

Statement by Remarks by Mr. Batjargal Zamba, WMO Representative to United Nations, WMO Liaison Office in New York (25 April 2012)

Distinguished delegates,

As you know the World Meteorological Organization is the United Nations System's authoritative voice on Weather, Climate and Water. The WMO is facilitating a worldwide exchange of information through its global networks, helping the global community to withstand natural disasters, to manage with scarce water resources and to respond to climate variability. Most of the data circulating through these systems are becoming an essential part of public information in many countries. With reference to the items 4, 5 and 6 in doc. A/AC.198/2012/2, Report of the Secretary-General, where the issues on MDGs, sustainable development and climate change have been highlighted, please permit me to make a brief remark on the WMO new Information System, which became operational since the beginning of this year in order to boost data exchange for disaster risk reduction, forecasting, predictions and service delivery for food security and health among others.

This new international information system will promote improvement and expansion of the current exchange of weather, climate and water data and cut the costs involved. It builds on the proven success of the Global Telecommunication System of WMO's World Weather Watch which has been the backbone of meteorological information exchange for the past 40 years and is used for daily weather observations and forecasts, tropical cyclone warnings and tsunami alerts — to name but a few applications.

It will allow users outside the meteorological community to have free access to this information for the first time. This will be especially important as WMO moves ahead with other U.N. and international partners with the Global Framework for Climate Services which aims to provide basic climate services for all in the food security, water management, disaster risk reduction and health sectors.

The WMO Information System, or WIS, connects and integrates information from three types of data centres:

- [National Centres](#), which generate quality controlled analysis and forecast products, and services, including archiving national climate information.
- [Data Collection or Production Centres](#), which mainly focus on thematic, regional or global collection and/or production of sets of data, forecast products, processed or value-added information,
- [Global Information System Centres](#) connect to each other through a high speed private network and provide entry points, through unified portals and comprehensive metadata catalogues, for any request for data exchanged within the WIS. They also provide the connection to other information systems such as the Global Earth Observation System of Systems.

WIS provides three fundamental types of services:

1. Routine collection and dissemination service for time-critical and operation-critical data and products: This service is based on real-time "push" mechanism including multicast and broadcast; it is implemented essentially through dedicated telecommunication means providing a guaranteed quality of service.
2. Data Discovery, Access and Retrieval service: This service is based on request/reply "pull" mechanism with relevant data management functions; it is implemented essentially through the internet.
3. Timely delivery service for data and products: This service is based on delayed mode "push" mechanism; it is implemented through a combination of dedicated telecommunication means and of public data-communication networks, especially the internet.

The WMO will do its best to contribute to the activities guided and coordinated by the Committee on Information in the field relevant to WMO mandate and commitments.

Thank you.