

**THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE IPCC
Abu Dhabi, 10-13 May 2011**

IPCC-XXXIII/INF. 5
(10.V.2011)
Agenda Items: 3, 5, 9
ENGLISH ONLY

WMO SUPPORT TO IPCC

**Draft decisions on IPCC to be considered by the 16th WMO Congress
(16 May to 3 June 2011)**

(Submitted by the IPCC Secretariat)



INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

SUMMARY

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Policy relevance of IPCC assessments.
2. Award of the Nobel Peace Prize.
3. Successful completion of the Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation
4. Appreciation for ongoing work on the Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation and of the Task Force on Inventories.
5. Appreciation for ongoing work on the Fifth Assessment Report and review and revision of IPCC processes and procedures to make the assessment process even more robust.

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

1. Update of Cg-XV Resolution 10
2. Reaffirmation of WMO support to IPCC through the Fifth Assessment process

REFERENCES:

1. The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) - <http://www.ipcc.ch/>
2. Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation
3. Scholarship Programme http://www.ipcc.ch/ipcc-scholarship-programme/ipcc_scholarshipprogramme.shtml
4. Decisions taken by the Panel at its 32nd Session
http://www.ipcc.ch/meetings/session32/ipcc_IACreview_decisions.pdf

CONTENT OF DOCUMENT:

Appendix for inclusion in the final report:

- A. Draft text for inclusion in the general summary of Cg-XVI
- B. Draft resolution 5.3 (1) (Cg-XVI) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF CG-XVI

5.3. INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE *(agenda item 5.3)*

REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

5.3.1 Congress expressed its appreciation to the Chair of the IPCC, Dr R.K. Pachauri for his report on the current status of the work of the Panel.

5.3.2 Congress expressed its continued appreciation of the key role of the IPCC in preparing and disseminating high quality assessments in support of international policy formulation on the climate change issue, and reiterated WMO's commitment to assist IPCC in delivering its workprogramme, including through financial, administrative and operational support.

5.3.3 Congress welcomed the progress made in the scoping and preparation of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5), with active participation of governments and relevant organizations including WMO.

5.3.4 Congress expressed appreciation at the distribution of AR5 authors in terms of gender and geographic origin, congratulated newly appointed Lead Authors and Coordinating Lead Authors from a large range of Member States, and encouraged them to carry out their task at the highest level of standard.

5.3.5 Congress expressed its appreciation to the WMO Members who are actively participating in IPCC, through direct financial contribution or by supporting Technical Support Units (TSUs), the support of AR5 authors and/or the organization of meetings and other activities, and encouraged them to continue their support to IPCC throughout the fifth assessment cycle.

5.3.7 Congress stressed the continued need for WMO Members to efficiently contribute through a large range of climate activities to the work of the IPCC and more specifically to the content and quality of the AR5, and the benefits which can be expected in return in enhancing the value of those activities.

5.3.8 Congress welcomed the release of the Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (SRREN) and the on-going work on the Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX), which are both providing important conclusions for the benefit of Members.

5.3.9 Congress expressed satisfaction at the progress made on setting up the IPCC Scholarship Programme, gathering support from donors, and launching the first round of scholarships in 2011 for scientists from LDCs and SIDs, with the aim to develop knowledge and expertise in those countries in the domain of climate change.

5.3.10 Congress welcomed the action by the IPCC in response to the review of IPCC processes and procedures conducted by InterAcademy Council which was requested jointly by the UN Secretary General and the IPCC Chair and supported by the IPCC co-sponsors WMO and UNEP.

