Media Guide to Reading CAP Alerts — Template

Oct 17, 2026 · @Teimuraz

Why this template exists

This template helps an alerting authority, or another publisher of CAP alerts, write a media guide: a short document that explains to journalists how to read, present and report its alerts. It is offered by MTÜ Green Media Foundation (GMF), a non-profit registered in Estonia (registry code 80661721), working with technical partners in Georgia.

Template and guide. In this document, the *template* is the reusable structure GMF offers. A *guide* is the edition that an authority or publisher adapts, completes and publishes under its own name. Text in square brackets is for the publisher to complete.

Three parts, three owners

Part	What it is	Who owns it
1. The standard	The Common Alerting Protocol (OASIS CAP 1.2). Each alert is an XML document containing defined elements: the event, its urgency, severity and certainty, the area, timing and instructions. Not every element is present in every alert. CAP defines no design and no screen.	OASIS maintains the standard. Alerts are issued by alerting authorities and made available through feeds.
2. Our solution	A visual display built by GMF (Estonia) with its technical partners in Georgia. It reads a CAP feed and turns the alerts linked from that feed into a series of screens: a TV or stream view, a web view, and a phone view reached by QR code. It shows each alert; it never writes or changes one.	GMF (Estonia), with Smartnet (Georgia) and Infozavri Group (Georgia) as technical partners. Teimuraz Tsagareishvili founded both GMF and Smartnet; Infozavri is independently owned.

Part	What it is	Who owns it
3. This template	A structure for a media guide, which a publisher adapts and issues under its own name.	GMF offers the template. Each published guide belongs to its publisher.

Why we made it

Alerting authorities publish precise, machine-readable alerts, but journalists often receive them without explanation. A reporter who confuses Severe with Extreme, reads an expired alert as "the danger has passed", or keeps a cancelled alert on air can turn accurate work into public confusion. Once an alert is shown visually, with labels, colours and a QR code, the media also need to know what each element on screen means.

Our assumptions

The template rests on choices we made. Each publisher should check them and may change them.

- **Urgency, severity and certainty are shown separately.** They are never merged into a single level.
- **Colour supports the labels; it never replaces them.** Where the authority has its own colour conventions, they take precedence. Where it has none, our display avoids green for low-level alerts, because green can suggest that a place is safe.
- **Our solution carries the authority's text unchanged.** It uses no AI and no machine translation. Fixed screen labels are written once per language and reviewed by a native speaker under local legal review.
- **Two screens.** The TV or stream view reaches everyone watching; the phone view lets a viewer keep the alert after leaving the screen.
- **Accessibility.** Every guide includes accessible formats, with sign-language content developed together with the national association of deaf people.

Who can use it

Any alerting authority, or any organisation that republishes CAP alerts, may adapt this template. There are no conditions.

Alerting arrangements differ between countries. The authority responsible for an alert, the agency that issues it and the operator of the feed that carries it can be different organisations, and one feed can carry alerts from many authorities. Each guide describes

its own legal and operational arrangements rather than assuming a single model.

Keep the eight sections in their order, so that a journalist who knows one guide can read another. Add pages, examples and languages as needed. The publisher's own conventions take precedence over this template, but no guide can change the meaning of values defined by the CAP standard.

What it is not

- Not an alerting system. Alerts come only from alerting authorities.
- Not a replacement for national channels such as cell broadcast, sirens or official apps.
- Not issued or endorsed by OASIS, WMO, ITU or any other body. The template is aligned with the standards and guidance listed in Annex A; its review is recorded in the review history.

Section 1 — About the alerting authority

A journalist must be able to check quickly who stands behind an alert and how to confirm it. This section names the authority, its legal and operational arrangements, and where its alerts can be read.

Elements the publisher fills in

Item	What to write	Why it matters to journalists
Official name	[Full name in the national language and in English]	Used in every on-screen attribution.
Short name	[Abbreviation used on screen, if any]	Fits the attribution line on screen.
Area covered	[Country, region or territory]	Shows where this authority's alerts apply.

