



South Asia Hydromet Services Forum: Pathways for Regional Collaboration

Geneva, Switzerland
September 18-20, 2018

Outcome Declaration

Representatives of Agencies for Weather and Climate Services from the South Asia region, including National Meteorological organizations, Disaster Risk Management and other sectoral user agencies, along with other stakeholders, participated in the **South Asia Hydromet Services Forum** convened at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in Geneva, Switzerland. The Forum was co-hosted by The World Bank and the World Meteorological Organization, with support from the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery and the European Union.

This forum reflects the growing demand for facilitated regional collaboration, that acknowledges the severe vulnerability of South Asia to disasters, driven by weather patterns and climate risks that are trans-boundary in nature, which calls for a sub-regional or regional response to enhance economies of scale. The objective of the Forum is to enhance regional collaboration through information sharing on ongoing or planned national efforts to modernize weather, water and climate (hydromet), and early warning services, strengthen regional dialogue, and promote actions needed to sustain and scale up ongoing national and regional efforts in the delivery of hydromet, early warning and climate services.

The South Asia Hydromet Services Forum attendees declared that:

The South Asia Hydromet Forum is a platform for regional exchange, collaboration and fostering innovation,

With the Aims of:

- Increasing the coverage, quality and access to hydromet services and ensuring their sustainability in the region
- Strengthening technical, institutional and human capacity at scale for service delivery
- Enhancing partnerships that translate priorities for regional cooperation into programs and investments, and
- Strategically positioning this agenda as the central piece for climate resilient development



And a commitment, as next steps, to:

- Jointly take stock of national NMHS strategic plans
- Pre-identify priorities for regional collaboration and joint action, aligned with country tailored solutions
- Come together for a technical workshop on addressing implementation challenges of ongoing hydromet modernization projects, and
- Convene the second South Asia Hydromet Forum on opportunities and priorities for regional collaboration.

Joint Statement made in Geneva, Switzerland on September 20th, 2018