

# ipcc

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON climate change

**FORTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE IPCC**  
**Bangkok, Thailand, 17 – 20 October 2016**

IPCC-XLIV/Doc. 8  
(19.IX.2016)  
Agenda Item: 8  
ENGLISH ONLY

## **FUTURE OF THE TASK GROUP ON DATA AND SCENARIO SUPPORT FOR IMPACT AND CLIMATE ANALYSIS (TGICA)**

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)

**IPCC Secretariat**

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## **FUTURE OF THE TASK GROUP ON DATA AND SCENARIO SUPPORT FOR IMPACT AND CLIMATE ANALYSIS (TGICA)**

This document presents a draft decision of the IPCC on a process for the transformation of TGICA functions within a holistic consideration of both the future IPCC needs for data and information support.

An Options paper (Document IPCC-XLIII/Doc.6, Corr.1) on the Future of the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)<sup>1</sup> was considered by the IPCC at its 43<sup>rd</sup> Session (Nairobi, 11-13 April 2016). This document was based on recommendations from the IPCC Expert Meeting on the Future of TGICA (IPCC-XLIII/INF.10, Rev.1). The evolution of the Options paper and its supporting documentation are outlined in Appendix 1.

Four items were considered in particular at IPCC-43: 1) an addendum or revision to the TGICA mandate, based on a prioritization of TGICA and Data Distribution Centre (DDC)<sup>2</sup> activities (IPCC-XLIII/INF.17)<sup>3</sup>; 2) procedures for appointing TGICA Co-chairs and selection of TGICA members; 3) resourcing of TGICA for guaranteeing the near-term functioning of the group and for ensuring long-term continuity of its priority activities; and 4) resourcing for the DDC, in part by seeking support from a wider base of countries and regions.

IPCC-43 requested the Secretary of the IPCC to revise the Options paper in collaboration with the Co-chairs of TGICA, for further consideration by the IPCC Bureau before submitting it to the Panel at its 44th Session (Decision IPCC/XLIII-9).

Subsequently a document (BUR-LII/Doc. 4, Rev. 1) was submitted to the 52<sup>nd</sup> session of the IPCC Bureau for its consideration. This document built upon additional analysis by the TGICA Co-chairs on the implications of realigning TGICA functions and roles (BUR-LII-INF.8), and the prioritization of TGICA and DDC activities presented earlier (BUR-LII-INF.7) to the IPCC. and responded to the suggestions by delegations at IPCC-43. The IPCC Bureau-discussed this document at its 52<sup>nd</sup> session and it was recommended that a virtual meeting of interested parties be arranged to continue the discussion and guide the formulation of a revised decision document for IPCC-44 on the transformation of TGICA within the broader context of IPCC needs for data and information support.

Following on this recommendation from the IPCC Bureau, a virtual meeting was held on 5 September 2016. The Secretariat invited two Vice-Chairs from each Working Group, TGICA Co-Chairs, representatives of Working Group Technical Support Units, representatives of DDC host countries and developing countries to participate in the teleconference.

Following on all the above the IPCC is invited to consider the draft Decision contained in Annex 1.

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<sup>1</sup> For background information on TGICA and the DDC, see IPCC-XLIII/INF. 15

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ipcc-data.org/>

<sup>3</sup> Revised as BUR-LII-INF.7

**Draft Decision on the future of the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)**

*The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change decides:*

1. To establish an Ad Hoc Task Force to design a strategic plan and revised mandate and terms of reference for the transformation of TGICA functions to serve the needs of IPCC during and beyond the Sixth Assessment. The membership and Terms of Reference of this Task Force are defined in Annex 1 to this decision. The Task Force will conclude its work in time for its proposals to be considered at the 46th Session of the IPCC.
2. To request TGICA to continue its activities until the revised mandate and terms of reference are approved by the Panel, but no later than the time of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC, which is provisionally scheduled for September 2017, and in doing so to proceed with the activities already in progress, undertake additional tasks as may be required by the IPCC in the course of AR6 preparations, and continue oversight and operations of DDC functions, mindful of existing resource constraints.
3. To request the Secretary of the IPCC to explore with governments and observer organizations their possibility to contribute to resourcing the administrative support needs of TGICA in this interim period. Such administrative support of at least 0.5 FTE<sup>4</sup> may be provided either through a secondment arrangement or through direct financial support to the Secretariat.

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<sup>4</sup> Full Time Equivalent

## **Annex 1 to decision on the future of the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)**

### **Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Task Force on the Future of the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA)**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Ad Hoc Task Force (Task Force) on the future of the IPCC Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Analysis (TGICA) is to design a strategic plan as well as a mandate and terms of reference for the transformation of TGICA functions to serve the needs of IPCC during and beyond the sixth assessment cycle, to be considered by the IPCC at its 46<sup>th</sup> session. This plan and the related ToRs and mandate should take into consideration identified priority objectives of the Task Group and the IPCC Data Distribution Centre (DDC) it oversees, including emerging needs in relation to regional data and scenarios and results from a mapping exercise of other organizations and stakeholders, paying due attention to constraints on both human and financial resources.