Item	What to write	Why it matters to journalists
Legal and operational arrangements	[The law or regulation that makes the authority responsible for alerts, with its number and date. Where they differ, also name the agency that issues the alerts and the operator of the feed that carries them.]	Shows who is responsible for an alert and that it is an official act, not an opinion.
Events covered	[For example: weather, floods, earthquakes, wildfires, major public events]	Tells the media which alerts come from this authority and which come from others.
WMO Register of Alerting Authorities	[The entry, if any, at alertingauthority.wmo.int, with the date checked]	An international reference, maintained through WMO Members, for identifying recognised alerting sources for given event categories and areas. It does not certify an authority's legal mandate.
CAP feeds	[Addresses of the feeds that carry this authority's alerts, including any regional or shared feeds]	Where the alerts can be read. A feed may not carry every alert and may carry alerts from other authorities, so identify each alert's source from its `sender` and `senderName` elements.
Other official channels	[Website, app, social media accounts, cell broadcast, sirens]	Where the public can confirm the same alert.
Media contact	[Press office name, phone, email, working hours, and the out-of-hours contact during alerts]	For general questions. For a specific alert, first check that alert's `contact` element, which may name a different organisation better placed to answer.

Item	What to write	Why it matters to journalists
Edition and date	[Version number and publication date of this guide]	Lets the media know they are using the current edition.

Other authorities and shared feeds

[If other bodies issue alerts in the same area, or if this guide covers a feed that carries several authorities' alerts, list them here with their feeds and the events each one covers. Explain how differences in their terminology and conventions are handled.]

An alert that has not been verified through the sources listed in this guide should not be attributed to the authority until its authenticity has been confirmed.

Good practice for authorities

These are not conditions for using this template. They are steps that make alerts easier for the media to use:

1. Keep the authority's entry in the WMO Register of Alerting Authorities current, where the country uses the Register.
2. Make alerts available in CAP through a public feed: the authority's own, or a regional or shared one. Free tools such as CAP Editor, offered through Alert-Hub, can help.
3. Publish a media guide based on this template.
4. Where useful, show alerts visually, with our solution or any other that presents CAP alerts faithfully.

An open template

The template is offered openly under [licence to be decided by GMF, for example CC BY 4.0]. International bodies such as WMO, ITU or the broadcasting unions are welcome to use or adapt it in their own guidance, alongside or independently of our solution. GMF does not claim their endorsement; we offer it as a contribution to their work.

Section 2 — Reading an alert

CAP defines a standard set of elements, so a journalist who knows them can read an alert from any authority. Not every alert contains every element, and one alert can hold several `info` elements, several areas and several language versions. The element names below are those of OASIS CAP 1.2; the authority adds its own examples.

The elements journalists need

CAP element	Plain meaning	What to watch for	On our screens
`sender`, `senderName`	Who issued the alert	Check it against the authorities listed in Section 1. A feed can carry alerts from several authorities.	Attribution line on every view
`status`	Whether the alert is for a real-world situation	**Actual** is an alert issued for a real-world situation. **Exercise**, **Test**, **System** and Draft are not public alerts and must never be reported as if they were.	Exercise and Test are not shown by default; an on-air drill appears only if the authority decides, clearly marked
`msgType`	New, changed or withdrawn	**Alert** is new. **Update** replaces an earlier alert. **Cancel** withdraws one. See Section 5.	Marked as updated; removal on Cancel not yet solved
`event`	What the alert is about, in the authority's words	An event is not always a hazard: a large public event can also be the subject of an alert. Use the authority's term. See Section 4.	Main title
`headline`	A short summary	Quote it as written.	Main title or subtitle

