

REPORT OF THE 52nd SESSION OF THE IPCC BUREAU

Geneva, Switzerland, 18-19 August 2016

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

Mr Hoesung Lee, Chair of the IPCC, opened the Fifty-Second Session of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and delivered a welcoming statement.

Mr Lee thanked the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for hosting this session of the IPCC Bureau and the Scoping Meeting for the IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty that concluded on the morning of the same day. He stated that with these two meetings the work of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Cycle is clearly underway. He highlighted that the focus of work over the next two days will be on the preparations for the Forty-Forth Session of the IPCC. This would include hearing a report on the preparations and outcome of the scoping meeting for the Special Report mentioned before. He also stated that later this month there will be another scoping meeting, in Minsk, Belarus, for the Methodology Report that will refine the IPCC 2006 Guidelines and that this Methodology Report is a critical contribution to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

Mr Lee also recalled that the 43rd Session of the Panel, held at the United Nations Office at Nairobi in April, asked the IPCC Bureau to clarify the scoping process and stated that this can be seen in the context of the communications and outreach activities of the IPCC. The Chair of the IPCC also highlighted the proposal for updating the Communications Strategy and that the Expert Meeting on Communication earlier this year in Oslo emphasized the importance of addressing communications matters right from the start of preparing a report.

Mr Lee stated that the IPCC Bureau was also to be invited to comment on documents on the future of Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) and on the review of the Conflict of Interest Policy that are being prepared for the Panel. He said that among the other reports the Bureau would hear and other items to consider, the Secretariat would present a document on implementing the policy to promote the participation of developing countries in IPCC activities, which would help to make the IPCC more inclusive and in this way more policy-relevant.

Finally Mr Lee stated that the recent growing drumbeat of breaking monthly and yearly records for temperatures and greenhouse gas concentrations is a reminder of the urgency of the task and that by providing governments with the information tools to tackle climate change, the IPCC is doing its job of being policy-relevant.

The Chair of the IPCC invited Ms Elena Manaenkova, Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), to address the IPCC Bureau.

Ms Manaenkova noted that the WMO is proud to contribute to the work of the IPCC and that the outcome of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 21st Conference of the Parties (COP-21) was based on the work of the IPCC. She stressed that, with UNEP, the WMO will continue to fully support the IPCC in delivering on its mandate to highest standards. She informed the Bureau that the WMO is also working with all the meteorological community, in particular the observation, data processing and research communities, to make sure that they provide valuable input to the work of the IPCC. She added that the WMO contributes to communications and outreach and to building the capacity of the meteorological services and other

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institutions in order to assist governments to take decisions based on IPCC reports. The WMO also provides more updated information between cycles.

The Chair of the IPCC invited Ms Jacqueline McGlade, Chief Scientist and Director of the Science Division of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), representing its Executive Director, Mr Erik Solheim, to address the IPCC Bureau.

Ms McGlade stressed the importance of time scales and timely provision of the information that policy makers can use. She also stressed the importance of communication and that such efforts should start from the very beginning rather than being incorporated just at the end of the processes. She also noted the importance of being positive, innovative and near to people, while being aware of negative aspects that need to be addressed. She made a plea to have short reports, not to diminish their importance, but to focus clearly on solutions. She added that cities should be in the focus. Integration and collaboration are key factors for successful delivery, she said.

The Chair of the IPCC invited Florin Vladu, representative of the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, Ms Patricia Espinosa, to deliver his statement.

