



WMO

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE



UNEP

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

WORKING GROUP I - 9th SESSION
Vienna, 4 November 2003

WG-I: 9th/Doc. 4
Item 3
(24.IX.2003)
ENGLISH ONLY

WORKING GROUP I CONTRIBUTION TO THE IPCC FOURTH ASSESSMENT REPORT

Implementation

(Submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I)

1. Activities in Support of the Assessment Process

There are a number of important opportunities for expanded communication mechanisms among authors in support of the AR4 that will be considered and developed during the initial phase of the fourth assessment round. It is recognized that not all countries and experts have equal access to the Internet, requiring examination of approaches via the web, email, and CD-ROM, where practical and feasible.

On-line Journal Access

The increasing cost of scientific journals may make it more difficult for experts in some developing countries and countries with economies in transition to access the necessary literature in a timely manner. In order to reduce the effect of this potential constraint on the participation of key experts, arrangements have been entered into with the publishers of several leading scientific journals to provide on-line web-based journal access for WG1 LAs from those countries. Costs of this on-line access are being met by donations from charitable contributions arranged by WG1. The WG1 TSU will maintain password-controlled access to this facility for the WG1 LAs.

Negotiations with additional publishing companies are continuing with a view to extending the present arrangements to other journals including those published in developing countries. In order to improve access to journals in different languages automated translation of journal abstracts will also be investigated. While such translations are limited, their utility in improving access to papers in all languages will be investigated.

Access to Data and Model Results

A characteristic of the physical climate sciences is the increasing use of very large datasets and analyses of large amounts of computer model output. This is clearly an area where coordinated access methods and web-based tools can provide greater efficiency and enable a larger expert community to examine data or model results at first hand.

Experience with previous assessments suggests that in the course of the AR4 the scientific community will provide new compilations of data and model results directly relevant to the report. To ensure that these are as widely accessible as practical, within and across author teams and during the review process, a range of approaches will be used according to the circumstances, such as:

- provision of a central list of links to relevant datasets maintained by scientific organizations – e.g. on a chapter by chapter basis;
- provision of links to web-based tools within scientific organizations for extracting and manipulating data – e.g. GIS based tools for examining observational datasets;
- encouraging author teams to develop technical guidelines on the use of available datasets that are consistent with their assessments and which would become IPCC Supporting Material – e.g. in relation to the use of paleoclimatic data.
- encouraging the climate modeling community to provide their results in an open manner and in ways that support the assessment process – e.g. provision of radiative forcing values used in model runs to enable comparison of climate sensitivities in different models.

The WG1 TSU may take responsibility for maintaining a coordinated set of links to other sites but will not host datasets or model results as part of this activity. The WG1 role will be to work with scientific organizations and the author teams to develop consistent and open approaches to data access. Some web-based facilities relevant to the AR4 will be specific to particular science organizations, some may be appropriately managed within the mandate of the TG CIA, and others may be best managed by existing international science organizations such as IGBP/PAGES.

2. Anticipated Timetable

The anticipated timetable of WG1-AR4 related meetings and other activities is as follows:

Year	Month	Activity
2003	Nov	CLIVAR/PAGES/IPCC meeting on drought (co-sponsored)
	Dec	Call for Government LA nominations
2004	Apr	Bureau selection of LA teams
	Apr	WGCM meeting on feedbacks (co-sponsored)
	Apr-May	IPCC Workshop on Uncertainty and Risk
	Jun	IPCC/WCRP Regional Climate meeting
	Jul	IPCC Workshop on Climate Sensitivity
	Sep	First LA meeting, Italy
2005	Jan	Completion of 'zero order' draft
	Feb-Mar	Informal review of 'zero order' draft
	May	Second LA meeting, China
	May-Jul	Expert meeting on simple climate models
	Aug	Completion of first draft
	Sep-Oct	8-week expert review of first draft
	Dec	Third LA meeting, New Zealand
2006	Feb	Completion of second draft
	Mar-May	8-week Government and Expert review of second draft
	Jun	Fourth LA meeting, tbd
	Aug	Completion of final draft
	Oct-Nov	Government review of SPM
2007	Jan	Submission to WG1 Plenary for approval

In addition it is expected that subgroups of the LA teams will have additional small meetings to consider specific issues such as development of a chapter or specific boundary issues between chapters. Similarly additional meetings would be used to exchange information in specific areas with other WGs. These are anticipated as occurring in 2005 and are included in the budgetary provisions below but decisions on specific dates or other details are being deferred until 2004.

