

WMO STATEMENT AT SBSTA 47 at COP 23

6 November 2017, Bonn, Germany

World Meteorological Organization

Contributions to Paris Agreement implementation

Mr Chairperson,

Distinguished delegates,

Last year, SBSTA welcomed the formal submissions from World Meteorological Organization (WMO) of the annual Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2016 as well as a five-year review of Global Climate in 2011–2015. SBSTA equally welcomed the WMO's Greenhouse Gas Bulletin and invited WMO to continue providing these submissions on a regular basis. This recognition by SBSTA acknowledges the continued deepening of WMO's support of the UNFCCC process in providing the best available science on the state of the climate. The annual WMO reports complement the IPCC Assessment Reports, which are issued every five to seven years.

This year, WMO has strengthened the annual statement on the State of the Global Climate by adding multi-year information and analysis, such as carbon and sea level budgets, prolonged droughts and other extreme events. The Statement now also includes information submitted by a wide range of UN agencies on human, socio-economic and environmental impacts as part of a drive to provide a more comprehensive, UN-wide policy brief for decision makers on the interplay between weather, climate and water and the UN global goals. Furthermore, WMO has decided to initiate a Global Hydrological Status and Outlook system, building on the existing efforts of Member countries to produce regular analyses of the current national hydrological condition.

WMO is leading the work of its co-sponsored bodies IPCC, WCRP and GCOS to identify a core set of climate change indicators, which can assist Parties to better track the status of key aspects of climate change. These include surface temperature, greenhouse gas atmospheric concentration, ocean heat and acidification, sea levels and sea ice extent, and glacier change.

The WMO annual statement on the State of the Global Climate as well as the Greenhouse Gas Bulletin represent authoritative global syntheses of the best available analysis and scientific information on the status of these indicators, which can provide quantified and objective input for the Paris Agreement global stocktake.

Finally, many Parties in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) have emphasized the need for scientific data and information on climate variability, trends and extremes and the use of climate information and services for affected economic sectors such as water, agriculture, health and energy as well as for disaster risk reduction. Climate information and services contribute to the implementation of adaptation under the Paris Agreement as well as to related Sustainable Development Goals. WMO is actively supporting Member countries to meet these requirements through implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).