WMO Presentation to the 2009 ECOSOC coordination segment - The role of the UN system in promoting sustainable development in the context of current challenges

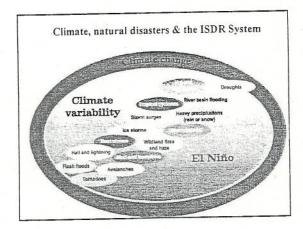
by M. Jarraud WMO Secretary-General

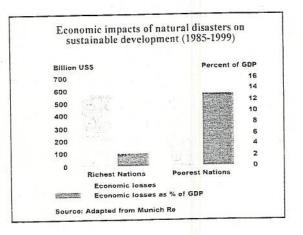
Geneva, 10 July 2009

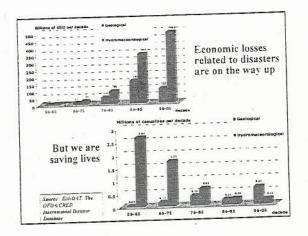


Responding to sustainable development challenges

- √ 2008 ECOSOC Ministerial Declaration
- Effective development strategies to focus on:
 - -Climate change
 - -Integrated water resources management
 - -Rural and agricultural development
 - -Affordable, cost-effective and efficient energy supply
 - -Sustainable urbanization
 - -Social equality
 - Institutional strengthening for sustainable development
- Natural disasters
- · The role of WMO
- A source of benefits for all socioeconomic sectors







Observed climate change & its impacts

- √ 1979; 1st World Climate Conference
- ✓ 1988: WMO & UNEP co-establish the IPCC
- √ 1990: 2nd World Climate Conference
- ✓ IPCC 4th Assessment Report √ Warming unequivocal
 - √ 2007 global mean sea level rise ~
 20 cm > 1870 estimate
 - An increasing trend in extreme events over last 50 years
- Numerous impacts on health & food security ✓ A 5th Assessment Report by 2014





The UN system delivering as one on climate change

- ✓ Coordinating role of the UN CEB
- ✓ UNFCCC COP 14 (Poznan, December 2008): Acting on Climate Change "As One"
- ✓ A commitment to maintain the momentum to the COP 15 and beyond
- √ Adaptation and mitigation as 2 basic pillars
- Decision-makers will require appropriate tools and information to benefit all sectors

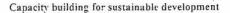




"The world is watching us. The next generation is counting on us. We must not fail" (UN Secretary-General)

UN System coordinated response to climate change

- √ 5 climate change focus areas:
- Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD): FAO, UNDP, UNEP
 - >Technology transfer: UNIDO, UNDESA
 - Finance (Mitigation, Adaptation): World Bank, UNDP
 - ~Capacity Building: UNDP, UNEP
- -Adaptation: HLCP Working Group on Climate Change
- √ 4 cross-cutting areas:
 - Science, Assessment, Monitoring and Early Warning: WMO, UNESCO
 - Supporting Global, Regional and National Action: UNDP, UNDESA, UN Regional Commissions
 - Public Awareness: UNEP, UN Communications Group
 - Climate Neutral UN: UNEP



- √ Need for sustainable development
- ✓ Sustained observation systems for climate data & disaster risk reduction
- ✓ Regional climate forums
- √ Training, fellowships & continuing education
- ✓ WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme (VCP)
- ✓ WMO Programme for LDCs
- √ Women in meteorology & hydrology

A key role of the UN System



Integrated water resources management VWMO Flood Forecasting Initiative VWMO Associated Programme on Flood Management (APFM) VWHYCOS