5.3.11 Congress considered the follow-up action required of WMO in implementing the decisions of IPCC at its 33rd session in Abu Dhabi.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Res. 5.3 (1) (Cg-XVI) — Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

THE CONGRESS,

Recalling:

- (1) Resolution 8 (Cg-XIV) - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and the *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No.960), general summary, paragraphs 3.2.2.1 to 3.2.2.6, on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);
- (2) Resolution 10 (Cg-XV) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;
- (3) Resolution 1 (EC-LVIII) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Recognizing the key role of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in preparing and disseminating scientific, technical and socio-economic assessments to underpin international policy formulation on the climate change issue,

Congratulates the Panel for:

- (1) The highly successful completion of the contributions of the Synthesis Report to the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report;
- (2) The award of the Nobel Peace Prize in December 2007 jointly with Mr Al Gore “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change”;
- (3) The completion of the Special Report on “Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation”;
- (4) The ongoing work of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventories which continues to assess and develop greenhouse gas inventory methods and practices which are scientifically sound and relevant to all countries.

Expresses:

- (1) Its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Mr R.K. Pachauri for the efficient and wise leadership of the activities of the Panel, and to the Co-chairs of the IPCC Working Groups and of the Task Force Bureau on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories for successfully guiding the activities of their Working Groups and Task Force; and to Ms R. Christ, Secretary of the IPCC, for the efficient administration of the IPCC work programme;
- (2) Its thanks to all experts who have actively contributed to the writing and review of IPCC reports, in particular the coordinating lead authors, lead authors and review editors;
- (3) Its gratitude to governments, institutions and organizations who have generously contributed to the work of the Panel and the WMO/United Nations Environment Programme IPCC Trust Fund;

(4) Its gratitude to the Governments of the Germany, Japan, Switzerland and the United States of America for hosting Technical Support Units for IPCC Working Groups and the Task Force;

(5) Its appreciation to the United Nations Environment Programme for its continued cosponsorship of the Panel.

Noting:

(1) That the preparation of the Fifth Assessment Report is well advanced and progressing according to schedule;

(2) The Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX) is to be finalized in November 2011;

(3) That substantial benefits flow to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change through the active involvement of the Services in the work of the Panel.

Recognizing that the IPCC terms of reference are comprised of decisions by Congress, the United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change itself, and have served the Panel well in performing its activities,

Decides:

(1) To encourage the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to continue its activities under its existing terms of reference subject to any further requests from WMO and the United Nations Environment Programme;

(2) To encourage the Panel to continue to work closely with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and respond to the needs of the Convention for scientific, technical and socio-economic assessments, including through assessment reports, special reports, methodology reports and technical papers.

Requests the Secretary-General, jointly with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to maintain financial and organizational support to the IPCC Secretariat, and to assist with publication and dissemination of IPCC Reports;

Urges Members:

(1) To actively participate in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

(2) To promote the outcomes of the activities of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

(3) And maintain, and where possible to increase, their financial support for IPCC activities through contributions to the WMO/United Nations Environment Programme IPCC Trust Fund.

World Meteorological Organization

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

GENEVA, 2011



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INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

WMO support to IPCC

SUMMARY

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. WMO Programme activities to support IPCC
2. Review of the IPCC Processes and Procedures
3. Recommendations on the IPCC Governance and Management

DECISIONS/ACTIONS REQUIRED:

Adoption of the draft text given in Appendix A and the adoption of draft Resolution 5.3/2 (Cg-XVI) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change given in Appendix B.

REFERENCES:

1. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Sixty-second Session of the Executive Council* (WMO-No. 1059)
2. Report on Climate Change Assessments, Inter-Academy Council, 2010
3. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 1026)
4. *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fourteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 960)

CONTENT OF DOCUMENT:

Appendices for inclusion in the final report:

- A. Draft text for inclusion in the general summary of Cg-XVI
- B. Draft Resolution 5.3/2 (Cg-XVI) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Appendix for information:

- C. Background material

DRAFT TEXT FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL SUMMARY OF Cg-XVI

5.3 INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (*agenda item 5.3*)

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WMO support to IPCC

5.3.12 Congress expressed its appreciation of the key role of the IPCC in preparing and disseminating high quality assessments in support of international policy formulation on the climate change issue. Congress noted that WMO was represented at the Plenary Sessions and Working Group meetings of the IPCC. It urged Members to include scientists and experts from NMHSs in their delegations at IPCC Plenary Sessions.

