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Call for Submissions from Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T Submission from WMO

Introduction

The Baku to Belém Roadmap highlights the gap between climate finance commitments and developing countries' needs. While developed nations pledge \$300 billion annually by 2035, studies show \$455–584 billion is required by 2030 for developing countries to meet their nationally determined contributions (NDCs). The Roadmap advocates for innovative financing, including loan guarantees and concessional finance, to engage the private sector. COP30 in Belém will advance these strategies, building on the progress at COP29 in Baku.

Accessing climate finance requires planning, coordination, and engagement, for which National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) play a key role by providing essential climate data for evidence-based decision-making. Their expertise strengthens the scientific basis for policies, investments, and financial flows to support climate goals. This submission presents WMO insights on mobilizing resources to meet the Roadmap's targets, addressing key challenges, best practices, and the four critical questions below.

What are your overall expectations for the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T?

WMO expects that the Baku to Belém Roadmap to 1.3T will motivate the exploration of innovative and diverse funding sources from both the public and private sectors to meet the expected targets, including:

- To systematically integrate reliable climate data into all levels of financial decision-making. Ensuring that financial frameworks, climate finance mechanisms, and global investments are informed by science-driven approaches that are crucial to ensuring climate resilience, effectiveness, and sustainability.
- To recognize the entire meteorological value chain and finance its steps, starting from systematic observations, over to weather and climate forecasts, delivery of climate services and feeding into effective decision-making and action.
- To streamline access to climate finance for the most vulnerable nations, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Middle-Income Countries (MICs). WMO advocates for simplified funding processes and the establishment of dedicated adaptation funds for MICs that may fall between eligibility thresholds for concessional loans and grants. This is essential for reducing existing disparities in access to much-needed climate finance.
- To reduce the complexity of application procedures, ensuring predictable and sustained financial flows, and enhancing coordination between funding entities. Many vulnerable countries face challenges related to the fragmentation of climate finance and a lack of coherence across funding sources
- To increase grant-based funding for systematic observation and climate adaptation projects, emphasizing the importance of minimizing the financial burden on vulnerable countries already facing significant debt challenges.
- To position National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) as critical actors in the 1.3T climate finance agenda, ensuring they receive targeted funding and recognition for their roles in gathering critical weather and climate data, national climate services, climate risk management, climate policy development, investment prioritization and finance mobilization.

- To develop a climate finance capacity-building initiative to help NMHSs access and manage climate finance efficiently, for example, enhancing NMHS capacities to develop bankable projects for climate action.
- To promote innovative finance approaches to leverage public-private partnerships for climate services.

Which topics and thematic issues should be explored to inform the Roadmap within the scope of the mandate?

Based on the WMO mandate and initiatives, the following thematic issues could be integrated into the Roadmap:

- Integrating climate science into decision-making Strengthening evidence-based policymaking by leveraging NMHS data to inform climate action investments.
- Channeling climate finance for NMHSs Ensuring NMHSs are recognized as key enablers of climate finance mobilization, providing countries with essential data and expertise and increasing international climate finance commitments to sustain the development, delivery and use of climate services for the nation.
- Capacity building and institutional strengthening Addressing barriers to climate finance access by enhancing NMHS technical capacity, national governance and coordination frameworks on climate services.

What country experiences, best practices and lessons learned can be shared related to barriers and enabling environments; innovative sources of finance; grants, concessional and non-debt-creating instruments, and measures to create fiscal space?

In October 2024, WMO organized a Consultative Meeting on Climate Science Information for Climate Finance (link), where experts and decision-makers highlighted the critical role of NMHSs in mobilizing climate finance. The meeting emphasized that NMHSs, as core national providers of authoritative climate data for decision-making and evidence-based solutions, can step up as strategic leaders in national climate policies, contributing to unlocking climate finance. During the meeting, key messages from the WMO-No. 1365 guidance on Enhancing the Role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in Mobilizing Climate Finance were showcased. The Guidance Note offers reflections about barriers and experiences to mobilize climate investment, summarized as follows:

Barriers and Enabling Environments

<u>Challenges in climate finance access</u>: Many NMHSs face institutional, technical, and financial capacity constraints that prevent them from effectively engaging in national climate finance mobilization.

<u>Need for institutional strengthening</u>: The document emphasizes the need for NMHSs to reposition themselves as key stakeholders in national climate finance frameworks rather than being perceived solely as technical service providers. The WMO supports National Frameworks for Climate Services, under the Global Framework for Climate Services, to develop, build and benefit from national coordination of climate activities to better enable climate action, with NMHSs well positioned to take a central role.

<u>Integration of climate science into national climate policy planning</u>: NMHSs must be included in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and disaster risk management strategies to ensure they are part of funding applications.

Innovative sources of finance

<u>Blended Finance and Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)</u>: The report discusses leveraging public and private sector resources to finance early warning systems, hydrometeorological services, and resilience projects.

<u>Grant-Based Support:</u> The report also highlights how NMHSs can access grant funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF), and Global Environment Facility (GEF) for early warning systems and climate data infrastructure.

<u>Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Initiative</u>: The report showcases initiatives and funds that enhance climate finance access and availability. CREWS supports NMHSs in LDCs and SIDS by investing in climate resilience and disaster risk reduction.

Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF): A specialized UN climate fund aimed at filling critical gaps in climate data observation networks. The grant-based and long-term approach ensures supporting countries with installing and maintaining surface stations to gather and internationally exchange basic weather and climate data as well as build capacity in NMHS. A peer-to-peer approach, including South-to-South partnerships between NMHSs, creates a long-term partnership for technical assistance, leveraging best practices.

<u>Impact Bonds:</u> SOFF is envisioning an Impact Bond as an innovative vehicle for public-private contribution to the new climate finance goal. By arranging to issue a bond in international debt capital markets, SOFF will expand its donor base and front-load up to five years of anticipated grants from sovereign, philanthropic and other donors to enable it to significantly accelerate and expand funding for Lower MICs, LDCs and SIDS capacity to deliver basic climate and weather data as required by the international community.

Measures to create fiscal space

<u>Cost-Recovery Models</u>: NMHSs can generate revenue through fee-based climate services for key climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and food security, disaster risk reduction, energy, health, water, aviation, and insurance.

<u>Integration into national budgets</u>: Ensuring that NMHSs are recognized in national budget planning through budget tagging allows for sustainable domestic financing rather than dependence solely on external funds.

<u>Leveraging international climate finance mechanisms</u>: Aligning national hydrometeorological investments with international funding priorities enhances access to climate finance.

Which multilateral initiatives do you see as most relevant to take into account in the Roadmap and why?

The Early Warnings for All (EW4All): Aiming to protect everyone from hazardous weather, water, and climate events by 2027 through early warning systems, UNDRR, WMO, ITU, and IFRC are working together to deliver climate justice. Aligned with the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework, this initiative is supported by CREWS and SOFF. At the 2023 UN Climate Ambition Summit, Multilateral Development Banks pledged to support EW4All, enhance coordination, and scale up action.

<u>Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD):</u> Emerging from COP28, this fund is designed to address economic and non-economic losses resulting from climate-induced disasters. It aims to fill gaps in existing financial flows, particularly for communities facing displacement, infrastructure damage, and long-term recovery needs. However, the current pledges so far are insufficient to meet the needs of developing countries.