footnote-2)

### Past extraordinary sessions of Congress

1. Since the establishment of WMO, Congress only held two extraordinary sessions, in 2012[[2]](#footnote-3) and in 2021.[[3]](#footnote-4) The first, to consider the Global Framework for Climate Services; the second, to consider the WMO reform assessment and future directions, WMO support to the global water agenda, policy and practice for Earth system data exchange and amendments to the WMO Regulations. In both cases, the decision to hold an extraordinary session had been taken by Congress in session, with a resolution.[[4]](#footnote-5)

### The opportunity of holding two sessions of Congress in the four-year cycle

1. When deciding on the extraordinary session to be held in 2021 in [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=295), Congress considered that holding two Congress sessions in the four-year period would offer benefits of more frequent gatherings of Members for an effective and inclusive governance and greater engagement of Members in advancing the technical progress and policymaking of the Organization.
2. Congress further considered that the ordinary session in the four-year cycle would be dedicated to decisions on strategy, policy, budget, structure and elections, while the extraordinary session would focus on normative and regulatory issues, progress on strategic objectives and capacity development, and other selected topics, as necessary.
3. Therefore, Congress requested the Executive Council, at its session in 2024, to consider the opportunity of convening an extraordinary session of Congress in 2025 as appropriate depending on the matters to be submitted before it.
4. In line with [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=295), and given the strategic initiatives currently pursued by the Organization (in particular Early Warnings for All), the Secretary-General, in consultation with the President, proposes that the decision to hold an extraordinary session of Congress in 2025 is taken by the present session together with the decision concerning the next ordinary session, requesting the Executive Council to determine the precise date and prepare the agendas for the sessions.

**Expected action**

1. Based on the above, Congress is invited to adopt [Draft Resolution 9/1 (Cg-19)](#_Draft_Resolution_9/1).

# DRAFT RESOLUTION

## Draft Resolution 9/1 (Cg-19)

## Date and place of next sessions of Congress

THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL CONGRESS,

**Having regard** to Articles 10 and 14(f) of the Convention and Regulations 102–104 of the [*General Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14206#.ZArv1XbMI2w) (WMO-No. 15),

**Recalling** [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=295) – Extraordinary session of Congress in 2021 to the effect that in it Congress considered the benefits of holding two sessions during the four-year cycle and requested the Executive Council in 2024 to consider the opportunity of convening an extraordinary session of Congress in 2025,

**Decides**:

(1) To convene an extraordinary session in 2025, tentatively from 16 to 20 June, focusing on progress with the Early Warnings for All initiative and other urgent matters as determined by the Executive Council;

(2) To convene the twentieth ordinary session in 2027, tentatively from 3 to 14 May;

**Requests**:

(1) The Executive Council to determine the precise date and place of the aforementioned sessions of Congress and prepare their provisional agendas;

(2) The Secretary-General to provide arrangements for the sessions and notify Members thereof.

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1. Art. 10 of the WMO Convention; Regulations 102–104 of the [*General Regulations*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=14206#.ZArv1XbMI2w) (WMO-No. 15). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [*World Meteorological Congress - Extraordinary session: abridged final report with resolutions*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=13968#.ZBld9XbMI2w) (2012) (WMO-No. 1102). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. [*World Meteorological Congress: Abridged final report of the Extraordinary session*](https://library.wmo.int/index.php?lvl=notice_display&id=22034#.ZBleqXbMI2w) (2021) (WMO-No. 1281). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. [Resolution 47 (Cg-XVI)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3429#page=331) – Response to the Report of the High-Level Taskforce on the Global Framework for Climate Services; [Resolution 89 (Cg-18)](https://library.wmo.int/doc_num.php?explnum_id=9827/#page=295) – Extraordinary session of Congress in 2021. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)