CAP element	Plain meaning	What to watch for	On our screens
`urgency`, `severity`, `certainty`	How soon to act, how serious, how likely	Three separate values. Never merge them into one word. **Unknown** means the information is not known; it never means low. See Section 3.	Today: one colour level, with the three values shown beside it. Planned: the three values as the main labels, with no combined level
`sent`, `onset`, `expires`	When the alert was issued, when it begins, and when it is no longer current	`onset` is often missing. An alert that has expired is no longer current, but that does not mean the danger has passed.	Issue time and active period
`area`, `areaDesc`	The area where people should be informed of the alert	This can be wider than the place where the event itself happens. Name only the areas listed.	Area names; map on the phone view
`description`	What is happening or expected	You may explain it in your own reporting, clearly separated from the authority's alert. See Section 6.	Phone view in full
`instruction`	What people should do	Do not change its meaning or leave out anything people need in order to act. It may include practical advice, for example on livestock or pets.	Shown word for word; in full on the phone view

CAP element	Plain meaning	What to watch for	On our screens
`language`	The language of this version	One alert can carry several language versions, each in its own `info` element. Each is official.	Version chosen by the broadcaster
`web`, `contact`	Where to find more detailed information	`web` should link to information about this situation, not only the authority's homepage. `contact` may name a different organisation from the sender.	Phone view and QR code
resource	Maps, images or audio files attached by the authority	Part of the official alert. Use them as the authority published them.	Not shown on our screens (CAP24 Technical Specification, section 5.3). A proposed phone feature plays the authority's audio recording (Section 8)

Before going on air: five checks

1. **Status is Actual.** Anything else is not a public alert.
2. **The source is verified** against Section 1. If not, do not attribute the alert to the authority until it is confirmed.
3. **Still current.** The time is before `expires`, and no Update or Cancel has replaced the alert.
4. **Right area.** The places you name match the alert's area.
5. **Instruction intact.** Its meaning is preserved and nothing people need in order to act is left out.

Worked example

[The authority inserts one alert from its own archive here, showing the CAP elements beside the TV view and the phone view. A fictional example must be clearly labelled as fictional.]

Section 3 — Urgency, severity, certainty and colours

CAP gives every alert three separate values: how soon to act, how serious the threat is, and how likely it is. Report all three as the authority gave them, and never combine them into one word such as "dangerous".

The three CAP values

Element	Value	Meaning in OASIS CAP 1.2
Urgency	Immediate	Responsive action should be taken immediately
Urgency	Expected	Responsive action should be taken soon, within the next hour
Urgency	Future	Responsive action should be taken in the near future
Urgency	Past	Responsive action is no longer required
Urgency	Unknown	Urgency not known
Severity	Extreme	Extraordinary threat to life or property
Severity	Severe	Significant threat to life or property
Severity	Moderate	Possible threat to life or property
Severity	Minor	Minimal to no known threat to life or property
Severity	Unknown	Severity not known
Certainty	Observed	Determined to have occurred or to be ongoing
Certainty	Likely	Likely, with a probability above about 50%
Certainty	Possible	Possible but not likely, with a probability of about 50% or less

Element	Value	Meaning in OASIS CAP 1.2
Certainty	Unlikely	Not expected to occur
Certainty	Unknown	Certainty not known

Certainty is about this alert, not the event in general. It describes how likely the event is to occur at the stated place and time, with the stated urgency and severity.

What "Unknown" means

"Unknown" means the information is not known. A reader cannot always tell why the authority used it. It never means a low level: an Unknown severity is not a minor threat, an Unknown urgency does not mean there is no hurry, and an Unknown certainty does not mean the alert is unlikely to be true.

Explaining the values

An authority may add plain-language explanations to help its audience, for example in the national language. These explanations must be consistent with the CAP definitions above and clearly marked as explanations. No guide can redefine a value the CAP standard defines.

[The authority adds its explanations here, if any.]

Colours on screen

Colour supports the written labels; it never replaces them. Colour meanings differ between countries, so the authority's own conventions always take precedence.