#### **2. TERM**

The Task Force will initiate its work immediately after the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC and continue its activities until the revised mandate and terms of reference are approved by the Panel, but no later than the time of the 46<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC, which is provisionally scheduled for September 2017.

#### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

The Task Force will comprise of at least:

- Two Vice-Chairs from each of the three Working Groups, one from a developed country and the other from a developing or economy in transition (EIT) country;
- Current TGICA Co-Chairs;
- Six Government representatives, three each from developed and developing/EIT countries. DDC host countries will be given priority if they are willing to participate;
- One representative from each of the Working Group technical support units; and
- A representative of the IPCC Secretariat.

The Task Force will be Co-Chaired by two Working Group Vice-Chairs from different Working Groups, one from a developed country and another from a developing country/EIT. At least one of the Co-Chairs should preferably be female. The Task Force may consider inviting DDC managers and relevant TSU staff from the AR5 cycle to share their views and experiences. This Task Force will be open to government representatives and Bureau members who may be co-opted for supporting specific tasks, as required.

#### **4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Task Force will be responsible for:

- i. Reviewing options and identifying priority objectives for the future of TGICA, including those presented to the Panel at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session and to the Bureau at its 52<sup>nd</sup> Session;
- ii. Reviewing options and identifying priority objectives for the DDC including those presented to the Panel at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session and to the Bureau at its 52<sup>nd</sup> Session;
- iii. Scoping, implementing and overseeing a mapping exercise of activities undertaken by external organizations that are similar or related to TGICA or the DDC, including but not limited to what is presented in the documents listed in (i) and (ii) above. The objective of this exercise is to evaluate the potential overlap, sustainability, and relevance of other products and services compared to TGICA and DDC functions, so as to identify remaining gaps and help refine priorities, and to explore potential partnerships;

- iv. Developing, based upon the information and findings from the above activities, a proposal for a longer-term vision, and a short-term strategy, which will enable the transformation of existing TGICA functionalities and to identify priority objectives of the DDC. This strategy should ensure continuity, transparency, accessibility, and integration across Working Groups of existing and emerging support needs for data and scenarios by the IPCC; mindful of human and financial resource constraints;
- v. Proposing a new mandate and ToRs for the transformed TGICA functionality and for the core functions of the DDC;
- vi. Proposing options for sustainable resourcing to support the needs of the transformed functions, including possible ways to expand country contributions; and
- vii. Providing a progress report about its activities to the IPCC at its 45<sup>th</sup> Session.

## **5. MEETINGS**

All meetings will be held through teleconferencing and/or in combination with existing IPCC meetings where Task Force members will be present. They will be chaired by the Ad Hoc Task Force Co-Chairs who will be responsible for preparing meeting agendas. Teleconferencing arrangements and meeting minutes will be prepared by the Secretariat.

## Evolution of the Options paper and Supporting Documentation

The Options paper presented to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IPCC was an updated version of a TGICA vision paper submitted to the 41<sup>st</sup> Session of the IPCC, taking account of views from scientists, the IPCC Bureau, submissions from governments and IPCC observer organizations, and recommendations from an IPCC meeting of experts on this issue organized by the Secretariat (Geneva, 26-27 January 2016). Additional documents were subsequently presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPCC Bureau. A chronology of meetings is outlined in the table below along with supporting documentation.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Documents</b>	<b>Document Number</b> <i>(Information docs in italics)</i>
<b>24-27 Feb 2015</b>	<b>IPCC-41, Nairobi</b>	<b>TGICA Vision paper: “The Future of TGICA and the IPCC Data Distribution Centre”</b>	<b>Annex 2 of IPCC-XLI/Doc.10</b>
26-27 Jan 2016	IPCC Expert Meeting on the Future of TGICA, Geneva	Collated Comments from governments and observer organizations on a revision of the Vision paper	<i>IPCC-XLIII/INF. 18</i>
		Institutional Analysis of TGICA	<i>IPCC-XLIII/INF. 16</i>
16-17 Feb 2016	Bureau-51, Geneva	Expert Meeting Report	BUR-LI/INF. 4, Rev. 1
<b>11-13 Apr 2016</b>	<b>IPCC-43, Nairobi</b>	<b>Options paper on the Future of TGICA</b>	<b>IPCC-XLIII/Doc. 10, Corr. 1</b>
		Background to TGICA and the DDC	<i>IPCC-XLIII/INF. 15</i>
		Priority Objectives for TGICA and the DDC	<i>IPCC-XLIII/INF. 17</i>
<b>18-19 Aug 2016</b>	<b>Bureau-52, Geneva</b>	<b>Options for the Future Role of TGICA</b>	<b>BUR-LII/Doc. 4, Rev. 1</b>
		Priority Objectives for TGICA and the DDC	<i>BUR-LII-INF.7*</i>
		Some implications for the IPCC of re-aligning the functions and roles of TGICA and the DDC	<i>BUR-LII-INF.8</i>

\*Revised version of IPCC-XLIII/INF.17