



Organisation météorologique mondiale  
World Meteorological Organization

# WMO opening address on the Occasion of the Sixth Technical Conference on Meteorological Services Management in Regional Associations III and IV

*M. Jarraud*  
*Secretary-General*

*(San José, Costa Rica, 3 March 2011)*



TEMPS WEATHER  
CLIMAT CLIMATE  
EAU WATER



**WMO OPENING ADDRESS ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIXTH TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON  
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT IN REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS III AND IV**

**by**

**M. Jarraud**

**Secretary-General**

**World Meteorological Organization**

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**Excellency, Mr Teófilo de la Torre, Minister of Environment, Energy and Telecommunications,  
Ms Myrna Araneda, president of Regional Association III,  
Mr Arthur Rolle, president of Regional Association IV,  
Mr Juan Carlos Fallas Sojo, Director-General of Instituto Meteorológico Nacional (IMN) and  
Permanent Representative of Costa Rica with WMO,  
Mr Tyrone Sutherland, Second Vice-President of WMO,  
Mr Antonio Divino Moura, Third Vice-President of WMO,  
Distinguished Participants, Lecturers and Guests,  
Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is indeed a pleasure to address the Sixth Technical Conference on Meteorological Services Management in Regional Associations III (South America) and IV (North America, Central America and the Caribbean).

I would like to express my appreciation to the Government of Costa Rica, through Your Excellency, for the decisive support provided to WMO since your country became a Member of our Organization on 16 December 1960, a support further demonstrated, in particular, by hosting in San José the WMO Sub-regional Office for North America, Central America and the Caribbean, as well as the WMO Regional Training Centre at the University of Costa Rica.

We are especially fortunate and very grateful for the active participation at this meeting of Mr Frederick Branski, president of the WMO Commission for Basic Systems (CBS), Mr Ian Lisk, vice-president of the WMO Commission for Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM), and other distinguished experts from various WMO expert teams.

**Excellency,**

**Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

In your respective Regions, as well as in others, the practice of holding these short meetings in the period leading up to a World Meteorological Congress session is recognized as an efficient way for WMO Members to focus on many of the key issues and, eventually, to facilitate consensus. The previous Technical Conference on Management of Meteorological Services in RA III and RA IV, held in Brasilia in July 2006, at the kind invitation of the Government of Brazil, was indeed a very successful one.

In June 2010, during the sixty-second session of the WMO Executive Council, the EC members from your two Regions identified a number of key topics for consideration and discussion at this conference; in particular, these issues included the WMO Integrated Global Observing System (WIGOS) and WMO Information System (WIS) development, quality management of aeronautical services and accreditation of aviation forecasters, all of which will be considered extensively in San José over the next two days.

These and other transcendental WMO issues were also discussed extensively during the fifteenth sessions of your respective regional associations, held in Nassau in 2009 and in Bogotá in 2010. Inasmuch as they are indeed significant to the next Congress session, you may wish to again consider some of them here.

However, to keep my presentation short and since there will be another opportunity for me to refer to the next Congress later today, I shall only focus on one of them now, simply to recall that in 2007 the Fifteenth World Meteorological Congress agreed to convene a third World Climate Conference with partners, to facilitate the provision of climate information and services for decision-making, in the same spirit as the previous two historic World Climate Conferences which WMO had organized with partners in 1979 and 1990.

At the end of 2010, a High-level Taskforce finalized its report as mandated by the WCC-3, including a key proposal for a Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS), as well as its implementation principles, recommended structure, governance suggestions and possible initial priorities. The report will be a vital issue for consideration at the coming Congress session, hopefully heralding a new era thereafter in international cooperation.

**Excellency,**

**Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Before closing, I would like to express once more my sincere appreciation to Costa Rica, the National Meteorological Institute and to all IMN staff who have contributed decisively to this key conference, which has successfully convened many distinguished participants and experts from Regional Associations III and IV, as well as guests from other WMO Members.

Thank you.

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