

WCC-3
DRAFT HIGH LEVEL DECLARATION
WCC Chair's version

[DECLARATION OPENING]

DO 1 We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and Heads of Delegation attending the High-level segment of the World Climate Conference-3 (WCC-3) in Geneva, having consulted those involved in the production and use of climate prediction and information services and having considered the findings of the Expert Segment of the Conference;

[PREAMBULAR PART]

PP 1 *Recognising* that all countries are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate variability and change, and that adaptation is an urgent and immediate priority; and emphasizing the urgent need of countries, in particular those most vulnerable, to adapt to the impacts of climate variability and change and to improve management of climate risks;

PP 2 *Recognising* that coping with the increasing challenge posed by climate variability and change requires that countries and societies are empowered with new tools and capacities including better observation and understanding of climate variability, climate change and risks, awareness, education and dissemination of information, improved prediction and information services enabling the identification and management of a wide variety of climate risks and opportunities, and adaptation;

PP 3 *Recognising* that relevant and timely climate information will effectively and efficiently support countries to reduce and manage risks from climate variability and change, as well as increase capacities for adaptation to climate change in all sectors;

PP 4 *Noting* the progress that has been made since the first and second World Climate Conferences that led to the establishment, inter alia, of the World Climate Programme (WCP), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Global Climate Observing system (GCOS); and their contribution to the negotiation of the three Rio Conventions: the UNFCCC, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD);

PP 5 *Recognising* and appreciating the work of the WMO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN World Food Programme (WFP), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Council for Science (ICSU), through their individual and jointly sponsored climate observing and research programmes, including especially the WMO-IOC-UNEP-ICSU GCOS and the WMO-IOC-ICSU WCRP, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to enhance the availability of climate observations, improve the understanding of climate processes, develop state-of-the-art climate

models and provide climate information and prediction services to support decision making for adaptation and mitigation;

PP 6 *Recognising* the efforts, the important role and the increasing technological and financial needs of National Meteorological Services and other national research and service organizations in observation, in monitoring and in research and modelling of the climate system, as well as their contribution to the scientific understanding of climate and its evolution;

PP 7 *Noting* that the World Climate Programme (WCP) has fostered the development of a range of global, regional and national climate services through Global Producing Centres (GPCs), Regional Climate Centers (RCCs), Regional Drought Monitoring Centres (RDMCs), Regional Climate Outlook Forums (RCOFs), and the Climate Information and Prediction Services (CLIPS) Project;

PP 8 *Recalling* the mandate of the IPCC to provide decision-makers and others interested in climate change with an assessment of the latest scientific, technical and socio-economic literature worldwide relevant to the understanding and quantification of the risks of climate change, observed and projected impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation, and its recent findings that project continuing and escalating impacts and risks associated with climate change dependant on global mitigation efforts;

PP 9 *Recognizing* the efforts by the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) to enhance coordination of earth observation, modelling and derived information within the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) and, thus, facilitate use of such information by end-users and decision-makers and achieve societal benefits related to disaster reduction, health, energy, climate, water, weather, ecosystems, agriculture and biodiversity;

PP 10 *Recognising* that the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are committed to enhance cooperation, including with relevant organizations, on adaptation to the impacts of climate change and on research and systematic observation;

PP 11 *Recognising* the efforts and achievements of the UNFCCC Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, including identification of needs related to climate services through its various activities, and the efforts undertaken by the LDCs in preparation and of their National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPAs);

PP 12 *Recognising* efforts to prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system and to adapt to climate change, and underlining the urgent need to step up these efforts;

PP 13 *Recognising* that improved climate prediction and information services and broad assessment of climate impacts are key for targeted adaptation and risk management measures and strategies, and would facilitate the mainstreaming of adaptation into sustainable development strategies at local, national and regional scales;

PP 14 *Recognising* that recent scientific advances in seasonal to inter-annual prediction and multi-decadal climate projection and current developments in high-resolution regional climate models offer a sound basis for the continued development and application of new tools and climate services to support the management of activities of a broad user community and that further research, resources and capacity building are needed to deliver further progress;

[OPERATIVE PART]

OP 1 Decide to establish a Global Framework for Climate Services (hereafter referred to as the "Framework") to strengthen the production, availability, delivery and application of science-based climate prediction and services to enable better management of the risks of climate change and variability as well as adaptation to climate change at all levels, through development and incorporation of science-based information into planning, policy, and practice. Through provision of an effective interface between climate service providers and users, the Framework will build on and strengthen existing local, national, regional, and global networks of climate system observation, monitoring, research, modelling, and service programs, including those of the WMO.

OP 2 *Invites* the Secretary General of the WMO to propose an *ad hoc* taskforce of high-level independent advisors with due consideration to expertise, geographical and gender balance informed by a broad-based network of experts to further develop elements of the Framework and in wide consultation with governments, partner organizations and relevant stakeholders.

OP 3 Also invites the Secretary General of WMO to convene in Geneva, not later than 15 February 2010, an *ad hoc* open-ended intergovernmental meeting of member states of the WMO to adopt the terms of reference for the taskforce and to confirm the members proposed by the Secretary General of WMO.

OP 4 Requests the taskforce to prepare a report to the Secretary General of WMO within 12 months of the date it is constituted. The report should contain the findings of the taskforce and proposed next steps for developing and implementing the Framework.

OP 5 Further requests the Secretary General of WMO, after receipt of the report of the taskforce, to provide the report to governments and relevant organizations, and to the UN Secretary General as Chair of the United Nations Chief Executive Board for Coordination.

OP 6 *Invites* the Secretary General of WMO to propose to governments in time for consideration of the Sixteenth Congress, a process through which the findings and next steps proposed by the taskforce would be jointly considered.

OP 7 *Urge* Governments, organisations and institutions, including financial institutions, the private sector, and the international community to foster international

cooperation in support of the development of the Framework and the goals it aims to achieve, including through the enhanced role and involvement of national meteorological services and regional centres, as well as greater participation of other stakeholders and centres of excellence across relevant socio-economic sectors, particularly in developing countries;

OP 8 *Urge* developed countries and other stakeholders to facilitate effective participation of developing countries in the Framework;

OP 9 *Urge* WMO, Governments and relevant International Organizations to continue to support capacity building, effective North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation for the mobilization of resources, including financial resources, and for the development, deployment and transfer of technology related to meteorological services in developing countries in order to adapt to, reduce and better manage climate risks;

OP 10 *Recommend* to Governments, organisations and institutions to strengthen user-oriented climate services for prediction and information through enhanced support of integrated climate observation, monitoring, research, modelling, integrated vulnerability assessments and integrated climate-related service programmes;

OP 11 *Urge* Governments to consider the outcome of the WCC-3 in the discussions of relevant processes, in particular at the fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the UNFCCC.