



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



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TASK GROUP ON SCENARIOS FOR CLIMATE AND IMPACTS ASSESSMENT (TGCIA)

Progress report and proposal for a revised mandate

(Submitted by Dr Richard H. Moss, Co-Chair
on behalf of the Task Group)

PROGRESS REPORT

Task Group on Scenarios for Climate and Impact Assessment (TGCIA)

Submitted by Dr Richard H. Moss, Co-Chair
on behalf of the Task Group

1. Background

1.1 The Task Group on Scenarios for Climate and Impact Assessment (TGCIA) was established following a recommendation made at the IPCC Workshop on Regional Climate Change Projections for Impact Assessment (London, 24-26 September 1996), and further considered by the IPCC Bureau at its Eleventh Session (7-8 November 1996). Prof. Martin Parry (UK) was asked to assemble and chair the Group, which he did until his appointment as Co-Chair Working Group II in April 2002. At that time, the Bureau asked Dr. Richard Moss (USA) to assume acting chairmanship of the Group and report to the next Plenary.

1.2 Dr. Moss reported to IPCC-XX (Paris, 19-21 February 2003), providing an overview of TGCIA actions to date including: development of a Data Distribution Centre (DDC); solicitation and attainment of the cooperation of major climate modeling centers with the DDC; development of inventories of GCMs, regional climate models, and impact assessment studies; development of technical guidelines; dissemination of socio-economic data from IPCC approved scenarios (IS92 and SRES); and organization of an expert meeting to examine the SRES scenarios and their potential use in research. IPCC XX confirmed Dr. Moss as a co-chair of the Task Group. The Panel agreed that the group's membership should be refreshed through a process analogous to the IPCC lead author selection process and that there should be a developing/transition economy co-chair appointed, and it reviewed but did not finalize the group's mandate.

2. Mandate

2.1 A draft mandate statement for the Task Group was developed in a contact group at IPCC XX. This was not finalized, pending additional review and consultation. At TGCIA VIII (Boulder, CO, USA, 30 June – 2 July 2003), the TGCIA discussed the mandate, suggested several changes, and proposed a change in the group's name to "Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Climate and Impact Assessment". This change was intended to clarify that the Group does not develop scenarios for the IPCC but rather serves as a bridge for the exchange of information between the different research communities involved in the three IPCC Working Groups. At its XXXth session, the IPCC Bureau reviewed and further refined the mandate and recommended an additional change in the name of the group to "Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impacts and Climate Analysis" (TGICA). The proposal for the mandate statement is attached to this report for further action by IPCC XXI.

3. Membership

3.1 The Secretary of the IPCC has written to governments and participating organizations inviting nominations of experts for consideration as members of the Task Group. Nominations should be forwarded to the Secretary no later than 17 October 2003. All nominations will be provided to the co-chairs of the TGCIA and the three IPCC Working Groups, who will develop a slate of approximately 20 members that will be selected by the IPCC Bureau, under general guidance and review provided by the Panel. The developing/transition economy co-chair will be appointed as part of this process. The nomination request stresses that the TGCIA meets twice a year on average, and that the time commitment for members can be very heavy since the group has responsibility for maintenance of the DDC, developing technical guidelines, and carrying out other initiatives to increase availability of data and scenarios.

4. Additional actions arising from TGCIA-VIII (Boulder, CO, USA, 30 June-2 July 2003)

4.1 TGCIA discussed and took action on: updating the DDC website; clarifying that only IPCC approved or supporting materials (as defined in the IPCC procedures) would be provided on the DDC; reviewing model documentation; examining challenges associated with providing daily data on the DDC; reviewing progress on regional intercomparison of SRES-based GCM results and technical guidance on regionalization methods (RCMs and statistical downscaling); clarifying and facilitating access to socio-economic data and methods on the DDC; and possible new work on provision of information on a) extreme events for impacts analysis and b) adaptive capacity. In addition, the group discussed a proposal for its next expert meeting.

1 **ATTACHMENT**
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4 **Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Assessment**
5 **(TGICA)**
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7 **Proposal for a revised Mandate**
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9 **1. *Background***
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11 1.1 The Task Group on Scenarios for Climate and Impact Assessment (TGICIA) was
12 established following a recommendation made at the IPCC Workshop on Regional Climate
13 Change Projections for Impact Assessment (London, 24-26 September 1996), and further
14 considered by the IPCC Bureau at its Eleventh Session (7-8 November 1996). A draft
15 mandate statement for the Task Group was developed in a contact group at IPCC XX. At
16 TGICIA VIII (Boulder, CO, USA, 30 June – 2 July 2003), the TGICIA discussed the mandate,
17 suggested several changes, and proposed a change in the group's name to "Task Group on
18 Data and Scenario Support for Climate and Impact Assessment". At its XXXth session, the
19 IPCC Bureau reviewed and further refined the mandate and recommended an additional
20 change in the name of the group to "Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impacts
21 and Climate Analysis" (TGICA).
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23 **2. *Mandate***
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25 2.1 The mandate of the TGICA is to facilitate wide availability of climate change related
26 data and scenarios to enable research and sharing of information across the three IPCC
27 working groups. The TGICA disseminates IPCC "approved" and "supporting" material (as
28 defined in Appendix A to the Principles Governing IPCC Work) related to:

- 29 • anthropogenic influences on climate
30 • climatological baselines and observations
31 • projected future climate
32 • other environmental, technological, and socio-economic factors and data relevant to
33 impacts, adaptation, vulnerability, and mitigation research
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35 2.2 The TGICA does not develop scenarios for the IPCC, make decisions regarding the
36 choice of scenarios for use in IPCC assessments, nor undertake modeling or research.
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38 2.3 The TGICA is accountable to the IPCC Bureau and reports periodically to Sessions of
39 the Bureau and Panel.
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41 **3. *Activities***
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43 3.1 The TGICA coordinates a Data Distribution Centre (DDC) which provides data sets,
44 climate and other scenarios, and other materials (e.g., technical guidelines on use of
45 scenarios).
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47 3.2 The TGICA identifies data and scenario needs to facilitate research on climate
48 impacts, adaptation, and mitigation, and makes related recommendations on cross-cutting
49 issues in consultation with the three Working Groups.
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51 3.3 The TGICA contributes to building capacity in the use of data and scenarios for
52 climate-related research in developing and transition-economy regions and countries. TGICA
53 works with organizations and activities that have training as their core mandate but does not
54 develop training programs on its own.

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3.4 The TGICA may convene expert meetings on an as needed basis.

4. Membership

4.1 The task group will be co-chaired by two experts, one from a developing/ transition economy country and one from a developed country.

4.2 The TGICA will be composed of approximately 20 members known through their peer reviewed publications and works. Membership should include the following areas of research: climatology; climate modeling (both global and regional); physical, social, and economic impacts; adaptation; emissions modeling; and integrated assessment. The membership of the TGICA should reflect balanced geographical representation, with due consideration for the above-mentioned scientific and technical requirements. The term of membership on the TGICA will be linked to the assessment cycle of the IPCC and be refreshed near the start of a new comprehensive assessment.

4.3 Members will be selected through a process based on the lead author selection process of the IPCC. The Secretary of the IPCC will solicit nominations of experts from governments and organizations. The Co-Chairs of the TGICA and of the three Working Groups will develop a slate of approximately 20 members that will be selected by the IPCC Bureau, under general guidance and review provided by the Panel.

4.4 The TGICA may enlist other experts as contributors to assist with its work on an as needed basis.