5.3.13 Congress stressed the continued need for Members to efficiently contribute to the content and quality of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report and Special Reports and the benefits which can be expected in return in enhancing the value of those activities. There are a number of them under the Global Framework for Climate Services, such as climate monitoring, climate change research, including adaptation strategies.

5.3.14 Congress urged the Secretary-General to mobilize support for capacity-building activities for NMHSs to interpret future climate scenarios at regional and national scales in order to better support communities and national decision makers. Congress urged all Members to contribute to the wide dissemination and interpretation of the IPCC Assessment Reports and their key findings.

5.3.15 Congress noted that WCC-3 generated a shared understanding of a strategy for implementing a new Global Framework for Climate Services that is built on the established international climate observation and research programmes and that complements and supports the existing climate change assessment and policy mechanisms of the IPCC and UNFCCC. The follow-up action on implementation of the GFCS will lead to strengthened national observational networks, enhanced modelling and prediction capabilities, better informed climate risk management and improved capability for adaptation to climate variability and change to support future IPCC assessments.

5.3.16 Congress noted with appreciation the involvement of WCP, WCRP and GCOS in the work of the IPCC and encouraged strengthened participation of CCI and other WMO technical commissions to contribute to the IPCC assessments and to work closely with the IPCC in developing their programmes and enhancing information dissemination, while encouraging the IPCC to consider scientific information resulting from WCP, WCRP and GCOS in its assessments. Congress appreciated WCRP's efforts to improve regional climate predictions through a coordinated regional climate downscaling experiment that is producing regional climate projections for many areas of the world.

5.3.17 Congress also encouraged the WMO Secretariat to explore further ways of incorporating material from the IPCC reports in its public information activities as WMO's contribution to the implementation the IPCC communication strategy for outreach and media communications.

5.3.18 Congress noted that in 2010, the InterAcademy Council (IAC) conducted the review of the principles and procedures for the preparation of IPCC assessment reports with the view to strengthening the process. The terms of reference for the IAC were: (i) to review the IPCC procedures for preparing reports; (ii) to analyze the IPCC process including the management

structure; and (iii) to analyze appropriate communications strategies. The report of the IAC Review Committee was submitted to the UN Secretary-General and the Chair of the IPCC on 30 August 2010, and is being presented for consideration by the IPCC 32nd session held in October 2010.

5.3.19 The IAC Review noted that the scientists and government representatives who work on behalf of the IPCC in this non-traditional partnership are the major strength of the Panel. Through its assessment reports, the IPCC has gained enormous respect and even shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for informing climate policy and raising public awareness worldwide.

5.3.20 The IAC Committee found that the IPCC assessment process has been successful overall. However, the world has changed since the creation of the IPCC, with major advances in climate science, heated controversy on some climate-related issues, and an increased focus of governments on the impacts and potential responses to climate change. The IPCC must continue to adapt to these changing conditions in order to continue serving society well in the future.

5.3.21 Congress noted that the IPCC at its 32nd Plenary welcomed the IAC's Review. It was noted that recommendations are important to improve the way the IPCC works and how it is governed on behalf of the thousands of scientists who conduct assessments on all aspects of climate change and on behalf of the global community that utilizes its work.

5.3.22 Congress recognized that the IPCC was taking action to respond to these recommendations in a way that is transparent and open, and ensures that the highest quality assessments are produced and made available to the international community. At its 32nd Session, the Panel agreed to immediately implement many of the recommendations. On others, the Panel has formed Task Groups to undertake further work with a view to completion at its next Session. The four open-ended Task Groups were to deal with: Procedures, Governance and Management, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Communications Strategy.

5.3.23 Congress welcomed the IPCC plans for development of its Procedures to strengthen, modify or enforce them, including the use of grey literature, the full range of views, uncertainty and the scoping, authors selection and review processes. It also welcomed the establishment of a mechanism to address the conflict of interest policy for implementation during the AR5 preparation period.

