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Nairobi, Kenya, 24-27 February 2015**

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Agenda Item: 5.1
ENGLISH ONLY

FUTURE WORK OF THE IPCC

Additional collated comments from Governments on Further refined Options Paper IPCC-XL/Doc.13, Add.1

(Submitted by the IPCC Secretariat in support of the process of the Task Group
on the Future Work of the IPCC)

NEW ZEALAND

A SUBMISSION ON THE FUTURE WORK OF THE IPCC

December 2014

New Zealand welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the Future Work of the IPCC as invited in document 5338-14/IPCC/GEN. Recognising that discussion over three meetings of the Task Group on the Future Work of the IPCC (TGF) has led to a refined options paper (document IPCC-XL/Doc.13, Add.1) and that views on the main points appear to be converging, New Zealand would like to comment only on a subset of the issues.

I. Products of the IPCC, their timing and their usability

New Zealand is satisfied with the treatment of this topic in the refined options paper, as a basis for discussion at the IPCC 41st session.

II. Organization of the IPCC

Regarding topic B. Options for the IPCC Secretariat and TSUs, New Zealand notes the important function of the TSUs in supporting the work of the Working Groups. To accomplish this, the appointment of staff must be free from political interference. Recognising the desirability of greater involvement of experts from Developing Countries (DCs), New Zealand submits that this would be best achieved by providing guidelines and options to the Working Groups, rather than rigid requirements.

New Zealand also notes that the submissions from Authors, Contributing Authors and Review Editors included a number of comments on the increasing workload, particularly of Lead Authors and Coordinating Lead Authors. Considering the importance of maintaining the contribution of experts to the IPCC, New Zealand submits that the TGF should consider options for easing this workload, such as increased support for CLAs and LAs, and refinement of the report review process.

The two issues above need to be considered early in the IPCC assessment cycle, when TSUs are being established and when writing teams are being assembled.

III. Involvement of developing countries

The participation of experts from DCs in the TSUs is addressed in our comment above. Apart from this, New Zealand is satisfied with the treatment of this topic in the refined options paper, as a basis for discussion at the IPCC 41st session.