

## **Statement by Azerbaijan**

### **High-Level Event on the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative**

**Dr. Umayra Tagiyeva, Deputy Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

20 Oct 2025, Geneva, Switzerland

**Excellences, distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,**

It is an honour to speak to you all today.

First of all, on behalf of the Republic of Azerbaijan I would like to extend my high gratitude to Secretary General of WMO, Her Excellency Professor Celesta Saulo for her continuous dedication and efforts to strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems and enhance activities on weather, water and climate worldwide.

This gathering is a vital momentum of collective commitment under the umbrella of Early Warning4ALL initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General.

Azerbaijan faces a range of environmental challenges and climate-related hazards. The assessment of the vulnerability index for Azerbaijan was conducted and initial National Adaptation Plan was submitted to UNFCCC in 2024.

According to assessment, during the past 10 years in our country flood events increased more than 18 times, duration of drought 19 percent, the number of days with temperatures above 30°C and rainfall events 6 times, the amount of water entering the country has decreased by 30%.

The decline of the Caspian Sea is another complex challenge.

Still this environmental crisis has not received the global attention it needs or deserves.

**Dear colleagues,**

We recognize that timely, reliable, and accessible early warnings for climate hazards can dramatically reduce loss of life, damages to infrastructure, prevent from environmental disasters, protect ecosystems, contribute to sustainable land use.

And hazard monitoring and forecasting are not optional actions -they are life-saving investments.

Our Government took significant action to invest in the modernization of national monitoring system.

Azerbaijan has dense meteorological observation system. For the last 5 years, the 73% of those systems have already been automated and equipped with modern technologies, such as Doppler Radars.

It is only first step of early warning system. There are several other targets need to be achieved.

We plan finalize modernization of EWS up to 2027.

It requires modern forecasting and verification system incorporating local Numerical Weather Prediction to provide impact-based forecasting, and sector-specific climate analysis.

Therefore, in cooperation with UNEP and GCF we planning to implement the project on Strengthen Climate Information and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems for Increased Resilience in Azerbaijan.

We warmly welcome this timely and crucial support from the Green Climate Fund and invite regional countries work closely together.

We all acknowledge that EW is effective and collective adaptation measure. In this regard, I would like to thank our colleagues of Finland Meteorological Institution, Turkiye and Georgia for their longstanding cooperation.

**Dear colleagues,**

As you know, last year, under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, His Excellency Ilham Aliyev, we hosted one of the successful UNFCCC COPs - COP29.

At COP29 platform on 13 November, 2024 EW4All high-level event at the Leaders' Summit was convened by UN Secretary General.

Azerbaijan, also as COP29 Presidency on 16 November 2024, in partnership with UN team on EW, organized High-Level Event on *“Strengthening Climate Information and Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems for Increased Resilience”*.

COP29 achieved a progress on climate finance and put adaptation at the forefront by launching Baku Adaptation Road Map. We believe that new finance goal agreed at COP29 will open the window for vulnerable countries to meet their adaptation needs as well.

We also recognize the vital role of building stronger and more resilient infrastructure in cities against climate related hazards and disasters. We need to take urgent action to reduce emissions from cities and help them adapt to the impacts of climate change through EWSs.

That is why the COP29 Presidency launched the MAP Declaration for Resilient and Healthy Cities, including Green Digital Action and Baku Dialogue on Water for Climate Action initiatives that underline these pressing issues.

**Dear friends,**

Azerbaijan prepares to host the World Environment Day 2026 and the World Urban Forum 2026 in Baku. We stand ready to collaborate with the international community in amplifying our voices there and fostering solutions.

We invite you all to join us in Baku next year.

**I thank you.**