Where the authority has no colour convention of its own, our solution uses a simple default:

Severity	Default colour in our solution	Authority's own colour
Extreme	Red	[ ]
Severe	Red	[ ]
Moderate	Yellow	[ ]
Minor	Yellow	[ ]

Severity	Default colour in our solution	Authority's own colour
Unknown	Neutral grey, labelled "Severity unknown"	[ ]

The severity word, the urgency and the certainty are always written on screen next to the colour. The default avoids green, because green can suggest that a place is safe, and avoids orange, which can be hard to tell apart from red and yellow.

During any alert, at every level, the display covers the whole screen at any aspect ratio. The level changes the colour and the labels, never the size.

Status. This default is planned. The current demonstrations (v8 for TV, v9m for phone) still use a four-colour scale; the change follows the review of this template in October 2026.

The scale on both screens

Level	TV / stream view	Phone view
Extreme	[Image slot 3.1 — TV, Extreme]	[Image slot 3.2 — phone, Extreme]
Severe	[Image slot 3.3 — TV, Severe]	[Image slot 3.4 — phone, Severe]
Moderate	[Image slot 3.5 — TV, Moderate]	[Image slot 3.6 — phone, Moderate]
Minor	[Image slot 3.7 — TV, Minor]	[Image slot 3.8 — phone, Minor]

Samples from the GMF solution, using one event at four levels so that only the level changes. To be captured once the planned design above is built. Each authority replaces them with its own alerts and conventions.

Common mistakes

- Reporting a Possible alert as "expected". Certainty and urgency are different values.
- Reporting a Moderate alert as "extreme weather". Use the authority's own level word.
- Reading "Unknown" as low.
- Describing an alert by colour alone ("an orange alert") without naming the event and the area.
- Keeping an alert's colour on screen after it has expired or been cancelled.

National examples

[The authority adds one example per level from its own archive, with the wording it uses for each level.]

Section 4 — Event terms and eventCodes

The `event` element names what an alert is about, in the authority's own words. Journalists should use that term unchanged. This section lists the authority's event terms, so the media use the same words every time.

How events are named in CAP

Every alert has a broad `category`, one of twelve CAP values: Geo, Met, Safety, Security, Rescue, Fire, Health, Env, Transport, Infra, CBRNE and Other. The `event` element gives the specific subject in the authority's language. An alert may also carry an `eventCode`, a code from a defined list.

CAP does not specify a single list of event terms, and different alerting authorities may draw on different lists.

A widely used list

Many authorities use a subset of 49 eventCodes from the OASIS Event Terms, version 1.2. The subset is aligned with WMO-recommended terms and with the hazard types used in loss and damage work. Each eventCode is tied to one of the twelve CAP categories, and a suggested event term is available in 33 languages, for example Spanish. As of October 2026 it is used in CAP Editor (operational in 47 countries), MeteoAlarm (44 countries) and CAP Composer (31 countries). [Source and date checked to be added for each count.]

An authority that uses this list can cite it here instead of building its own.

The authority's event terms

CAP category	eventCode	Authority's term (national language)	English term	Short label on screen	Notes for journalists
[Met]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[For example: Thunderstorm]	[ ]	[ ]
[Met]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Strong wind]	[ ]	[ ]
[Met]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Heavy rain]	[ ]	[ ]

CAP category	eventCode	Authority's term (national language)	English term	Short label on screen	Notes for journalists
[Met]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Heavy snow]	[ ]	[ ]
[Met]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Extreme heat]	[ ]	[ ]
[Env]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Flood]	[ ]	[ ]
[Fire]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Wildfire]	[ ]	[ ]
[Geo]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Earthquake]	[ ]	[ ]
[Safety]	[OET-___]	[ ]	[Major public event]	[ ]	[ ]
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

The authority deletes rows for events it does not alert on and adds rows for those it does.

Rules for event terms

- Use the authority's term, not a dramatic or colloquial synonym, and do not narrow an event to a "hazard".
- A short label on screen is fixed once by the authority and reviewed by a native speaker; broadcasters do not invent their own.
- Where one word means different things in different regions or languages, the authority explains it here.
- Where the media translate an event term, the authority's original term stays the reference. Any machine translation is clearly marked (Section 6).