5.3.24 Congress encouraged the IPCC to develop and implement a holistic communication strategy for outreach and media communications. Congress invited IPCC to give more recognition of the WMO and UNEP role in its outreach materials and events and to use the WMO media centre to target a wider audience for providing up-to-date assessments of the latest authoritative science related to climate change.

5.3.25 Congress welcomed the IPCC decisions to work towards improving its governance and management by establishing an Executive Committee, defining roles and responsibilities for Bureau members and limitations of their terms and review the responsibilities of key Secretariat positions. Congress endorsed these IPCC decisions for strengthening coordination and oversight of the IPCC administration and communications and decided to maintain its role as parent organization in governance and management of the IPCC, including selection of key Secretariat positions.

5.3.26 Congress was pleased to note the IPCC activity on preparation of the Fifth Assessment Report but also noted the need for a Special Report to assess the available scientific literature on sector-oriented climate services and requested IPCC to consider the feasibility of preparing such a report, as the IPCC contribution to the implementation of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS).

5.3.27 Congress reaffirmed that the IPCC should continue its fundamental mission for providing objective scientific-technical assessments of available factual information on issues related to climate change and adopted Resolution 5.3./2 (Cg-XVI).

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Res. 5.3/2(Cg-XVI) - INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

THE CONGRESS,

Recalling:

- (1) Resolution 10 of Cg-XV - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and the *Abridged Final Report with Resolutions of the Fifteenth World Meteorological Congress* (WMO-No. 1026),
- (2) Resolution 1 (EC-LVIII) – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Considering:

- (1) The recommendations of the Report on Climate Change Assessments prepared by the InterAcademy Council,
- (2) The decisions of the Thirty-second Session of the IPCC, held in Busan, 11-14 October 2010,
- (3) The decisions of the Thirty-third Session of the IPCC, held in Abu-Dhabi, 10-13 May 2011,

Noting that:

- (1) The preparation of the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report is well advanced and progressing according to schedule,
- (2) The completion of the Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (SRREN),
- (3) The preparation of the IPCC Special Reports on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX),
- (4) Substantial benefits flow to National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change through the active involvement of the NMHSs in the work of the Panel,

Congratulates the Panel for:

- (1) Acceptance of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007 on behalf of all experts who had contributed to IPCC assessment work during the past 20 years;
- (2) The decisive action to respond to the IAC Review recommendations in a way that is transparent and open, and ensures that the highest quality assessments are produced and made available to the international community;
- (3) The decision at its 32nd Session for immediate implementation many of the IAC Review recommendations;

- (4) The decision at its 33rd Session for implementation of the recommendations of the Task Groups established to address the issues on Procedures, Governance and Management, Conflict of Interest Policy, Communications Strategy;

Encourages the World Climate Programme (WCP), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) to further contribute to the IPCC assessment work and to work closely with the IPCC in developing their work programmes and enhancing information dissemination and capacity-building, in particular in developing countries, while encouraging the IPCC to consider scientific information resulting from WCP, WCRP and GCOS in its assessments;

Expresses:

- (1) Its thanks to all experts who have actively contributed to the writing and review of the IPCC reports, in particular the Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors and Review Editors;
- (2) Its gratitude to governments, institutions and organizations that have generously contributed and are contributing to the work of the Panel and the WMO/UNEP Trust Fund;
- (3) Its gratitude to the Governments of Germany, Japan, Switzerland and the United States of America, for hosting Technical Support Units for IPCC Working Groups and the Task Force;
- (4) Its support for IPCC actions for implementation of the IAC Review recommendations on Procedures, Governance and Managements, Conflict of Interest Policy and Communication Strategy;
- (5) Its appreciation to the United Nations Environment Programme for its continued co-sponsorship of the IPCC,

