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WMO Video Address to the opening segment of IPCC-59 Election Plenary, Nairobi Kenya. 25th July 2023.

By Dr Paul Egerton

Director of Cabinet, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Excellencies, distinguished delegates of IPCC, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization Prof Petteri Taalas. He sends his best wishes for a successful election plenary IPCC 59 and the end of this six-assessment cycle which has resulted in significant and globally impactful reports by world-leading scientists.

As we can all see we are experiencing extreme weather events and climate impacts around the world with forest fires extreme heat, storms and floods resulting in loss of lives and damage to economies and societies, these pressures underline the critical work of the IPCC cutting edge scientific reviews synthesis and special reports in informing policy and supporting decision making by governments on their mitigation and adaptation efforts.

The COP 28 meeting in Dubai later this year will be a very important milestone to ensure commitments adherence to the Paris Agreement and Implementation of the Sharm El Sheikh action plan reduction of emissions, enhanced adaptation financing and activating the mechanisms for the important issue loss and damage. The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has tasked WMO and UNDRR with its key partners ITU, IFRC, and including UNEP to lead on achieving global coverage for Early Warning for All by 2027. EW4ALL has become the highest priority for WMO at its recent World Meteorological Congress in Geneva.

We all have to work towards ensuring climate justice by ensuring that the most vulnerable SIDS LDC'S and in fact, all countries around the world have functioning early warning systems and services including prediction and anticipatory action to protect their populations.

WMO and UNEP as host institutions of the IPCC have worked closely over the last year to put in place senior management compacts for Secretary Abdallah Mokssit and Deputy Secretary Ermira Fida to guide the efficient functioning, responsibilities and deliverables of the management and staff of the secretariat. These are based on the accountability documents for the senior officials of the UN Secretariat. The professionalism and dedication of the secretariat is very clear and is key to IPCC Support to the scientific community in the delivery of the assessment cycle they have worked hard and long hours to ensure that the plenary meetings are well prepared and excellent supported

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the outgoing Chair Dr Lee and all the ExCom, for their dedication to the bureau and of course all the thousands of dedicated professional scientists from institutions around the world who make the IPCC the 'gold standard of scientific excellence.

We would like to thank the Government of Kenya and UNON and UNEP (Including the Early Warning and Assessment division) for hosting this important meeting and we wish you well and success in the election of the new chair and Bureau for the 7th cycle.

IPCC is vital for the planet and for humankind and your work is the key to ensuring we stay on a sustainable and track for the future.

Thank you very much.

Dr Paul D Egerton Director of Cabinet of the Secretary-General World Meteorological Organization
On behalf of the Secretary-General Prof Petteri Taalas.