3. Implementation of Cross Cutting Themes

The cross cutting themes (CCTs) are joint activities of all three Working Groups. Administration of the *Regional Integration* and *Uncertainty and Risk* themes is being carried out by WG1. In addition, as outlined in the respective concept papers, the WG1 contribution to the AR4 is linked to three other CCTs: *Article 2 and Key Vulnerabilities*, *Climate Change and Water*, and *Technology*. The scope and aims of each of these themes is described in the corresponding concept papers that have been made available to Governments separately.

Expert meetings are planned for each of these themes during 2004 and WG1 will ensure that experts from the physical science community, including WG1 Lead Authors where appropriate, are adequately represented at those meetings.

4. Budgetary implications for the IPCC Trust Fund

Anticipated costs to the IPCC Trust Fund for Lead Author and expert meetings in support of the WG1-AR4 are as follows:

Activity	Purpose/ Comments	DC/EIT Support	Cost CHF
Meetings and Workshops – 2004			
Uncertainty and Risk Workshop	CCT, involving all WGs, WG1 lead. To consider guidelines for treatment of uncertainty in the AR4, includes all 3 WGs	21 journeys, across all WGs	132,594
Regional Climate	CCT, involving all WGs, WG1 lead. IPCC/WCRP meeting on Regional Climate issues	24 journeys across all WGs	151,536
Climate Sensitivity Workshop	Science meeting with a focus on assessment and use of climate sensitivity in the AR4	20 journeys	126,280
First LA meeting	Estimating 3 to 4 DC/EIT LAs per chapter	40 journeys	252,560
<i>Meetings to be organized by other Working Groups with WG1 involvement</i>			
Article 2 and Key Vulnerabilities	<i>CCT, involving all WGs, WG2 lead. provisionally 24-27 March, 2004, Buenos Aires</i>	<i>30 journeys across all WGs</i>	<i>189,420</i>
Climate Change and Water	<i>CCT, involving all WGs, WG2 lead. provisionally August 2004</i>	<i>30 journeys across all WGs</i>	<i>189,420</i>
Technology	<i>CCT, involving all WGs, WG3 lead.</i>	<i>15 journeys across all WGs</i>	<i>94,710</i>
Meetings and Workshops – 2005			
Second LA meeting	As for first LA meeting	40 journeys	252,560
Expert meeting on simple climate models	To review use of SCMs and EMICs in AR4	10 journeys	63,140
Third LA meeting	Includes 1 DC/EIT RE per chapter	50 journeys	315,700
Chapter meetings	Provisional for DC/EIT LA support, includes inter-WG meetings – NB budget is for WG1 LAs only	40 journeys	252,560
<i>Meetings to be organized by other Working Groups with WG1 involvement</i>			
Article 2 and Key Vulnerabilities (2 nd)	<i>CCT, involving all WGs, WG2 lead.</i>	<i>30 journeys across all WGs</i>	<i>189,420</i>
Meetings and Workshops – 2006			
Fourth LA meeting	As for third LA meeting	50 journeys	315,700
Technical Summary writing meeting	CLAs only – additional drafting meeting for the TS	10 journeys	63,140

Note that this table does not include meetings of the IPCC Governing bodies, in particular it does not include Bureau meetings or the WG1 Plenary Session in 2007 to approve the WG1-AR4, nor does it include costs for translation and publication.