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IPCC STATEMENT

15 April 2013

Recent reporting on the draft of the Working Group III contribution to the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report

GENEVA, 15 April - Recent reports have referred to a draft of the Working Group III contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5). The IPCC will continue not to comment on the contents of the draft reports because they are still works in progress.

The IPCC is committed to an open, robust and transparent assessment process and the Working Groups actively seek the collaboration of researchers and practitioners from as broad a range of expertise as possible. However, IPCC draft reports are provided to reviewers in confidence. They are not intended for public distribution, quotation or citation for the following reasons:

- The text of draft reports changes in response to the comments from expert and government reviewers.
- Newly published scientific evidence is taken into account as the draft matures. Therefore, the final publication might differ from the drafts both in detail as well as in broader aspects. Draft reports are intermediate products and do not represent the scientific view the IPCC provides on the state of knowledge of climate change and its potential environmental and socio-economic impacts.

The IPCC process is intended to create a working environment for authors and review editors to freely exchange information and arrive at a robust assessment of the highest quality. By prompting many of these discussions and broadening the range of scientific views, the comments by expert and government reviewers are an integral part of the assessment. IPCC review procedures are designed to enable this iterative process.

The recent media reports refer to the second order draft of the Working Group III contribution to the AR5. The review of this draft is being held from 25 February to 22 April 2013. Experts are invited to register and review the draft until the review period ends (see link below).

More than 16,000 comments were received during the review of the first order draft last year. The comments from this current second round of review will be considered in the final draft writing period and discussed at Working Group III's Fourth Lead Author Meeting in July 2013. All drafts, comments and author responses will be published following the release of AR5 in 2014, as was done for previous reports.

The IPCC welcomes public debate about its assessments. However, as the drafts and comments should not be viewed separately from the final products, the IPCC will continue to ask for the confidentiality of draft reports to be respected, in line with its approved procedures.

For more information:

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

Jonathan Lynn, + 41 22 730 8066 or Werani Zabula, + 41 22 730 8120

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Note for editors:

The IPCC provides a clear view of the current state of knowledge about the science of climate change, its potential impacts, and options for adaptation and mitigation, through regular assessments of the most recent information published in scientific, technical, and socio-economic literature worldwide. IPCC assessments are policy-relevant, but not policy-prescriptive.

For more information on the IPCC review process, go to:

http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/ar5/review_of_wg_contributions.pdf

For more information on the Fifth Assessment Report, go to:

<http://www.ipcc.ch/activities/activities.shtml>

To register for the expert and government review of the second order draft of the Working Group III contribution to the AR5, go to:

<http://www.ipcc-wg3.de/ar5review/>

To see the Procedures for the preparation, review, acceptance, adoption, approval and publication of IPCC reports, go to:

<http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/ipcc-principles/ipcc-principles-appendix-a-final.pdf>

To see the drafts and review comments of the IPCC's latest report, go to:

<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/SREX/report/review-comments-disclaimer>