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OTHER PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Report of Working Group I

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

OTHER PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress Report of Working Group I

1. Summary

The following is a report on the activities of WGI since IPCC-40 in October 2014.

Recent key activities for WGI, in chronological order, have been:

- Organization of a Stakeholder Event for the launch of the Synthesis Report in Switzerland, November 2014;
- Presentation at the IPCC-SBSTA Special Event on the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report Synthesis Report at COP-20 in Lima, Peru, December 2014;
- Completion of the IPCC Error Protocol correction process for the WGI AR5 Summary for Policymakers, December 2014;
- Completion of the WGI annual update of the IPCC Conflict of Interest Policy, January 2015;
- Contribution to the preparation of and participation at the IPCC Expert Meeting on the Potential Studies of the IPCC Process, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, January 2015;
- Support of the production of the IPCC Synthesis Report, November 2014-February 2015;
- Production of a German subtitled version of the WGI AR5 Video, February 2015;
- Preparation of the IPCC-WCRP Workshop “IPCC AR5: Lessons Learnt for Climate Change Research and WCRP” Workshop Report, expected February 2015;
- Contribution to the preparation of the IPCC Expert Meeting on Scenarios, to be held in Vienna, Austria, May 2015;
- Contribution to the preparation of the IPCC Expert Meeting on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture, to be held in Dublin, Ireland, Spring 2015;
- Preparation of the potential Workshop on Regional Climate Projections, proposed to the Panel at its 41st Session, to be held in Aug-Sep 2015;
- Outreach and communication activities in support of the Working Group I contribution to the IPCC Fifth Assessment Report and the Synthesis Report (on-going).

2. WGI AR5 Activities

2.1 IPCC Error Protocol: WGI AR5 Summary for Policymakers Errata Update

Following the identification of two potential errors in the WGI AR5 Summary for Policymakers (Section E.1, Paragraph 4 and Section E.8, Paragraph 6), the IPCC Error Protocol was initiated. The WGI Co-Chairs consulted the relevant Coordinating Lead Authors and it was agreed that these two errors required correction. Consistent with the Protocol, an errata was constructed and submitted to the WGI Bureau for approval. Following approval by the WGI Bureau, the proposed errata were submitted to the IPCC Panel via email on 27 November 2014 for approval. The submission included a rapid response request to allow the approval step to be delegated to the IPCC Executive Committee. No objections were received and the IPCC Executive Committee approved the errata via email on 18 December 2014. The WGI AR5 Errata was updated and posted to the IPCC and WGI AR5 websites that same day.

For a complete listing of the WGI AR5 Errata please consult the WGI AR5 website at: www.climatechange2013.org/report/full-report/.

2.2 IPCC Conflict of Interest Policy: WGI Annual Update

In November 2014, WGI initiated the annual update of the IPCC Conflict of Interest (CoI) Policy for the period 2014–2015. Compliance was 100% and submitted CoI Disclosure Forms were evaluated using the previously defined criteria, including the nature of the interest, the individual’s role in IPCC, and whether the interest has a direct impact on the individual’s IPCC contribution.

The outcome of the evaluation and conclusions were approved by the WGI Bureau by email in January 2015. Respondents were notified and a written report will be submitted to the Chair of the IPCC CoI Committee in advance of their next meeting, formally concluding the IPCC CoI WGI 2014 update process.

3. WGI AR5 Communications and Outreach

WGI AR5 communication and outreach activities are on-going and include production and translation of outreach materials, updates to the website, presentations to the policy and science communities as well as the public, and participation in outreach events.

3.1 WGI AR5 Communication and Outreach Materials

WGI is pleased to announce the production of a German subtitled version of the WGI AR5 Video. This video is in the final stages of production and will be available soon.

Due to continued requests, the WGI TSU has produced additional copies of the WGI AR5 USBs as well as arranging for additional printing of the WGI AR5 Summary for Policymakers brochure in English, French, German and Italian.

WGI AR5 outreach and communications materials, including translations into both UN and non-UN languages, are available from the WGI AR5 website www.climatechange2013.org and www.ipcc.ch. A listing of the materials, including the available translations, is provided in the WGI Progress Report to the 40th Session of the IPCC.

3.2 WGI AR5 Communication and Outreach Activities

The WGI Bureau and the WGI AR5 Chapter teams have played a major role in communication and outreach on WGI AR5 to many levels of society and all around the world.

Swiss Stakeholder Event

On Monday, 3 November 2014, following the launch of the IPCC AR5 Synthesis Report, Working Group I, in coordination with the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment and the Swiss Academy of Sciences, held a high-level outreach event for Swiss stakeholders. This event was held at the University of Bern in Bern, Switzerland and was attended by 320 participants.