Section 5 — Alert lifecycle

An alert is issued, may be updated, and stops being current when it is cancelled or expires. Alerts should be updated, or removed from presentation, as soon as they are no longer current, so that they do not mislead the public.

The four stages

1. **Alert — issued.** A new alert (`msgType` is Alert). It appears on screen.
2. **Update — changed.** A new message replaces an earlier one (`msgType` is Update) and names it in the `references` element. Only the newest version is shown.
3. **Cancel — withdrawn.** The authority withdraws the alert (`msgType` is Cancel). Stop presenting it as current.

4. **Expiry — no longer current.** The time in `expires` has passed. The alert is no longer current, even if no Cancel arrives.

Expiry does not mean the danger has passed. The situation may continue, the expected event may not have happened, or newer information may have replaced the alert. Only the authority can say that the danger is over.

New	Updated	Cancelled
[Image slot 5.1 — alert issued]	[Image slot 5.2 — same alert, updated]	[Image slot 5.3 — alert cancelled]

Sample: one alert through its lifecycle, from the GMF solution.

What our solution does

Behaviour	Status today
Shows only the newest version, following the `references` chain	Works in the demonstration
Removes an alert on Cancel or when `expires` has passed	Not yet solved
Handles several alerts at the same time	Not yet solved
Test and Exercise messages not shown by default; a drill appears only if the authority decides, clearly marked	Rule specified, not yet tested

Status follows the CAP24 Technical Specification, draft v0.4. The prototype runs on simulated CAP data and is not connected to any live feed. GMF updates this table before each edition of the template.

Time-shift. IPTV viewers can rewind up to 24 hours, so an alert may be replayed after it was cancelled. The issue time shown on screen helps viewers judge how current it is, but does not prevent the replay.

What journalists should do

- Before repeating an alert, check that it has not been updated or cancelled.

- When an alert is upgraded or downgraded, report the change and the new level; do not keep quoting the old one.
- When an alert expires or is cancelled, stop presenting it as current. Do not imply that the danger has passed unless the authority has said so.
- Label archive footage of an alert with the date and time it was current.

Misinformation during emergencies

False, misleading and outdated claims spread quickly during emergencies, especially on social media. Journalists can help the public tell official alerts and verified information apart from them.

- Check claims against the authority's current alerts and the channels listed in Section 1.
- Lead with the verified information. Repeat a false claim only as much as needed to correct it, and do not share unverified posts.
- When an old alert circulates again, give its date and say that it is no longer current.
- Point audiences to the alert's own `web` link or the QR code on screen.

If the display fails

A stream or screen can lag or stop. The authority's own channels remain the reference. [The authority and GMF state here who is responsible, and how the public is told, if the visual display is delayed or interrupted during an alert.]

Section 6 — Media rules

The alert belongs to the authority; the media carry it and explain it. Viewers must always be able to tell which is the authority's alert and which is the media's explanation.

The alert and your explanation

- **The authority's alert** appears on the alert display, attributed to the authority, with its wording kept.
- **Your explanation** belongs in your reporting, clearly introduced as yours and kept separate from the alert display.

- **In live coverage** a presenter may need to summarise an instruction aloud. A spoken summary keeps the meaning, leaves out nothing people need in order to act, and never overshadows the authority's advice.

Presenting an alert on air

A short example of how a presenter can introduce an alert:

> "[Authority name] has issued a [severity] [event] alert for [area], current until [time]. [Authority name] advises people to [official instruction]. You can find the full alert and any updates through [the link or QR code on screen]."

Anything added after this, such as background, interviews or the newsroom's own assessment, is introduced as such.

Always

- **Attribute.** Name the authority on every display and in every report: "Alert issued by [Authority name]".
- **Show the time.** Say when the alert was issued and until when it is current.
- **Name the area.** Use the area named in the alert.
- **Keep the instruction's meaning.** Avoid substantial changes to the authority's instruction. Any shortening keeps its meaning and intent and leaves out nothing people need in order to act safely.
- **Point to the source.** Direct audiences to the link in the alert's `web` element, if there is one, or to the QR code on screen.

