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**REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION
OF THE IPCC BUREAU AND ANY TASK FORCE BUREAU**

**Task Group on Rules of Procedures for the Election of the IPCC Bureau
and the Task Force Bureau**

(Report by the Co-Chairs of the Task Group established at IPCC-30 on Rules of Procedures)

Task Group on Rules of Procedures for the Election of the IPCC Bureau and the Task Force Bureau

Report of the Co-Chairs: Yadowsun Boodhoo, Mauritius; Trigg Talley, USA

At the 30th session of the IPCC, the Panel established a task group to review the draft revisions of the IPCC Rules of Procedures for the Election of the IPCC Bureau and Any Task Force Bureau, drafted by the Secretariat (IPCC-XXX/Doc.2). The group included representatives of Argentina, Austria, China, Egypt, Mauritius, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Slovenia, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Two rounds of comments were solicited between the 30th Session of the Panel and the present one. We have provided revisions to the Secretariat's draft reflecting suggestions derived from comments received from members of the task group. These are reflected in italics in the revised text, to indicate contrast to the Secretariat's proposed revisions, which are non-italicized text. We have provided an explanation by the Task Group Co-Chairs for clarity, and we have retained the original secretariat explanations for transparency sake.

The majority of comments received from members of the group involved drafting clarifications to existing text, or reactions to proposed revisions in the Secretariat draft. Several of the group's suggestions expressed a preference for retaining existing rules over revisions proposed by the Secretariat. We have highlighted these in the revised draft rules of procedures. In addition, on the basis of comments received and after consultations with the Secretariat, we have suggested deleting rules 34-36 for technical reasons described in commentary in the revised rules.

Several comments provided involve issues of a substantive nature about which there were differing views within the group or remaining ambiguities in the text. We would like to highlight these for the consideration of the Panel.

Composition of the Bureau

In its draft, the Secretariat proposed provisions in Annex B intended to clarify the composition of the bureau for the purposes of the election. Two proposals were put forward that have further implications for the Bureau's composition.

Regional composition of the bureau: Annex B of the rules of procedures specifies the number of members in each region to be represented in the IPCC bureau. One commenter proposed transferring one bureau position from Region VI to Region I while maintaining the overall bureau membership at 30 members. Task group members expressed different views about the merits of addressing issues of bureau composition in the context of the current effort to revise the rules of procedures.

It is noted that Rule 7 of the procedures provide for the review of the size, structure and composition of the IPCC bureau at least one IPCC session just prior to an election cycle. Some considered that changes to the composition be considered prior to the election cycle for the Sixth Assessment cycle, in accordance with Rule 7, rather than as part of the current revisions to the rules.

Accordingly, we have not incorporated this suggested revision into the text, but highlight it as an issue for the Panel to consider.

Representation of regional groups in senior IPCC positions: A proposed revision by the Secretariat to Rule 7 in IPCC-XXX/Doc. 2 would require each of the Working Group and Task Force bureaus to be represented by a member from each region. One commenter proposed an additional requirement that the group containing the IPCC Vice-Chairs, and Working Group and Task Force Co-Chairs contain at least one member from each of six regions represented on the bureau. This proposal is designed to ensure that all regions are represented among the senior leadership of the IPCC.

This proposal would have implications for the future composition of the bureau, and is a matter for the Panel as a whole.

Accordingly, we have included the proposal as an option in paragraph 7 of the revised text for the consideration of the Panel.

The same commenter proposes text in Annex B that would clarify that in the event that a member from Region V serves as an IPCC Vice-Chair it would not need to be represented on all Working Groups. This comment has been accepted, as it provides a necessary clarification under either of the options provided for Rule 7 regarding regional representation.

Remaining ambiguities in the Rules of Procedures

In addition to these issues, several comments highlighted remaining ambiguities in the rules of procedures that the Task Group has not addressed.

Election of a replacement IPCC Chair: Rule 11 provides for the election of a replacement IPCC chair in the event the Chair resigns or is unable to complete his or her term of office. It does not provide procedures for nominations of a replacement. The Panel could request the secretariat to clarify the procedure for nominations in this event in a new draft for the next session.

Functions of Nominations Committee: Rule 21 provides for the establishment of a Nominations Committee, but does not specify its functions. This issue is highlighted in the secretariat's note, and raises the question of whether it is necessary to further clarify the role of the nomination committee. The Panel could request secretariat to propose functions in a new draft for the next session.