

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

STATEMENT AT SBSTA 64

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The WMO, its Members and its co-sponsored bodies (the Global Climate Observing System - GCOS, the Global Ocean Observing System - GOOS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - IPCC and the World Climate Research Programme - WCRP) contribute weather and climate observations, research and scientific information that anchor negotiations in the best available science.

In this regard, we know that El Niño and its implications are very much on people's minds. WMO's [authoritative El Niño/La Niña Update](#) confirms that El Niño conditions are developing in the tropical Pacific, with an 80% probability of emergence between June and August 2026, and increasing probability beyond August. El Niño is a major driver of worsening extremes, including heatwaves and heavy rainfall, as warmer ocean waters add heat and moisture to the climate system.

This comes against a sobering backdrop. The [WMO State of the Global Climate 2025](#) tells a story of records broken and limits breached. Greenhouse gas concentrations continued to increase, sea ice and glaciers to retreat and global mean sea level to rise. The past eleven years were the hottest ever observed and the Earth's energy imbalance hit a new high with over 91% of excess heat stored in the ocean.

Responding to these realities requires a robust foundation of **observations**. WMO's Integrated Global Observing System coordinates all surface- and space-based observing systems, while the co-sponsored GOOS programme delivers essential ocean data for climate projections and early warnings. The Systematic Observations Financing Facility¹, already supporting 61 countries in closing critical gaps in observing infrastructure, is issuing the first Systematic Observation Impact Bond following inclusion in the COP30 Action Agenda. GCOS and SOFF are also mobilizing partners to develop the first Global State of Systematic Observation report, to be launched at COP32.

The changing climate underscores the critical importance of the **Early Warnings for All initiative**. Since 2015, the number of countries reporting multi-hazard early warning systems has more than doubled – from 56 to 128 – yet one-third of the world's population, primarily in LDCs and SIDS, still lacks coverage. The case for investment in early warning systems is clear: a 24-hour warning can reduce damage by up to 30 percent, and every dollar invested generates around nine dollars in net economic benefits. Through the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, WMO is strengthening capacities and operational support to advance last-mile dissemination, including through AI, satellite systems and mobile alerts. [The WMO Secretary-General's Call to Action](#) on early warnings urges faster investment,

¹ SOFF is the United Nations fund dedicated to supporting countries in closing the most critical weather and climate data gaps and achieving compliance with the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON).

reduced digital and institutional divides, and scaling up people-centered systems that deliver timely and life-saving warnings for all.

Finally, WMO's work and data directly feeds into the **Global Goal on Adaptation**, strengthening the indicators that Parties need to translate scientific knowledge into concrete adaptation action. WMO will continue to deliver the weather, climate, and water intelligence vital for informed decision-making and tangible results as we head towards COP31, because the cost of inaction is something no country can afford.