Never

- Change the level, the area, the times or the meaning of the instruction.
- Add sponsor logos, advertising or promotional content to an alert display.
- Present an alert from an unverified source as official.
- Show a test, exercise, expired or cancelled alert as current.
- Create your own alert graphics that imitate the authority's style.
- Use AI or machine translation to write, translate, summarise or add information without clearly marking that it was used.

Allowed

- Explaining the alert in your own words in news reporting, clearly separate from the alert display.
- Interviews with the authority's experts.
- Background, such as past events, clearly labelled as context.
- Translation into other languages under the broadcaster's own editorial and legal review. Machine translation is clearly marked, and the authority's original text remains the reference.

These rules apply to media coverage. Our solution itself carries only the authority's text, with no AI and no machine translation.

Corrections

If an alert is shown or reported wrongly, correct it on the same channel as soon as possible and inform the contact named in the alert or in Section 1.

[The authority adds any national broadcasting rules on emergency messages here, citing the relevant law.]

Section 7 — The two screens

Our solution shows each alert on two linked screens: a shared screen everyone watching can see, and a personal phone view that stays with the viewer. Both show the same CAP alert, linked from the feed that carries it; neither changes it.

Screen comparison

	Shared screen (TV, stream, website)	Phone view (via QR code)
Who sees it	Everyone watching at that moment	The person who scans the code
What it shows	Hazard, level and colour, area, valid time, instruction, attribution, QR code	The full alert: description, full instruction, area, times, the alert's own web and contact details
How long	While the alert is current	Planned: kept on the phone and updated with the alert

	Shared screen (TV, stream, website)	Phone view (via QR code)
App needed	—	No. Opens in the phone's web browser
Personal data	—	No account, name or phone number. Minimal technical data only, discarded quickly. Planned, with the phone view

What each part means

TV / stream view	Phone view
[Image slot 7.1 — TV screen with numbered markers]	[Image slot 7.2 — phone screen with numbered markers]

1. Event (`event`)
2. Severity (`severity`), urgency and certainty, each with its own value; today they sit beside one colour level, which the planned design removes (`urgency` , `certainty`)
3. Area where people should be informed (`area` , `areaDesc`)
4. Issue time and active period (`sent` , `onset` , `expires`)
5. Instruction (`instruction`)
6. Attribution (`senderName`)
7. QR code to the phone view

Sample from the GMF solution (v8 TV and v9m phone demonstrations), using simulated CAP data. Each authority replaces it with one of its own alerts.

The QR code

The QR code on screen carries the line "Leaving the screen? Scan to keep the instructions with you." Scanning opens the phone view of the same alert. Planned: each code is tied to one alert, so that if it is scanned after that alert has been updated, cancelled or has expired, the phone view says so instead of showing it as current.

What the two screens are not

- They support official alerts; they do not replace cell broadcast, sirens, national apps or any other national alerting channel.
- The phone view is not a guarantee of delivery. People should still follow the authority's official channels.

For journalists

- When describing the display on air, say that the alert comes from the authority and that the QR code opens its full text.
- Encourage viewers to scan when the instruction is long or the situation is changing.

Status today. The shared screen works in the demonstration with simulated data. The phone view and the push subscription are design intent, shown in simulation only (CAP24 Technical Specification, section 9).

Section 8 — Sign language and accessibility

An alert that a viewer cannot perceive or understand has not reached them. This includes people who are deaf or hard of hearing, blind or partially sighted, and people with cognitive disabilities or impairments. Every guide includes accessible formats, developed with the people who use them.

The recommended partnership

We recommend that each authority, or each broadcaster using the solution, names its national association of deaf people as a partner. Sign-language content is created or checked by deaf people themselves, not only by hearing interpreters.