Mr Vladu thanked for the opportunity to address the IPCC Bureau. He congratulated the IPCC Bureau and the Scientific Steering Committee for the successful completion of the morning's scoping meeting. He brought to the attention of the IPCC Bureau some recent activities that involved IPCC participation in the UNFCCC process since the 43rd Session of the IPCC. He thanked the IPCC for the very good participation in the summer session of the subsidiary bodies of the UNFCCC and in particular the special event organized with the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA) on how the IPCC assessment could inform the global stocktake under the Paris Agreement. He noted that the special event had been very well received by Parties to the UNFCCC. He informed the IPCC Bureau that the presentations made and the dialogue between IPCC representatives and Parties to the Convention contributed to deepening the understanding on the forthcoming products of IPCC in the sixth assessment cycle. These also highlighted the needs for scientific knowledge for supporting the global stocktake. He noted that the summary report of this event is available on the UNFCCC website. He said that the IPCC participation in the 8th UNFCCC Research Dialogue and the poster session preceding the dialogue was very valuable and highly appreciated by Parties to the Convention. He stated that the report of the Research Dialogue would be finalized shortly.

Regarding future UNFCCC activities of relevance for the IPCC, Mr Vladu informed the IPCC Bureau about negotiations on the modalities for considering the IPCC input into the global stocktake, and about the possible strengthened role for the SBSTA-IPCC Joint Working Group as a modality for sharing information between presiding officers and secretariats. He said that this may be followed up at UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakesh. He referred to some activities being developed where IPCC could be involved, including a possible day on Observations and Science, stating that this is however work in progress. He stressed the need to work together on how the special reports will be used by the UNFCCC. He said that as regards the Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, an immediate landing zone is the facilitative dialogue in 2018 and the global stock take. He stressed that for the other two special reports, landing zones need to be further understood. Mr Vladu concluded by wishing the IPCC Bureau success on the conduct of the meeting.

The Chair of the IPCC submitted the Provisional Agenda for the Fifty-Second Session of the IPCC Bureau as contained in document BUR-LII/Doc. 1 for adoption. The Agenda was adopted without changes and is attached as **Annex 1**. The list of participants is attached as **Annex 2**.

2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE 51ST SESSION

The document BUR-LII/Doc. 2, draft report of the 51st Session of the Bureau, was approved without changes.

3. PREPARATIONS FOR IPCC-44

3.1. Outline of the Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty

Ms Thelma Krug, Vice-Chair of the IPCC and Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee for scoping the Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty reported orally on the Scoping Meeting held in Geneva on 15-18 August 2016.

Participants at the Scoping meeting discussed all aspects of the scope, outline, and contents of the report. The proposed outline for the Special Report was developed over the course of the scoping meeting. After intensive discussions within an iterative process between break-out-groups and plenary sessions, participants unanimously agreed on the structure of the Special Report. At the Scoping Meeting there was agreement that the title should capture the full Special Report mandate and be preceded by a shorter reference to facilitate communication. However, during the final Plenary session of the Scoping Meeting there was no convergence of views on the wording of an agreed short title.

The IPCC Bureau noted the outcomes of the scoping meeting and recommended that the title of the Special Report be "Global warming of 1.5°C - The IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty".

3.2. Progress report regarding the drafting of the outline of the Methodology Report(s) to refine the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories

Mr Kiyoto Tanabe, Co-Chair of the Task Force Bureau (TFB) made an oral presentation on the preparations for the Scoping Meeting Methodology Report(s) to refine the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that will be held in Minsk, Belorussia, on 29-31 August 2016.

A call for nominations was issued to IPCC Member States and Observer Organizations on 12 May 2016 by the IPCC Secretariat. 198 nominations were received, corresponding to a total of 197 experts (one expert was nominated by more than one nominator), from 59 Member States, 11 Observer Organizations, and members of IPCC Bureau and TFB. A selection process based on IPCC procedures was agreed upon by the TFB. The selection was conducted by the TFB with the assistance of the TFI Technical Support Unit (TFI TSU). Members of the TFB were invited to participate in the scoping meeting taking advantage of the 28th meeting of the TFB being held back to back to the scoping meeting.

The IPCC Bureau took note of the report.

3.3. Communications and the scoping process

Mr Jonathan Lynn, Programme Manager, Communications and Media Relations, introduced the document (BUR-LII INF.1). This Agenda Item was to be considered by the IPCC Bureau in response to IPCC Decision IPCC-XLIII/10 on Communications for the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6).