The programme included keynote presentations from H.E. Madame Doris Leuthard, Swiss Minister for the Environment, Dr Rajendra Pachauri, Chair of the IPCC, and the WGI Co-Chairs Prof Qin Dahe (China) and Prof Thomas Stocker (Switzerland). Scientific presentations were given by experts who served on the Core Writing Team of the Synthesis Report and as Coordinating Lead Authors on the underlying WG Reports. Closing remarks were provided by Dr José Romero, Federal Office for the Environment and Swiss Focal Point for the IPCC.

The event focused on the topics and key messages from the Synthesis Report and the three Working Group Reports and was attended by stakeholders and decision makers from public administration, business and politics, as well as scientists, the media and the interested public. The event included a Press Conference, organized by the WGI TSU and the University of Bern Communications Office. The event was widely covered in local and national print, radio and televised media.

A video of the event is in the final stages of production and will be available soon.

Outreach in China

Since the launch of the AR5, the WGI Co-Chair, Prof Qin Dahe has been leading a team which consists of the Chinese authors from the three WGs to publicize the key findings of the AR5 in China. Recent events include:

(1) an outreach activity held on 14 November at Xiamen University in Fujian Province for graduates and teachers of the university, which was attended by 500 participants. The programme included keynote presentations from Prof Qin Dahe, WGI Co-Chair and 8 experts who served as LAs or CLAs of the WG Reports.

(2) an outreach event held on 30 December 2014 at Tsinghua University, Beijing, which was attended by 300 teachers and students from the universities in Beijing. The event included presentations from Prof Qin Dahe, WGI Co-Chair and 10 experts who served as LAs or CLAs on the WG Reports. This event was attended by 300 teachers and students from the universities in Beijing.

Additional information and recent highlights of cross-WG IPCC outreach events organized with the IPCC Secretariat are described in some detail in the report by the IPCC Senior Communications Manager).

Additional information on the communication and outreach activities in support of the WGI AR5 is available from the WGI AR5 website: www.climatechange2013.org/press-events/.

4. Meetings Supported by Working Group I

4.1 IPCC AR5: Lessons Learnt for Climate Change Research and WCRP

The IPCC-WCRP Workshop *IPCC AR5: Lessons Learnt for Climate Change Research and WCRP* was held from 8–10 September 2014 at the International Space Science Institute in Bern, Switzerland. This workshop, co-sponsored by IPCC WGI and WCRP, was attended by 79 participants. Many of the scientists in attendance were authors of the AR5 or leaders of WCRP activities, including the six WCRP Grand Challenges. A focus of the workshop was on new research and studies published since the IPCC report. The workshop provided an opportunity for the experts to review lessons learned from the Working Group I assessment and to discuss how those lessons learned would best feed into the WCRP activities and help refine the priorities for up-coming research projects. In this context, the participants also discussed the latest climate change research and studies published since the IPCC report.

A report of the workshop, coordinated by WCRP, is currently being finalized and will be available soon.

4.2 IPCC Expert Meetings in 2015

The WGI Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs and TSU remain actively involved in the preparation and participation in the Expert Meetings being held in 2015: IPCC Expert Meeting on Potential Studies of the IPCC Process (Geneva, January 2015); IPCC Expert Meeting on Scenarios (Vienna, May 2015); IPCC Expert Meeting on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture (Dublin, Spring 2015). WGI is represented in all three Scientific Steering Committees and the Co-Chairs and TSUs will participate and provide support where possible.

Additional information on meetings and workshops organized in support of the WGI AR5 is available from the WGI website: www.ipcc-wg1.unibe.ch/meetings/meetings.html.

4.3 WGI Regional Climate Projections Workshop

The WGI Co-Chairs have submitted a proposal on behalf of the Working Group I Bureau to hold a workshop on regional climate projections and their use in impacts and risk analysis studies (see IPCC-XLI/Doc. 13). The proposal is presented to the Panel at its 41st Session for consideration and agreement. Further activities in preparation of this potential workshop, include establishing an Organizing Committee, exploring potential host countries and the development of a website by the WGI TSU to support a call for nomination of experts by Government Focal Points should the proposal be approved.

5. Synthesis Report

Working Group I TSU is involved in the final production stages of the Synthesis Report by providing graphical support in the finalization of figures as well as editorial assistance with the development of the annexes, the copyedit of text, tables and figures, and the proofing of the typeset layout.

Prof Qin Dahe, WGI Co-Chair, along with Core Writing Team Members in China, will be contributing to the translation of the Synthesis Report into Chinese.

Working Group I also contributes to the outreach and communication activities in support of the launch of the Synthesis Report. WGI Co-Chairs and Core Writing Team Members are providing presentations to the policy and science communities, engaging with the public and responding to media requests.