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IPCC presents climate change findings in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug 24 - Experts from Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will outline the findings of their Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) and how to limit and adapt to climate change at an IPCC outreach event in Mexico City on Wednesday 26 August.

The AR5 found the world has the means to limit global warming and build a more prosperous, sustainable future, including through adaptation to the changing climate.

IPCC experts will address a media briefing at 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday 26 August at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) in Mexico City, as part of the outreach event attended by policymakers, practitioners, scientists, civil society representatives and media from Mexico and other Central American states.

“Continued high emissions will increase risks. Key regional issues range from challenges for food and water security, to flooding with the potential for widespread damages, to heat-related mortality and changes in vector-borne diseases,” said Eduardo Calvo, one of the IPCC speakers.

“A wide diversity of adaptation options can help reduce these risks while building vibrant communities and robust economies,” said Calvo, who is professor of environmental pollution and natural resources management at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, in Lima, Peru, and a vice-chair of IPCC Working Group II, which deals with impacts and adaptation.

Limiting climate change requires substantial and sustained reductions of greenhouse gas emissions and although AR5 found a considerable increase in global action to curb greenhouse gases since the IPCC’s previous report, emissions are continuing to rise and more action is required.

Other speakers include IPCC Working Group III Co-Chair Ramón Pichs Madruga (Cuba), IPCC Working Group III Vice-Chair Antonina Ivanova (Mexico), IPCC authors Matilde Rusticucci (Argentina), Francisco Doblas-Reyes (Spain), Paty Romero Lankao (Mexico/USA), Úrsula Oswald Spring (Mexico), Cecilia Conde (Mexico) and Mariana Conte Grand (Argentina), and IPCC Deputy Secretary Carlos Martin-Novella.

“The outreach event provides a unique opportunity to gather together all major stakeholders with the top experts from the IPCC to discuss the contours of a sustainable future for the region,” said Carlos Gay, Coordinator of the Climate Change Research Program of UNAM, which is hosting the two-day event.

The Mexico City meeting is part of a series of IPCC events around the world to explain the findings of AR5, as nations prepare to negotiate a new global agreement on climate change in Paris in December.

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The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the world body for assessing the science related to climate change. The IPCC was set up in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

It released the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) in four stages over 2013 and 2014, finishing with the AR5 Synthesis Report in November 2014.

The key findings of the Synthesis Report are:

- Human influence on the climate system is clear;
- The more we disrupt our climate, the more we risk severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts; and
- We have the means to limit climate change and build a more prosperous, sustainable future.

For details of the Mexico event please click here:

<http://ipcc.ch/apps/outreach/eventinfo.php?q=295>