

**Youth in Action: Inaugural Global Meeting of WMO Youth Focal Points****Concept Note****Date and time:** 12 May 2026, 12:00 to 13:00 CET**Format:** Online**Venue:** Geneva

**Background and Rationale:** According to [UNICEF](#), one in five children, or 466 million children, live in areas that experience at least double the number of extremely hot days every year compared to just six decades ago. This is a stark reminder that today's young people are already living through a different climate reality than previous generations.

Observations and climate data are fundamental to effective climate action. At the World Meteorological Organization, climate, weather and water services are central to how societies anticipate risk, prepare for hazards, protect lives and livelihoods, and plan for a changing future. In this context, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services play a critical role through the collection of observations, the provision of forecasts and warnings, and the delivery of climate services that support public safety, resilience and sustainable development.

This is why youth engagement in WMO is a matter of institutional relevance, continuity, and effectiveness. Young people are not only among those who will live longest with the consequences of climate variability, extreme events, and long-term environmental change. They are also part of the generation that will inherit, shape, and strengthen the systems and institutions designed to respond.

Under the 2026 theme Youth in Action, this inaugural global meeting will formally convene WMO's Youth Focal Points for the first time in a shared global space, bringing together focal points from WMO Bodies, Members and the Secretariat. It will introduce this growing network to the broader community, situate its role clearly within WMO's mission and mandate, and begin building momentum for a year of youth engagement. Importantly, the meeting will also create space for Regional Youth Focal Points to reflect their regional realities, highlighting why youth engagement in climate, weather and water matters now, how the pressures facing National Meteorological and Hydrological Services are evolving, and why stronger youth capacity and participation are increasingly necessary.

**Objectives:**

The meeting will aim to:

1. Formally launch the WMO Youth Focal Point network marking the first global convening of the network and signal the beginning of its implementation phase.
2. Introduce the Regional Youth Focal Points who will be coordinating implementation of the Youth Action Plan regionally. They will also be using this platform to share why this agenda matters from their regional perspectives.
3. Highlight the relevance of youth leadership in the face of growing regional risks and capacity needs show that stronger youth engagement is linked to the evolving realities facing NMHSs and the increasing urgency of climate, weather and water challenges.
4. Present the roadmap for Youth in Action in 2026. Outline the upcoming regional meetings, thematic meetings, key moments across the year, and the broader direction of implementation.
5. Share the induction survey and signal ongoing efforts to strengthen youth-focused training and learning opportunities, including collaboration with relevant partners.

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. Participants will have a shared understanding of the purpose and relevance of the WMO Youth Focal Point network across Members, WMO Bodies and the Secretariat.
2. Participants will be introduced to the 2026 Youth in Action roadmap, including upcoming meetings, induction and capacity development opportunities.
3. The meeting will help build early momentum for implementation of the Youth Action Plan across the wider WMO community.

**Program (Moderator-Theo Wellington):**

<b>Segment</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>Opening Remarks</b>	5 mins	Opening by the Secretary-General to launch the first global meeting of WMO Youth Focal Points, frame its institutional significance, and briefly underscore why this agenda matters to WMO's mission.	Secretary-General
<b>Introducing the Youth Action Plan</b>	10 mins	Brief introduction to the WMO Youth Action Plan, its purpose, and the role of Youth Focal Points.	Theo Wellington
<b>Regional Youth Perspectives</b>	18 mins	Short interventions from the six Regional Youth Focal Points on why this agenda matters in their region, the realities facing youth and NMHSs, and the contribution this network can make.	Regional Youth Focal Points
<b>Youth in Action 2026</b>	10 mins	Overview of the year ahead, including upcoming regional meetings, thematic meetings, key events, and the intended role of the network.	Theo Wellington
<b>Induction and Capacity Development</b>	7 mins	Introduction to the induction survey and initial directions for training, learning, and collaboration with relevant partners and WMO structures.	Grecia Pillaca
<b>Questions and Comments</b>	5 mins	Space for participants to raise initial reflections, comments and questions.	
<b>Closing Reflections</b>	5 mins	Final reflections and call to action, reinforcing that the network will grow through participation, contribution and shared commitment.	Li-Na Koh (EC focal point)