



Louis W. Uccellini, Ph.D.

Candidate for President of the World Meteorological Organization



Dr. Uccellini is the Director of the National Weather Service and the U.S. Permanent Representative to the WMO. His decision to seek the Presidency of the WMO is a reflection on both his high standing in the international weather, water and climate enterprise, as well as the importance of the WMO to the U.S. in these areas on the world's communities.

“We are living during a period where the world’s societies are increasingly vulnerable to extreme weather, water and climate events. I am running for president of the WMO because the course we set now to address this global issue will determine our relevance for decades to come.

I believe the challenges and opportunities before us should be dealt with in a spirit of collaboration where the needs of the Member countries are properly represented, to ensure all Members have the capability to respond to the increasing vulnerabilities to extreme events. Together we can sustain the global observing and forecast systems and position NMHSs to deliver the science and service necessary for protection of lives and livelihoods around the globe.”

Goal

As WMO President, Dr. Uccellini’s goal will be to further build a global system that effectively responds to the needs of WMO Members by taking advantage of:

- Advances in understanding stakeholder needs and improving service delivery
- Evolution and growth in partnerships that enhance the observation, forecast and service abilities of WMO Members
- Advances in science and technology
- Restructuring of our organization and streamlining our governance to become more responsive, more agile, more efficient and more collaborative!

Dr. Uccellini’s Vision

To be the go-to, collaborative world organization that addresses their Member countries’ increasing vulnerability to extreme weather, water, and climate events by:

- Coordinating observation and dissemination infrastructure providing critical access for all Members
- Supporting the capacity of Members to advance their observation and predictive capabilities and connecting their services to life-saving decision support at every government level
- Leading the way in engaging the full enterprise in addressing the societal challenges posed by extreme events

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Career Highlights

- Received Ph.D. (1977), Master (1972) and Bachelor of Science (1971) degrees in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center - 1978-1989
- National Weather Service - 1989 to Present
- Director of a WMO World Met Center: NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) for 14 years
- NOAA Assistant Administrator for Weather Services and Director of the National Weather Service, 2013 to Present
- Member WMO Commission on Atmospheric Sciences - 1998-2008
- U.S. Permanent Representative to the WMO since January 2017; member of Executive Council since June 2017
- Member of EC Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction since 2017
- Served on many national and international research and field experiment programs including the U.S. Weather Research Program and the WMO Commission for Atmospheric Science.
- Published more than 70 peer-reviewed articles, review chapters, and books on subjects including analysis of severe weather outbreaks, snow-storms, gravity waves, jet streaks, cyclones, and the use of satellite data in analysis and modeling applications. A recipient of NSA's Gold Medal for Scientific Achievement
- Co-authored widely acclaimed two-volume American Meteorological Society (AMS) monograph Northeast Snowstorms (2004)
- Elected an AMS Fellow in 1987, received the Meisinger and Abbe Awards for Scientific Achievement and Advancement of Meteorological Services and served as AMS President from 2012 to 2013

United States Support to the WMO community

As U.S. Permanent Representative Engagement with the WMO

- Permanent Representative of the United States since 2017
- Member of the Executive Council since 2017
- Member of the Management Group of Regional Association IV since 2017
- Member of the EC Working Group on Strategic and Operational Planning since 2017
- Member of the EC Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction since 2017
- Delegate to the Commission on Atmospheric Sciences, 1998 - 2008

Operates WMO designated centers for

- World Meteorological Center
- Global Producing Center for Long-range Forecasts
- Global Information System Center
- RSMC Nuclear Energy Response
- RSMC Tropical Cyclone - Miami and Honolulu
- World Area Forecast Center
- ICAO Volcanic Ash Advisory Center - Anchorage and Washington
- RSMC Regional Marine Instrument Center
- U.S. Regional Climate Center - RA IV

Direct capacity development to members through

- RA IV Hurricane Workshop
- Contributions to RA V and Pan Arctic RCCs
- International Training Desks for RA I, RA III, RA IV and RA V (for which Dr. Uccellini has provided development and sustainment support over the past 25 years)
- Pacific communications networks in partnership with USAID

U.S. support to the WMO and IOC communities through

- Pacific Tsunami Warning Center
- International Tsunami Information Center
- Tropical Pacific Ocean Platform contributor