The IPCC Bureau members Mr Hans-Otto Pörtner, Mr Jim Skea, and Ms Diana Ürge-Vorsatz and government representatives of Germany, Norway, United Kingdom and United States of America took the floor.

The IPCC Bureau welcomed the ideas presented in the document and noted the need to clearly define the term 'stakeholders' as well as a need for a clear plan on what will be done with the input received from the pre-scoping consultations. The IPCC Bureau also noted the need to minimize financial costs in the implementation of the proposed initiatives and the need to be balanced in the consultations to avoid perception of bias. Some Members of the IPCC Bureau called for a report on how to better engage other sectors like fishing, shipping and business.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded asking the Secretariat to consider the comments from the IPCC Bureau and to revise the document accordingly for submission to the 44th Session of the IPCC for consideration.

3.4. Review of the Communications Strategy

Mr Lynn introduced the documents (BUR-LII INF.2, BUR-LII INF.2 Corr.1, BUR-LII INF.2 Add.1 Rev.1, BUR-LII INF.3 and BUR-LII INF.3 Add.1).

The IPCC Bureau considered the review of the Communications Strategy of the IPCC in line with Decision IPCC/XLIII-10.

The following members of the IPCC Bureau took the floor; Mr Amjad Abdulla, Mr Edwin Aldrian, Mr Eduardo Calvo Buendía, Mr Hans-Otto Pörtner, Mr Andy Reisinger, Mr Jim Skea, Mr Youba Sokona, Ms Carolina Vera and Mr Taha Zatari. The government representatives of Germany, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States of America also took the floor.

During its deliberations the IPCC Bureau touched on various issues including noting that the revisions are to bring the Communications Strategy in line with current practice, the need to identify budgetary implications of the proposed changes if any, IPCC's involvement in producing derivative products, social media and outreach. Some members of the IPCC Bureau pointed out that there would be a need to provide a written rationale to the revisions.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded inviting written comments on the documents to be submitted to the Secretariat after this session of the IPCC Bureau. The Chair of the IPCC requested the Secretariat to take note of the comments (both written and those made during the discussion) and to further consult with the Communications Action Team (CAT) to revise the documents accordingly and transmitting them to the 44th Session of the IPCC for consideration.

3.5. Future of the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)

Mr. Timothy Carter, Co-Chair of the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) introduced the documents (BUR-LII/Doc.4; BUR-LII/INF.7; BUR-LII/INF.8).

The following members of the IPCC Bureau took the floor: Mr Andreas Fischlin, Mr Jan Flugestvedt, Mr Diriba Korecha, Ms Valérie Masson-Delmotte, Mr Hans-Otto Pörtner, Mr Sergey Semenov, Ms Carolina Vera, Mr Pius Yanda and Mr Taha Zatari. The government representatives from the following countries took the floor: Germany, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States of America.

A proposal was made to set up a committee to help design a new integrated IPCC IT infrastructure. Most members of the IPCC Bureau supported the options on the future of TGICA which were presented in BUR-LII/Doc.4. Some requested a mapping exercise to help identify organizations which are offering similar products and services as TGICA does. It would help to identify the roles

for which TGICA is uniquely placed in order to address internal IPCC needs as well as those of external users. It was suggested to sharpen the Terms of Reference of TGICA. It was also suggested that managers of the Data Distribution Center (DDC), staff of past Technical Support Units and authors should be consulted to provide input on which TGICA activities they found useful. A virtual dialogue was proposed to initiate a discussion ahead of the 44th Session of the IPCC and that a small group would meet on the margins to further consultations on this matter.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded requesting the Co-Chairs of TGICA and the Secretariat to consider the comments made by the IPCC Bureau in preparation of documents to be submitted to the 44th Session of the IPCC for consideration.

3.6. Review of the IPCC Conflict of Interest (COI) Policy

Mr Youba Sokona, Chair of the sub-committee of the IPCC COI Committee established under Decision IPCC/XLIII-3, introduced the report of the sub-committee, contained in document BUR-LII/ INF.6.