Recognizing that the IPCC terms of reference are comprised of decisions by the WMO Congress, the UNEP Governing Council and the IPCC itself, and have served the Panel well in performing its activities,

Decides:

- (1) To encourage the IPCC to continue its activities under the existing terms of reference subject to any further requests from WMO and the UNEP;
- (2) To encourage the Panel to continue to work closely with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and respond to the needs of the Convention for scientific, technical and socio-economic assessments;
- (3) To encourage the Panel to consider the need for a Special Report to assess the available scientific literature on sector-oriented climate services, as a contribution to the IPCC activity to the Global Framework of Climate Services (GFCSS);

Requests the Chair of IPCC to regularly report on the progress of the work of the Panel to the Executive Council and Congress;

Requests the Secretary-General:

- (1) Jointly with the Executive Director of the UNEP to maintain financial and organizational support to the IPCC and to assist with publication and dissemination of the IPCC Reports, including outreach activity through its information/media centres;

- (2) To ensure that, where appropriate, the NMHSs are more actively engaged in the activities of the Panel;
- (3) To strengthen the scientific capacity of the IPCC Secretariat by supporting an additional professional position, using the WMO financial contribution to the WMO/UNEP IPCC Trust Fund;

Request the Panel to provide complementary support for this IPCC Secretariat position;

Urges Members:

- (1) To actively participate in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in particular the contribution of scientists and experts from NMHSs;
 - (2) To promote the outcomes of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change activities;
 - (3) Maintain, and where possible to increase, their financial support for the IPCC activities through contributions to the WMO/UNEP IPCC Trust Fund.
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BACKGROUND MATERIAL

1. The WMO Executive Council at its sixty-second session expressed its appreciation to the WMO Members who are actively participating in IPCC through the support of AR5 authors and/or the organization of meetings and other activities, financial contribution to the WMO/UNEP Trust Fund or by supporting Technical Support Units, and encouraged them to continue their support to IPCC throughout the fifth assessment cycle. The Council welcomed the advances on the Special Report on Renewable Energy Sources and Climate Change Mitigation (SREN) and the on-going work on the Special Report on Managing the Risk of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX), which is expected to provide important conclusions for the benefit of Members. The Council requested IPCC to consider the possibility of organizing a presentation of the SRREN main findings during Sixteenth Congress.
2. The major modelling efforts are planned and coordinated by the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) as input to the next assessment cycle of the IPCC – AR5. WCRP supports IPCC work through the advances under the WCRP two objectives – improving climate prediction and enhancing understanding of human interactions with climate, including improvement of regional climate predictions. The WCRP Implementation Plan for its Strategic Framework 2005-2015 that addressed priorities and outlined how WCRP would deliver the best available state of knowledge on climate variability and change will contribute to the IPCC assessments.
3. The Global Climate Observing System (GCOS) continued to coordinate the requirements for comprehensive observations in support of the assessment processes of the IPCC and development of global datasets of Essential Climate Variables (ECV), recognizing that datasets are valuable as a basis for diagnostic studies of long-term trends, detection and attribution of causes of climate variability and change and the development and evaluation of climate models. The Implementation Plan for the Global Observing System for Climate in Support of the UNFCCC (2010 update) prepared by the GCOS, which takes into account recent progress in science and technology, increased focus on adaptation, enhanced efforts to optimize mitigation measures, and the need for improved predictions of climate change.
4. The final Progress Report on the Implementation of GCOS 2004-2008, which assesses progress by WMO Members and other “agents of implementation” in improving global observing systems, networks and associated infrastructure in support of climate research and applications, which had been endorsed by the UNFCCC in 2008, addressed to identified gaps, in particular to support developing countries in financing sustained operation of networks in line with the GCOS Climate Monitoring Principles.
5. The CCI at its fifteenth session welcomed the launch of an on-line survey in 2008 for the assessment of the current and potential future role of NMHSs in adaptation to climate variability and change. It requested the Secretary-General to disseminate the analysis and findings of the survey to better identify the key gaps and recognize a baseline for the extent to which WMO Members could be engaged in sector-specific activities relevant to adaptation to climate variability and change.
6. The CCI noted that the IPCC had already started the preparation of the Fifth Assessment cycle (AR5), and in particular the identification of benchmark scenarios (or representative concentration pathways) and the Special Report on managing risks of extreme events to advance climate change adaptation. The fifteenth session welcomed the overlap of IPCC assessment cycle with the CCI intersessional period and further encouraged close interaction of the CCI experts in the IPCC process.