Field	What to write
Partner association	[Name of the national association of the deaf]
National sign language	[Name of the sign language]
Who checks the content	[Deaf reviewers named by the association]
Contact	[Association contact]

Accessible formats

Format	What it means	Status today
Text	Clear, large, high-contrast text; all four levels always shown, so colour never carries the meaning alone	In the prototype
Sign language	Pre-recorded clips for each hazard and protective action, made with deaf people	Planned, not built
Audio	An attention tone (the use of particular tones may be subject to national law or regulation), or the authority's own recording, only if the authority decides. On the phone view, a Listen button started by the viewer plays the authority's recording, or reads the authority's text unchanged with the phone's own voice; never on broadcast, and the authority can switch it off	Proposal, not built; Listen shown in the phone demonstration, labelled proposed
Plain language	Short sentences in the instruction, as written by the authority	Depends on the authority's text
Phone view	Works with the phone's own screen reader and text size	Planned with the phone view

Audio is never the only carrier of an instruction: the visual alert is always complete without sound (CAP24 Technical Specification, section 10).

For journalists

- Keep the sign-language window and captions visible while an alert is on air.
- Never cover the alert text with other graphics.

Basis

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities requires access to information in emergencies (Article 11) and in accessible formats, including sign language (Article 21). International Deaf Emergency is a source of advice on sign-language emergency content.

Annex A — Reference documents

This template is aligned with the documents below. It is not issued or endorsed by any of the bodies that publish them; authority over each alert rests with the alerting authority that issues it.

Each edition of this guide records which version of each document it was checked against. When a document is revised, the new version is added first in its row and earlier versions stay listed, so readers can see how it has developed.

#	Document	Publisher	Edition and year (newest first)	Relevance
1	Common Alerting Protocol	OASIS Emergency Management TC	1.2 (2010) — current	The standard every alert follows
2	WMO Register of Alerting Authorities	WMO	Continuously updated — check date	International reference for identifying recognised alerting sources
3	Common Policies and Practices	Alert-Hub.Org CIC	Updated from time to time — check date	Policies and practices of major republishers of CAP alerts
4	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Articles 11 and 21	UN	2006	Accessible alerts and sign language

#	Document	Publisher	Edition and year (newest first)	Relevance
5	Recommendation BT.1774	ITU-R	BT.1774-3 (2025) — current · BT.1774-2 (2015) · BT.1774-1 (2007) · BT.1774 (2006)	Broadcast infrastructure for public warning: CAP alerts inserted into TV and radio programming (Annex 1, Attachment 1, §4.2), accessible emergency information (§4.3), CAP message structure (Annex 3)
6	Report BT.2299	ITU-R	BT.2299-4 (2025) — current · earlier editions include BT.2299-3 (2022), BT.2299-2 (2017) and BT.2299 (2014)	Broadcasting for public warning
7	Guideline on Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction: Early Warning and Accessible Broadcasting [link to be verified]	ABU and ADPC	[year to be verified]	Accessible broadcasting of alerts
8	Model Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan for Media Institutions [link to be verified]	ABU and UNESCO	[year to be verified]	Media preparedness

#	Document	Publisher	Edition and year (newest first)	Relevance
9	Early Warnings for All initiative	UN	Launched 2022 · runs to end of 2027	Wider context only; broader than alerting with CAP

Related GMF document. CAP24 Technical Specification, draft v0.4 (17 October 2026) — what is built, what is only specified, and what is still open. Comments on this template and the specification: hello@greenmediafoundation.org

National law

[The authority adds the national civil-protection law and the broadcasting law that govern public alerts and the media's role.]

Review history

Version	Date	Reviewed by	Notes
Draft 0.1	17 October 2026	GMF	First template draft
Draft 0.1	October 2026	Eliot Christian	Draft reviewed by Eliot Christian, October 2026.
Draft 0.2	25 October 2026	GMF	Revised after the review of Draft 0.1: CAP terminology, event terms, the three CAP values shown separately, colour defaults, alert lifecycle, media rules and reference documents. Status labels, sources and Annex A dates corrected the same day.
[ ]	[ ]	[Name, organisation — added only after the review has taken place and with the reviewer's consent]	[ ]