

The head of the Asia region at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) stresses the importance of international solidarity to strengthen the system of meteorological and climate action



The CEO of the National Center of Meteorology (NCM) and Head of the Asia Region at the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Dr. Ayman bin Salem Ghulam, stressed the importance of international solidarity to strengthen the system of meteorological and climate action, stressing the pivotal role played by the Asian region, which includes 34 countries, in supporting the organization's directions and developing its programs to serve the interests of the region and the world.

This came during a speech delivered by Dr. Gholam, representing the Asia region, at the 79th session of the World Meteorological Organization, currently being held in Geneva, which coincides with the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the organization, where he addressed the most prominent common issues under discussion, foremost of which are: supporting the "Early Warning for All" initiative in 193 countries, ensuring that countries comply with the standards of the Global Meteorological Network (GBON), enhancing the coherence of the United Nations system in light of the ongoing reforms, in addition to enabling digital transformation responsibly and comprehensively. Dr. Ghulam explained that the responsibilities of the presidency of the Asian Region include representing and speaking on behalf of Member States on challenges and opportunities, and raising their voice in the discussions of the organization's programs and budgets, taking into account financial constraints, recruitment pressures, and the disparity in capacities of members.

The opening day of the session also witnessed the holding of an open consultative forum on artificial intelligence, in which issues related to the use of artificial intelligence in the field of meteorology were discussed, most notably: preventing misinformation, enabling reliable artificial intelligence, and strengthening partnership between the public and private sectors, which is a priority for the Kingdom in light of its national trends towards digital transformation.

In her speech, FAO Secretary-General Professor Celeste Saulo stressed that the theme of the current session, "Science for Action", embodies the organization's vision towards activating the outputs of science in a practical way, noting that there can be no resilient development, food security, disaster risk mitigation, and climate action without meteorological services, science and supporting infrastructure.

The week-long session is expected to conclude with key decisions that support activities related to weather, climate and water resources, and contribute to the social and economic development of member states.