



MEDIA ADVISORY

5 October 2015

Webcast of IPCC press conferences

DUBROVNIK, Croatia, Oct 5 – Press conferences of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) at the 42^{nd} Session of the Panel currently taking place in Dubrovnik, Croatia, can be followed through live webcasts.

The webcasts will be carried on the IPCC YouTube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/user/IPCCGeneva. A recording of the press conference will be available there later.

They will also be carried on the IPCC's home page.

Media following the press conference by webcast can submit questions by emailing them to: ipcc-questions@wmo.int

A press conference with the new Chair of the IPCC will be held following the election of the Chair. This is expected to be in the late afternoon or early evening, Central European Time, on Tuesday 6 October. The IPCC will announce the time of this press conference in advance.

A second press conference will be held on at 18.00 CET on Thursday 8 October, following the end of the IPCC Session.

For further information, contact:

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Notes for editors

What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the world body for assessing the science related to climate change. The IPCC was set up in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The IPCC does not do its own research, conduct climate measurements or produce its own climate models; it assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed.

Thus the IPCC offers policymakers a snapshot of what the scientific community understands about climate change rather than promoting a particular view. IPCC reports are policy-relevant without being policy-prescriptive. The IPCC may set out options for policymakers to choose from in pursuit of goals decided by policymakers, but it does not tell governments what to do.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists who work as volunteers. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Only fourteen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

The members of the IPCC, comprising the Panel, are the 195 member states of the UN and WMO. They work by consensus to endorse the reports of the IPCC and set its procedures and budget in plenary meetings of the Panel. The word "Intergovernmental" in the organization's name reflects this

IPCC reports are requested by the member governments and developed by authors drawn from the scientific community in an extensive process of repeated drafting and review. Scientists and other experts participate in this review process through a self-declaration of expertise. The Panel endorses these reports in a process of dialogue between the governments that request the reports and will work with them and the scientists that write them. In this discussion the scientists have the last word on any additions or changes, although the Panel may agree by consensus to delete something in the summaries for policymakers of the reports.

The IPCC produces comprehensive assessment reports on climate change every six years or so. Among its other products it also issues special reports on particular topics requested by its members, and methodology reports and software to help members report their greenhouse gas inventories (emissions minus removals).

The IPCC completed the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) with the release of the Synthesis Report on 2 November 2014. AR5 is the most comprehensive assessment of climate change ever undertaken. Over 830 scientists from over 80 countries were selected to form the author teams producing the report. They in turn drew on the work of over 1,000 contributing authors and over 1,000 expert reviewers. AR5 assessed over 30,000 scientific papers.

A note explaining the IPCC election process can be found at: http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/210915 IPCC election procedures.pdf

A note explaining the role of the IPCC Bureau and Executive Committee can be found at: http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/press/210915 IPCC bureau.pdf

For more information, including links to the IPCC reports, go to www.ipcc.ch