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ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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PROGRESS REPORT WORKING GROUP II

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

Progress Report

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

1. Publications to disseminate the results of the Working Group II Fourth Assessment (AR4)

In addition to official IPCC publications, the Co-Chairs and TSU have written short summaries of the Working Group II AR4 in UNEP's *Our Planet*, in IUCN's *World Conservation* and in the *WMO Bulletin*. The latter will be reprinted so that it can be taken to conferences and meetings for general distribution. Currently, a booklet is being prepared for UNEP.

2. Outreach activities

Following the Approval of the Working Group II Fourth Assessment Summary for Policymakers, the Co-Chairs and Vice Chairs, many Lead Authors and Review Editors, and most Co-ordinating Lead Authors (CLAs), were involved in outreach activities.

The Working Group II TSU has asked authors and review editors to provide outreach information. This will be collated and circulated in May. Preliminary inspection of the returns suggests that:

- Co-Chairs, Vice Chairs and CLAs gave an average of 5 media briefings each in the days following the release of the Working Group II AR4.
- CLAs typically have given of the order of 10 to 20 formal presentations each on their chapters, suggesting a minimum of 200 presentations to audiences ranging from the academic through hobby societies to the general public.
- Most chapters have led to papers in the academic literature, including the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in the USA, and *Nature* in the UK.
- Many countries, including Argentina, Australia, the US and UK, held workshops to present the results of the AR4.
- The Working Group II AR4 continues to provide a platform for book chapters, papers and presentations.

3. Technical Paper 'Climate Change and Water'

The Technical Paper on 'Climate Change and Water' has passed through two stages of formal electronic review: the Government and Expert Review, and the Final Government Review. The Co-ordinating Lead Authors (CLAs), together with a small group of Lead Authors with expertise in areas not covered by the CLAs, met in London on 12-14 February 2008 to discuss together the government review comments, and to produce the final draft of the Technical Paper for consideration by the IPCC Bureau at its 37th Session. In accordance with the *Principles Governing IPCC Work*, the Bureau functions in the role of Editorial Board.

Following the finalisation of the Technical Paper, it will be produced in camera-ready form by the Working Group II Technical Support Unit. The electronic files will be handed over to the IPCC Secretariat for printing and dissemination, and for web hosting.

4. Regional and subject database

During the production of the Working Group II Fourth Assessment, authors were asked to provide two keywords for every reference in their reference list, to describe the geographical location (from the list of WMO regions, the Arctic and Antarctica, and the major oceans) and topic.

As the Report was finalised, the references were uploaded to an Excel database with 21 sheets (one for all references in the Working Group II Report, and one for each chapter) together with their keywords.

The end product is a database of all references in the Working Group II Fourth Assessment, searchable by region and topic, and with the facility to produce subset reference lists sorted by the keywords. This has already proved extremely useful in the production of the Technical Paper on 'Climate Change and Water'.

The database is available on the Working Group II website, and on the CD accompanying the printed volume.

5. Working Group II outreach meetings

The Co-Chairs and Technical Support Unit, together with authors, have organized, and continue to organise, a number of high-level meetings to disseminate the overall results of the Working Group II Fourth Assessment, and to discuss gaps and research needs in the fields of climate change impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. These include:

- UK: 18-19 September 2007, Meeting to 'present and discuss the results of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group II Fourth Assessment', Royal Geographical Society, London
- USA: 26-27 March 2008, Workshop on 'New Directions in Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation Assessment', National Academy of Sciences, Washington DC.
- Japan: 17-18 April 2008, Science Symposium to disseminate the results of the IPCC Working Group II Fourth assessment, University of Tokyo, Tokyo. Organised jointly with Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S) and the University of Tokyo
- China: with Working Group III, 21-22 May 2008, Outreach Event on the Fourth Assessment Report, Chinese Meteorological Agency, Beijing.
- India: 15 October 2008, to precede the IHDP Open Meeting on 16-19 October, Delhi.
- Brazil, 29-30 October 2008, being organised jointly with IPEA and Fundação Esquel, Brasilia.
- A meeting in June 2008 in Moscow is currently being explored.