

WMO Statement

18th meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) under the Water Convention.

Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday 20 June, 10:55-11:30

Item 7: Supporting monitoring, assessment and information-sharing in transboundary basins

Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for giving us the floor.

As the UN agency for weather, climate, and water, the World Meteorological Organization WMO assists countries in monitoring and forecasting and data exchange.

Over 60% of WMO Member States report insufficient and declining capabilities in hydrological monitoring, which hampers decision support in all water sectors, and hinders the monitoring of major indicators related to SDG-6.

Transboundary data sharing plays a crucial role in informed sustainable water management. Data sharing fosters trust and strengthens cooperation for collective benefit. Following WMO's commitment delivered at the UN 2023 Water Conference, WMO will reinforce its role in developing and promoting transboundary cooperation for water monitoring, and has provided two case studies for the publication of Good Practices and Lessons Learned in Transboundary Data Sharing: the Great Horn of Africa and La Plata Basin (South America). These efforts are achieved through WMO programmes on data collection (WHYCOS), data sharing systems (WHOS) and water information systems (HydroSOS).

In addition, WMO is newly publishing the annual State of Global Water Resources. All these initiatives assess the status of water resources and provide outlooks at seasonal to sub-seasonal time scales, in a changing World.

Furthermore, WMO is at the forefront of the UN Secretary-General's call for Early Warning For all within 5 years. WMO is leading efforts in Earth system observations and forecasting systems to improve flood, drought, and extreme weather forecasting worldwide.

It is crucial for us to continue fostering international collaboration. Together, we can develop standardized methodologies, strengthen capacity-building initiatives, and leverage technological advancements to ensure the sustainable management of our shared water resources.

WMO remains ready to support countries and partners in their efforts to cooperate and accelerate the implementation of these services.

Thank you.