During the consideration of this agenda item statements were made by the following members of the IPCC Bureau: Mr Amjad Abdulla, Mr Edwin Aldrian, Mr Eduardo Calvo Buendia, Mr Gregory Flato, Mr Hans-Otto Pörtner, Mr Sergey Semenov, Mr Jim Skea, Ms Diana Urge-Vorsatz, Mr Nouredine Yassaa and Mr Taha Zatari. Also the Government representatives from the following countries took the floor: Germany, United Kingdom and United States of America.

General support was given to proposals regarding the COI form to be submitted together with a CV; the COI Expert Advisory Group to be discontinued; and the procedures for handling the COI forms of the professional staff of the Synthesis Report Technical Support Unit (SYR TSU) to be amended.

However diverging opinions were expressed regarding the proposal to reduce the membership of the COI Committee and regarding continuing the membership of the IPCC Vice-Chairs in the COI Committee while greater convergence was expressed on the recommendation that the proposed smaller group would be much easier to handle.

It was acknowledged that more insight should be provided as to the range of possibilities for managing conflicts of interest, leaving exclusion as ultimate remedial only. In a situation of full transparency many other options could be explored and applied. It was suggested that such full transparency could be achieved by accepting the comprehensive range of questions which the sub-committee proposed to be included in the revised COI form. Questions were expressed on the size and complexity of the newly proposed form and suggestions were made that the questionnaire could be reduced.

Suggestions were made also to keep the current COI form, which would provide sufficient information when combined with a CV; that the COI form should be signed by a second person, for instance a supervisor, in order to increase the credibility of the submission; that the COI sub-committee would provide a short and long version of the proposed form; and that more and better guidance could be provided as to what would constitute a COI and what not, by introducing incentives or criteria, such as the notion of direct material gain referred to in paragraph 12 of the IPCC COI Policy.

The Chair of the IPCC Chair requested the Chair of the sub-committee to revise and finalize his report taking into account the comments made at this session of the IPCC Bureau as far as they pertained to the mandate of the sub-committee, after which the Secretariat would submit the report of the COI sub-committee to the 44th Session of the IPCC for its consideration.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Communications and Outreach

Mr Lynn gave an oral report on the communications and outreach activities that took place between April and August 2016 as well as planned activities.

In addition to a brochure for fundraising, a press release and media interviews organized during the period, the Senior Communications Manager noted some outreach activities including the signing ceremony of the Paris Agreement (22 April 2016, New York, USA), Climate Action Summit (5-7 May 2016, Washington DC, USA), the International Conference on Sustainable Development (10 – 11 May 2016, Paris, France), the Media Summit on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction organized by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (12 – 14 May 2016, Krabi, Thailand), the Forum International de Météo et du Climat (28 – 30 May 2016, Paris, France), IPCC Outreach event in Bamako, Mali (1-2 June 2016), and the 5th World Forest Week and 23rd Session on the Committee on Forestry organized by the Food and Agricultural Organization (18 July 2016, Rome, Italy) among others. He also informed the IPCC Bureau that the procurement of a vendor to refresh the IPCC website is underway and work is expected to be completed in early 2017.

The government representative of Germany took the floor.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded thanking the Secretariat and all involved in communications and outreach and the IPCC Bureau noted the report.

4.2. Establishment of the Technical Support Units

The Co-Chairs of Working Groups I, II and III and the Co-chairs of the Task Force Bureau provided oral reports on the state of play regarding the establishment and staffing of their respective Technical Support Units.

The IPCC Bureau took note of the reports.

4.3. Implementation of IPCC policy for promoting participation of developing countries in IPCC activities

Mr Mxolisi Shongwe, Programme Officer, introduced the document (BUR-LII/inf. 5, Rev. 1).

The following members of the IPCC Bureau took the floor: Mr Edwin Adrian, Ms Fatima Driouech, Ms Thelma Krug, Ms Valérie Masson-Delmotte, Mr Ramon Pichs-Madruga, Mr Hans-Otto Pörtner, Ms Carolina Vera, Mr Pius Yanda, Mr Nouredine Yassaa and Mr Taha Zatari.