7. The WMO Annual Statement on the Status of the Global Climate has been regularly published since 1993 in collaboration with CCI. Members actively contribute to this activity and the WMO Council requested Members to continue their support to the WMO statements through the provision of regular monthly, seasonal and annual summaries on extreme weather and climate events. The CCI requested to develop guidelines for NMHSs for submitting their national contributions to the Annual Statement.

8. As follow up of the joint meeting between the CCI experts and the Joint Scientific Committee (JSC) for the WCRP, which was held before CCI-XV, the Commission invited the WCRP JSC to work with CCI in developing a mechanism to identify the requirements of Members for, and to facilitate development and operational implementation by Members of, appropriate climate prediction techniques and to provide technical guidance to NMHSs in contributing to solutions to problems associated with climate variability and climate change, and with climate-related hazards.

9. At its last session the WMO Council agreed with CAS that it is vital for Members to continue Global Atmosphere Watch atmospheric chemistry observations, analysis and assessments related to climate change as they provide the only way of knowing whether mitigation is working. It was noted air-quality co-benefits to mitigating climate change and recommended to integrate air-quality and climate stabilization goals in the development of environmental policy.

10. In early 2010 the IPCC E-team undertook a number of actions to address criticisms in the media and a heightened level of public scrutiny of the IPCC work and decided to request an independent appraisal of the principles and procedures for the preparation of IPCC assessment reports. The IPCC Secretary sent a communication to all the member governments of the IPCC conveying this need for an independent appraisal. This was followed up with a presentation by the Chair and Secretary of the IPCC at the 11th Special Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GCSS-XI/GMEF) of the UNEP held in Bali in February 2010 where extensive discussion took place on the proposal, which was generally welcomed by all the government delegates present at the meeting. It was emphasized that the review should be carried out by an independent agency.

11. Terms of reference were agreed following discussions between the Chair of the IPCC and officials of the WMO, UNEP and the office of the United Nations Secretary-General. On 10 March 2010, the InterAcademy Council (IAC) was requested to conduct the review in a letter jointly signed by the UN Secretary-General and the Chair of the IPCC.

12. The terms of reference for the IAC Review were:

(a) Review IPCC procedures for preparing reports including:

- Data quality assurance and data quality control;
- Guidelines for the types of literature appropriate for inclusion in IPCC assessments, with special attention to the use of non peer- reviewed literature;
- Procedure for expert and governmental review of IPCC material;
- Handling of the full range of scientific views; and
- Procedures for correcting errors identified after approval, adoption and acceptance of a report;

(b) Analyze the overall IPCC process, including the management and administrative functions within the IPCC, and the role of the UNEP and the WMO, the UN system and other relevant stakeholders, with a view to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the assessment work and effectively ensure the consistent application of the IPCC Procedures;

- (c) Analyze appropriate communication strategies and interaction of the IPCC with the media to ensure that the public is kept apprised of its work;
- (d) Prepare a report on the outcome of the consultations referred to above, including:
 - Methodology of the report preparation and measures taken to ensure high quality of the report findings;
 - Recommendations for amendments to the IPCC procedures;
 - Recommendations concerning strengthening the IPCC process, institutions and management functions;
 - Any other related recommendations;
 - Outline of a plan for the implementation of recommendations.

