



PRESS ADVISORY

IPCC to adopt major report on the science of climate change

Geneva, 16 January 2001 – Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is meeting in Shanghai, China from 17 – 20 January to finalize its contribution to the IPCC's Third Assessment Report.

The 1,000-page draft volume entitled "Scientific Assessment of Climate Change" will be accepted in Shanghai by several hundred expert and government reviewers, who will also approve a brief Summary for Policymakers.

Journalists can cover this new report in four ways:

* The report's Summary for Policymakers will be posted on the Internet in English at www.ipcc.ch at 10 a.m GMT on Monday, January 22. The report will not be available earlier because the Group will need 24 hours after the meeting's close to check all the changes.

* A press briefing will be held in Shanghai at the Shanghai Everbright Convention and Exhibition Centre International Hotel at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 22 January.

* Telephone interviews can be arranged from Monday the 22nd to Wednesday the 24th. IPCC Chairman Robert Watson, Working Group I Co-Chairs John Houghton (UK) and Ding Yihui (China), and other IPCC experts and scientists can be reached in Shanghai via the following contacts:

* Tim Higham, UNEP Press Officer in Shanghai, at highamtim@hotmail.com, at +86-10-6833-8822 (in Beijing from January 17-19) or at +86-21-64845667 (in Shanghai from January 19-23)

* Michael Williams, UNEP Geneva, +41-22-9178-242/244/196 or michael.williams@unep.ch

* Jim Sniffen UNEP New York, +1-212-963-8094/8210 or sniffenj@un.org

* Interviews can also be arranged after January 24 with IPCC experts who have returned home. Please contact:

* Andy Yeatman, UK Meteorological Office, at +44-1344- 856655 or acyeatman@meto.gov.uk

* Kasey White, IPCC Technical Support Unit WG2, +1-202-314-2228 or kwhite@earth.usgcrp.gov

* Michael Williams, UNEP Geneva, +41-22-9178-242/244/196 or michael.williams@unep.ch

The Working Group I report includes observations of the current changes and trends in the climate system, a reconstruction of past changes and trends, an understanding of the processes involved in those changes, and the incorporation of this knowledge into

models that can attribute the causes of changes and that can provide simulation of natural and human-induced future changes in the climate system.

The Working Group II report on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability will be finalized in Geneva from 14 – 16 February. The Working Group III report on the mitigation of climate change will be finalized in Accra from 28 February to 3 March. All three reports will be accepted by the full IPCC Plenary when it meets in Nairobi from 4- 6 April.

For further information, contact the IPCC Secretariat at IPCC-Sec@wmo.int