The representatives of the following governments took the floor: Cuba, Germany, Japan, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States of America.

Overall support was expressed for the actions listed in the document to enhance the participation of developing countries in IPCC activities. Questions were raised as regards the foreseen agenda for the briefing sessions of developing countries' delegates which are intended to be held from the 45th Session of the IPCC.

Suggestions were made by the IPCC Bureau to also make efforts to enhance the involvement of women.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded that the Secretariat will take into consideration the comments made by the IPCC Bureau in preparing documentation to be submitted to the 44th Session of the IPCC for information.

5. PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU IN INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Mr Carlos Martin-Novella, Deputy Secretary of the IPCC introduced the document IPCC-XLIV/INF. 3 on the Participation of members of the IPCC Bureau in intersessional activities.

The following members of the IPCC Bureau took the floor: Mr Amjad Abdulla, Mr Jan Fuglestad, Mr Gregory Flato, Ms Valerie Masson-Delmotte, Mr Ramon Pichs-Madruga, Ms Debra Roberts, Mr Kiyoto Tanabe, Mr Taha Zatari and Ms Diana Urge-Vorsatz.

The representatives of the following governments took the floor: Germany, Japan, United States of America and Venezuela.

There was a convergence of views on affirming the appropriateness of maintaining the existing practice and discarding the other alternative options presented in the document.

The Chair of the IPCC requested the Secretariat to consider the comment made from the floor when preparing the document to be transmitted to the 44th Session of the IPCC.

6. ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

Ms Sophie Schlingemann, Legal Officer, introduced document BUR-LII/Doc. 3 on the Admission of Observer Organizations. She informed the Bureau that applications for IPCC observer status were received from the following 10 organizations:

1. Climate Alliance
2. C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group
3. Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC)
4. World Climate Research Programme (WCRP)
5. Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR)
6. Friends World Committee for Consultation (FCWW)
7. Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice
8. Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)
9. Université catholique de Louvain
10. Pacific Community (SPC)

No comments were made.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded that in accordance with Rules II. 5 and 6 of the IPCC Observer Policy and Process for Admitting Observer Organizations, all requests as reviewed by the Bureau will be presented to the 44th Session of the IPCC for acceptance.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Three government representatives expressed concerns about scheduling the approval and acceptance of the two Special Reports, namely the Special Report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, and the Special Report on Oceans and the Cryosphere in one week during one Panel session, and suggested that the Panel should look into this matter.

The Chair of the IPCC concluded that the IPCC Executive Committee will consider this matter.

8. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

The 52nd Session of the IPCC Bureau closed at 18h23 of 19 August 2016.

ANNEX 1

IPCC BUREAU – FIFTY-SECOND SESSION Geneva, Switzerland, 18-19 August 2016

BUR-LII/Doc. 1
(23.VI.2016)
Agenda Item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

(Submitted by the Acting Secretary of the IPCC)

- 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE 51ST SESSION**
- 3. PREPARATIONS FOR IPCC-44**
 - 3.1 Outline of the Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emissions pathways in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.
 - 3.2 Progress report regarding the drafting of the outline of the Methodology Report(s) to refine the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories
 - 3.3 Communications and the scoping processes
 - 3.4 Review of the Communications Strategy
 - 3.5 Future of the IPCC Task Group on Data Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)
 - 3.6 Review of the IPCC Conflict of Interests (COI) Policy
- 4. REPORTS**
 - 4.1. Communications and Outreach
 - 4.2. Establishment of the Technical Support Units
 - 4.3. Implementation of IPCC policy for promoting participation of developing countries in IPCC activities
- 5. PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU IN INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**
- 6. ADMISSION OF OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS**
- 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- 8. TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION**
- 9. CLOSING OF THE SESSION**

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WMO, Geneva, Switzerland, 18 (pm) – 19 August 2016

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