

Statement by Pakistan at the High-Level Segment on the “Early Warnings for All” (EW4All) Initiative
WMO Extraordinary Congress – Geneva (20-23 October 2025)

Mr. President,

Pakistan aligns itself with the vision of the Early Warnings for All initiative and commends the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations for steering this global effort. We share the conviction that every person on this planet must be protected by reliable, timely, and inclusive multi-hazard early warning systems by 2027.

2. For Pakistan, this is not an abstract goal. It is a matter of survival. In recent months, unprecedented monsoon floods once again devastated parts of our country, following the catastrophic deluge of 2022 which displaced millions and inflicted damages exceeding US \$30 billion. Yet, where early warnings reached communities in time, the loss of life was markedly lower.

3. The World Meteorological Organization has acknowledged and appreciated the critical role played by the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) during the 2022 floods, recognizing its timely forecasts and early warnings as instrumental in reducing casualties and guiding national response efforts. These experiences underscore a fundamental truth; early warnings only save lives when they are trusted, localized, and actionable. We have therefore intensified our efforts to strengthen national resilience:

- The Pakistan Meteorological Department and Disaster Management Authorities are expanding community-based flood and heatwave alert systems;
- Hydrological data from the Indus River Basin is now increasingly digitized and shared through WMO-supported platforms; and
- Work has begun to integrate climate and health early warnings to address rising risks of heat stress and vector-borne diseases.

Mr. President,

4. Regional cooperation remains the backbone of effective early warning systems. Unfortunately, in some instances, information-sharing frameworks and

long-standing mechanisms for transboundary water cooperation have come under strain. This trend, if left unaddressed, undermines mutual trust, timely data exchange, and collective preparedness — all of which are essential to saving lives.

5. The Indus Waters Treaty has long stood as a gold standard of transboundary water management. Preserving such cooperative arrangements, and ensuring the free flow of hydrological data, is vital for accurate forecasting and early warnings across South Asia. During the most recent monsoon season, the scope of upstream data sharing was constrained, with only partial qualitative inputs provided. Nevertheless, the Pakistan Meteorological Department ensured the timely issuance and dissemination of flood forecasts to national and provincial disaster management agencies, enabling proactive measures that safeguarded vulnerable communities.

Mr. President,

6. For developing countries like Pakistan, the challenge is not commitment but capacity. To make Early Warnings for All a reality, we need:

- Sustained financing for observation networks, forecasting infrastructure, and data-sharing mechanisms;
- Bridging of the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to forecasting technologies and cloud-based systems; and
- Empowerment of communities, especially women, youth, and indigenous groups to co-design systems that respond to local realities and languages.

7. The Early Warnings for All initiative is, ultimately, a test of global solidarity and climate justice. Those least responsible for climate change must not remain the most exposed to its consequences.

8. Pakistan stands ready to contribute its data, experience, and voice to strengthen both regional and global early warning architectures. Let us work together to ensure that by 2027, we can truly say that no one was left unwarned, and no one left behind.

Thank you.