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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



UNEP

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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NOTE ON OUTREACH

(Submitted by the Chairman)

OUTREACH

Experience during the preparation of the IPCC TAR shows that outreach has to be built into the plans for production of IPCC reports effectively, so that the assessments of the Panel reach a wide global audience. For this reason, it would be important to integrate outreach efforts into activities for the production of the Fourth Assessment Report.

Given the importance of activity in this area, the Panel at its 20th Session (Paris, 19-21 February 2003) established for the duration of the Fourth Assessment an open-ended Outreach Task Group (OTG). During IPCC-20 in Paris the Co-Chairs of the task group also organized an open session for discussion of the draft strategy, which was attended by a number of members and wherein a wide array of suggestions and ideas were put forward. The Co-Chairs finalized the strategy for outreach as a result of all these efforts, and reported on it at the Plenary.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would mount activities for implementation of the strategy *inter alia* by arranging the services of a suitable communications expert. The activities would include continued dissemination activities for the TAR, arrangements of dissemination of recently completed and upcoming reports and preparatory work for outreach activities for the AR4. Unfortunately, on account of changes in the IPCC Secretariat thus far a communications expert has not been appointed. A decision to this effect would be taken once a Secretary of the IPCC has been appointed on a regular basis. It would require that the tasks be clearly defined and widely disseminated and that suitable budgetary provision made before arranging the services of a communications expert. It is expected that these actions will be completed before IPCC-22, and a full report with concrete plans for outreach will be presented to the Plenary.

The Outreach Task Group is invited to continue its deliberations to support the IPCC outreach activities to be organized by the Secretariat.