

2015/20/PR

PRESS RELEASE

8 October 2015

IPCC elects Bureau for Sixth Assessment Report

DUBROVNIK, Croatia, Oct 8 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) completed the election of its new Bureau on Thursday, after electing Hoesung Lee of the Republic of Korea as its new Chair on Tuesday.

The new Bureau, which consists of 34 members, up from 31 in the previous Bureau, will lead the Panel as it works on the forthcoming Sixth Assessment Report. Members are drawn from all six of the IPCC's regions, and include 8 women, compared with 5 previously.

A list of the members of the new Bureau can be found [here](#).

The Panel also elected its new Bureau for the Task Force on National Greenhouse Inventories (TFI), consisting of 14 members, including its two Co-Chairs. A list of members of the Task Force Bureau can be found [here](#). The two Task Force Bureau Co-Chairs are also members of the IPCC Bureau.

“The new Bureau is a strong and diverse body, drawing on the richness and expertise of all the IPCC's regions. I look forward to working with them on the Sixth Assessment Report,” said Lee.

The election took place in Dubrovnik, Croatia, where the IPCC held its 42nd Session. The IPCC also authorized the budget for the coming year.

The IPCC completed its Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) in November 2014.

The key findings of the AR5 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.

The next Session of the IPCC will take place in Nairobi, Kenya, on 11-15 April, 2016.

For further information, contact:

IPCC Press Office, Email: ipcc-media@wmo.int

Werani Zabula, +385 919 154 094

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Notes for editors

IPCC Secretariat

c/o WMO · 7 bis, Avenue de la Paix · C.P. 2300 · CH-1211 Geneva 2 · Switzerland

telephone +41 22 730 8208 / 54 / 84 · fax +41 22 730 8025 / 13 · email IPCC-Sec@wmo.int · www.ipcc.ch

What is the IPCC?

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.

The IPCC does not do its own research, conduct climate measurements or produce its own climate models; it assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed.

Thus the IPCC offers policymakers a snapshot of what the scientific community understands about climate change rather than promoting a particular view. IPCC reports are policy-relevant without being policy-prescriptive. The IPCC may set out options for policymakers to choose from in pursuit of goals decided by policymakers, but it does not tell governments what to do.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists who work as volunteers. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Only fourteen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

The members of the IPCC, comprising the Panel, are the 195 member states of the UN and WMO. They work by consensus to endorse the reports of the IPCC and set its procedures and budget in plenary meetings of the Panel. The word "Intergovernmental" in the organization's name reflects this.

IPCC reports are requested by the member governments and developed by authors drawn from the scientific community in an extensive process of repeated drafting and review. Scientists and other experts participate in this review process through a self-declaration of expertise. The Panel endorses these reports in a process of dialogue between the governments that request the reports and will work with them and the scientists that write them. In this discussion the scientists have the last word on any additions or changes, although the Panel may agree by consensus to delete something in the summaries for policymakers of the reports.

The IPCC produces comprehensive assessment reports on climate change every six years or so. Among its other products it also issues special reports on particular topics requested by its members, and methodology reports and software to help members report their greenhouse gas inventories (emissions minus removals).

The IPCC completed the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) with the release of the Synthesis Report on 2 November 2014. AR5 is the most comprehensive assessment of climate change ever undertaken. Over 830 scientists from over 80 countries were selected to form the author teams producing the report. They in turn drew on the work of over 1,000 contributing authors and over 1,000 expert reviewers. AR5 assessed over 30,000 scientific papers.

A note explaining the IPCC election process can be found at:
http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/210915_IPCC_election_procedures.pdf

A note explaining the role of the IPCC Bureau and Executive Committee can be found at:
http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/210915_IPCC_bureau.pdf

For more information, including links to the IPCC reports, go to www.ipcc.ch