

2013/2/ST

IPCC STATEMENT

8 January 2013

Posting of the drafts of the Working Group II contribution to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report

GENEVA, 8 January – The recent posting of drafts of the Working Group II contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) starts from the incorrect assumption that the IPCC is interested in restricting reviewer input to its drafts. In fact, the opposite is true. The quality of IPCC reports and the integrity of the IPCC process depend on thoughtful comments from the widest possible range of experts, representing the full spectrum of scientific views. The Working Group II review process is open to anyone interested in submitting comments. All scientific comments submitted through the review process will be considered and addressed by authors, and all comments are made public when the report is completed. Comments in blogs or other communications will not contribute to the review process. The recent posting of drafts should not distract potential reviewers from the important opportunity to play a role in developing a balanced report of the highest quality.

The review of the First Order Draft of the WGII contribution to the AR5 was held from 11 June to 6 August 2012. A total of 19,598 comments was submitted by 563 reviewers. The author teams have been considering these comments as they prepare the Second Order Draft. Anyone interested in submitting scientific comments on this draft is encouraged to participate in the review of the Second Order Draft, which begins on 28 March 2013. Pre-registration for this review will commence on 22 February 2013 at <http://www.ipcc-wg2.gov>.

The early drafts of IPCC reports are just that – early drafts. The quality of the final product is dependent on all aspects of the process working in coordination. Hundreds of volunteer authors dedicate many thousands of hours to assessing the scientific literature, and hundreds of individuals contribute information and perspectives through the review process. The text will necessarily change as the review comments are addressed. Constructive involvement of the broader community in the forthcoming review of the Second Order Draft is of paramount importance for the robustness, balance, and integrity of the WGII contribution to the AR5.

For more information:

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

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

Follow IPCC on  Facebook and  Twitter

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.

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



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 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>