

The IPCC gathers to outline its next Assessment Report

The global community regards 2009 as the year of climate change, particularly with the UN Secretary-General's High-level Summit on Climate Change on 22 September in New York and the forthcoming Conference of the Parties in Copenhagen in December 2009. The recent G-8 Summit and the meeting of the 20 Major Economies of the world provided a great deal of time and attention to climate change. The G-8 leaders in their final communiqué stated "we reaffirm the importance of the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and notably of its Fourth Assessment Report, which constitutes the most comprehensive assessment of the science".

The IPCC is meeting in Venice during this week to review the progress of science and develop the full structure of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) which the Panel is embarking on. Around 200 of the most outstanding experts on climate change science and related socio-economic fields, coming from all over, are gathering 13-17 July 2009 to shape the objectives and an annotated outline of the AR5, including its Working Group contributions and its Synthesis Report. It will reflect new knowledge on climate science and attempt to address key questions of policymakers.

Press opportunities

A press conference is scheduled:

Monday, 20 July 2009, 2.15 pm
UN Headquarters, New York, USA

During the press conference, the IPCC Chairman, Mr Rajendra Pachauri, will highlight how the findings of its latest Assessment Report (AR4) constitute today the key scientific tool for policymakers to base their decisions on.

The Chairman of the IPCC will be also available to talk to the press in Venice.

The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report will be released in 2014. The scoping paper prepared in Venice will be submitted for consideration and approval to the Sessions of the three IPCC Working Groups and to the 31st Session of the IPCC, scheduled 26-29 October 2009 in Bali, Indonesia.

Assessment Reports of the IPCC are the most comprehensive studies about climate change carried out worldwide, published at regular intervals of 5/6 years. The latest one, the Fourth Assessment Report, was released in 2007 coinciding with the award of the Nobel Peace Prize 2007 to the Panel.

The IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) is the core universal scientific reference on the current understanding of climate change. It is the main source of scientific information for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, under which the next Conference of the Parties will be held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

To accredit to the 20 July press conference at UN Headquarters, please see:

<http://www.un.org/media/accreditation>

You can also contact:

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For interview opportunities from Venice, please contact:

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You can find more information about the meeting: <http://www.ipcc.ch/press/index.htm>