

# World Climate Conference - 3

## Climate prediction and information for decision-making



Geneva, Switzerland  
31 August – 4 September 2009

Geneva International Conference Centre



**Climate provides societies with opportunities, as well as risks.** Over the decades, WMO has enhanced capacities in meteorology, hydrology and related geosciences to provide services that enable humankind to cope with climate conditions.

The systems and standards developed by WMO facilitate the gathering, processing and sharing of climate observations to provide services for protecting life and property and to spur socio-economic development. Through the first and second world climate conferences, WMO and partners rallied the world to address climate issues related to the science and policies needed to better understand and mitigate the effects of climate change.

The First Climate Conference (1979) helped establish institutions such as the WMO World Climate Programme; the World Climate Research Programme (co-sponsored by WMO, the International Council for Science and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) co-sponsored by WMO and the United Nations Environment Programme), which won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

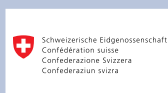
The Second World Climate Conference (1990) called for the establishment of a climate convention, adding momentum to international efforts to address climate change. This

resulted in the development of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992. It also led to the establishment of the Global Climate Observing System and to recommendations for future activities of the World Climate Programme.

WCC-3 is building on our resulting improved understanding of the climate system and advances in the science of climate prediction and information that can contribute to enhancing the well-being of society. It will focus on establishing services that enable decision-makers to better manage the climate opportunities and risks associated with extreme climate conditions and allow communities to improve their ability to adapt to long-term climate change.



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# Better climate information for a better future

[http://www.wmo.int/pages/world\\_climate\\_conference/](http://www.wmo.int/pages/world_climate_conference/)

The enormous amount of data gathered and archived by WMO, together with its global data-processing and telecommunication systems, is a resource that can help significantly to develop climate services and products. These include maps of potential risks and opportunities, return periods for potential risks and opportunities, potentials for renewable energy sources, urban management, disease outbreak potentials and accurate climate predictions.

Global, regional and national climate prediction centres have the skills to produce useful climate predictions and information. These skills, however, vary from region to region and country to country. The capacities of developing countries and Least Developed Countries need to be strengthened to enable them to produce accurate and useful products and services.

The needs of different societies have to be well understood and integrated in the generation of products and services. Climate monitoring and prediction must be improved and appropriate policies developed. These requirements cannot be achieved by individual countries alone. The world is served by one climate system that redistributes heat, energy and other atmospheric and oceanic constituents; worldwide cooperation is therefore indispensable.

Adequate monitoring of the climate system enables timely detection of transboundary hazardous climate systems. The world must come together to improve climate prediction and information services that will significantly contribute to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Bali Action Plan and the Hyogo Framework Action on disaster risk reduction.

WCC-3 will establish an international framework to develop climate services which will bridge the gap between IPCC assessment reports and the services required to adapt to climate

variability and change at regional and sectoral levels.

WCC-3 is also expected to provide direction to address climate-related risks, such as droughts, floods, extreme cold, heatwaves, famine and outbreaks of certain diseases, which, as well as threatening lives, affect health and the availability of essential needs such as food, water and energy.

We encourage wide publicity for, and participation in, the Conference to make it a success. Please visit our Website (see above) for the programme and other information.



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