



CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

PRESS RELEASE

World Meteorological Day 2023: The Future of Weather, Climate and Water across Generations

For Immediate Release

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, March 15, 2023— The *Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO)* and the *World Meteorological Organization (WMO)* invite you to join in the global celebration of World Meteorological Day 2023. The theme, "**The Future of Weather, Climate and Water across Generations**", highlights the legacy of the past, the progress of the present, and the potential of the future, which resonates strongly in the Caribbean.

As weather, climate and the water cycle know no national or political boundaries, international cooperation at global and regional scales is essential for the development of meteorology, climatology and operational hydrology, so that countries can reap the benefits from their application. On the global scale, the WMO provides the framework for such international cooperation, as the United Nations specialized agency for weather, climate, and water. This year WMO celebrates the 150th anniversary of the *International Meteorological Organization (IMO)*, which laid the foundation for standardized data collection and international data exchange among National Meteorological and Hydrological Services. [The history of WMO data exchange](#) is an outstanding story of scientific vision, technological advances and, most of all, of a unique system of cooperation to serve society.

National Meteorological and Hydrometeorological Services work around the clock to provide vital weather and climate information worldwide. Their early and reliable warnings of severe weather and fluctuations in air quality as well as of climate variability and change allow decision-makers, communities and individuals to be better prepared for weather and climate events. Their warnings help save life and property, protect resources and the environment and support socio-economic growth.

Regionally, the CMO, a specialised institution of the *Caribbean Community (CARICOM)*, provides the coordination of joint scientific and technical activities among the respective National Meteorological and Hydrometeorological Services. CMO, which originated out of the *British Caribbean Meteorological Service* that was established in **1951**, is celebrating three milestone anniversaries in 2023:

- 1) The 50th Anniversary of the Agreement to establish the Caribbean Meteorological Organisation (CMO);
- 2) The 70th anniversary of the British Caribbean Territories (BCT) as a Member of the WMO;
- 3) The 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

A brief history is provided in the [CMO message for World Meteorological Day 2023](#).

The Caribbean Meteorological Organization looks forward to many more years of collaboration and cooperation with the WMO, other global partners, and the Caribbean Community to ensure a successful future of weather, climate and water across generations.

Please join the WMO Ceremony on 16 March 2023 from 09:30 to 11:30 AST/13:30-15:30 UTC, via livestream on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YW9VTF7wins>). The early celebration is due to the UN Water conference in New York from 22-24 March 2023.

Official addresses will be given by **Prof Petteri Taalas**, WMO Secretary-General; **Mr Selwin Hart** Special Advisor to the UN Secretary-General on Climate Action and Just Transition on Early Warnings for All Initiative; and other dignitaries. Further details are available at:

<https://public.wmo.int/en/resources/world-meteorological-day/future-of-weather-climate-water-across-generations-2023>

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About the CMO

The [Caribbean Meteorological Organization](#) (CMO) is a specialized agency of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) that coordinates the joint scientific and technical activities in weather, climate and water – related sciences in Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands. The Organs of the CMO are: (i) the *Caribbean Meteorological Council* (CMC), Ministerial-level, Governing Body, (ii) the *Headquarters Unit*, headed by a Coordinating Director, located in Trinidad and Tobago; (iii) the *Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology* (CIMH) located in Barbados; and (iv) the *Caribbean Meteorological Foundation*.