



Organisation météorologique mondiale  
World Meteorological Organization

# WMO statement at the presentation of the Strategic Development Plan for the National Meteorological Service of Mexico

*Michel Jarraud*  
*Secrétaire général*

*(Mexico D.F., 9 March 2010)*

TEMPS  
CLIMAT  
EAU

WEATHER  
CLIMATE  
WATER

A large, faint, light blue version of the WMO OMM logo is centered in the background of the lower half of the page. It features a globe with a star above it, surrounded by laurel branches.



**WMO STATEMENT AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR THE NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE OF MEXICO**

by

**M. Jarraud**

**Secretary-General**

**World Meteorological Organization**

**(Mexico D.F., 9 March 2010)**

**Excellency,**

**Mr Juan Rafael Elvira Quezada, Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources,**

**Mr Felipe Adrián Vázquez Gálvez, Permanent Representative of Mexico with WMO,**

**Mr Michel Rosengaus, Former Permanent Representative of Mexico with WMO,**

**Ms Estrellita Fuentes Nava, CONAGUA Hydrologic Planning Manager,**

**Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I wish to express the appreciation of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to Mr Felipe Adrián Vázquez Gálvez, Permanent Representative of Mexico with WMO, for the kind invitation to join you today at the presentation of the Strategic Development Plan for the National Meteorological Service of Mexico, as a key milestone in your country's integral long-term drive for the improvement, modernization and development of the National Water Commission (CONAGUA) and its meteorological and hydrological components, in support of Mexico's fundamental socioeconomic activities.

I also wish to thank Mexico for the exceptional cooperation established since your country joined WMO on 27 May 1949. Accordingly, as one of WMO's 36 founding Members, I would like to congratulate you for the sixtieth anniversary of our Organization, which today has 189 Members.

**Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

From the outset, the World Meteorological Organization has followed with keen interest the development process of the Project for the Strengthening of Integrated Water Resources Management in Mexico (PREMIA), which builds upon the key outcomes of the landmark PROMMA project and contributes to vital CONAGUA objectives in the light of the recently restructured National Water Program (PAM) 2007-2012.

Given the fact that Mexico is highly sensitive to extreme hydrometeorological events, all activities contributing to the modernization and development of its National Meteorological Service are considered critical. In this context, the establishment of a National Advisory Committee for the NMS composed of national institutions with competence in meteorological and climate activities, as well as major information users, is seen as especially significant.

Your NMS requested WMO's support to carry out a full diagnosis and to develop a strategic plan aimed at its strengthening and modernization, as a consequence of which a WMO mission was organized in October 2009. The preliminary mission report was jointly considered with the competent authorities of your country and a number of conclusions have been drawn in terms of key strategic activities, estimates, expected benefits, sustainability and capacity building, including a long-term programme for staff education and training, a communication plan and a quality management framework.

**Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

According to Mexico's National Population Council, by 2030 there will be over 120 million inhabitants, 82% of them living in urban zones, so the effects of climate change will be increasingly significant.

Recognizing that every social, economic and environmental sector is sensitive to climate variability and change, last year WMO convened with partners the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3) under the overall theme of "*climate prediction and information for decision making*", in particular to promote further development of decision-supportive tools and capacity building in climate-related risk management. Mexico contributed extensively to the success of this key event, for which I thank you once more.

The WCC-3, which was a collaborative effort of the United Nations System, supported the development of a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) to ensure that every country and every climate-sensitive societal sector will be better equipped to access and apply climate prediction and information services, in particular to meet crucial challenges in the areas of disaster prevention, food security and water management, in a way fully compatible with modern environmental protection.

In response to the WCC-3 mandate, WMO is now taking concrete steps to develop the GFCS. Representatives of more than 100 countries, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations gathered in Geneva, from 11-12 January 2010, to approve the terms of reference and to endorse the composition of a High-level Taskforce of independent advisers, which two weeks ago held its first meeting to begin addressing GFCS development and implementation, before submitting proposals to the sixteenth World Meteorological Congress in May 2011. We are confident that Mexico will play a very significant role in this vital endeavor.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Mexico for the initiative of launching this key strategic development plan, which will also contribute to enhance climate preparedness amongst all relevant sectors. In 2000, UN Members adopted the Millennium Declaration as a renewed commitment to human development, including the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their quantified targets and indicators for actions to achieve significant progress by 2015, particularly in the areas of food security, water resources management and human health.

I wish to reaffirm that WMO is an active partner of Mexico in its efforts to modernize its meteorological and hydrological infrastructure and operations, and I look forward to the continued development of the National Water Commission (CONAGUA) and the National Meteorological Service.

Thank you.

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