13. The IAC Review noted that climate change is a long-term challenge that will require every nation to make decisions about how to respond. Sitting at the interface between science and politics, the IPCC assessment process has sustained a working dialog between the world's governments and scientists. More than a thousand volunteer scientists evaluate the available scientific, technological, and socio-economic information on climate change, and draft and review the assessment reports. The scientists and government representatives who work on behalf of the IPCC in this non-traditional partnership are the major strength of the organization. Through its assessment reports, the IPCC has gained enormous respect and even shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for informing climate policy and raising public awareness worldwide.

14. The Committee set up by the IAC found that the IPCC assessment process has been successful overall. However, the world has changed considerably since the creation of the IPCC, with major advances in climate science, heated controversy on some climate-related issues, and an increased focus of governments on the impacts and potential responses to changing climate. The IPCC must continue to adapt to these changing conditions in order to continue serving society well in the future.

15. The IAC Review makes a wide range of recommendations while noting that some of these can be implemented immediately but others will take more time and discussion as the options for implementation admit a range of possibilities or will cover complicated issues involving several stakeholders, including WMO and UNEP.

16. The IPCC at its 32nd Plenary welcomed the IAC's Review. It was noted that recommendations will be important to improve the way the IPCC works and was taking decisive action to respond to these recommendations in a way that is transparent and open, and ensures that the highest quality assessments are produced and made available to the international community. At its 32nd Session, the Panel agreed to immediately implement many of the recommendations.

17. The Panel has also formed Task Groups (TG) to undertake further work with a view to completion at its next session. The four open-ended Task Groups were to deal with:

- Procedures;
- Governance and Managements;
- Conflict of Interest Policy;
- Communications Strategy.

The Task Groups at their meetings in February 2011 prepared draft recommendations in accordance with their Terms of Reference and made substantial progress in addressing the IAC Review recommendations to be presented at the next Panel session.

18. The recommendations of the Task Groups, in particular recommendations to strengthen, modify or enforce the IPCC procedures for preparation and review of IPCC Reports, including the use of grey literature, the full range of views, uncertainty and the review process can be implemented during the AR5 assessment process. This activity for amendments of the Procedures required continuation of the work for amendments of relevant paragraphs of the IPCC Procedures. In general the IPCC activity for development and updating the IPCC Procedures should be considered as routine work of the Bureau and Secretariat and be coordinated with development of the IPCC management and governance.

19. The Task Group on IPCC Governance and Management made several concrete recommendations on three issues – Establishment of an Executive Committee, functions of the Secretariat and limitation of terms of office of the IPCC Chair and Working Group Co-Chairs. If the Panel agrees with these proposals amendments need to be prepared and approved for the “Principles Governing IPCC Work”.

20. The Task Group proposed to establish the new mechanism for the IPCC implementation of conflict of interest policy and a package of documentation:

- IPCC Management of Interest Policy;
- Management of Interest Panel;
- Register of Interest;
- A Disclosure of Relevant Interest Form.

If the Panel approves this mechanism, a new Chapter in the Procedures should be developed and implemented during the AR5 assessment process.

21. A future Recommendation by the Task Groups, given the wide spectrum of the IPCC communications activities, is for the development of an IPCC Communication Strategy that should be a holistic communication strategy for outreach and media communications which should be used by the IPCC Secretariat and the IPCC Bureau members.

22. The Co-chairs of the Task Groups prepared the following note about their draft proposals:

Draft recommendations were prepared by individual Task Groups, in accordance with the IPCC's mandate. Task Groups met in parallel. Due to time constraints, draft recommendations did not undergo cross-Task Group review for consistency. Options and placeholders were included in draft recommendations where Task Group members felt these were appropriate at this stage.

The Task Group co-chairs invited comments from the Members of the IPCC until 9 March, in accordance with instructions provided for this purpose by the IPCC Secretariat. Task Groups will revise the draft recommendations on the basis of comments received from governments and will be reviewed for consistency and revised as appropriate. The revisions plan to be completed and presented at the next Plenary session in May 2011.
