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**PROGRESS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE FIFTH ASSESSMENT
REPORT (AR5)**

Synthesis Report Progress Report

(Submitted by the IPCC Chair)

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Synthesis Report Progress Report

Introduction

At its 28th Session, Budapest, 9-11 April 2008 the Panel agreed to have a Synthesis Report (SYR) for the Fifth Assessment of the IPCC. At its 30th Session, Antalya, 21-23 April 2009 the Panel agreed that the process of the AR5 SYR should start with a scoping meeting. In line with that decision, a broad outline for the AR5 Synthesis Report was developed at the AR5 Scoping Meeting held in Venice, 13-17 July 2009. A dedicated scoping meeting for the Synthesis Report was held in Liège, Belgium from 24-27 August 2010. At its 32nd Session, Busan, 11-14 October 2010, the IPCC decided on the outline and time schedule for the Synthesis Report¹. Implementation of these decisions were considered at IPCC-34, Kampala, 18-19 November 2011². At this last session, the Panel discussed the provisional time schedule, and agreed on the composition and selection criteria for establishing a writing team of the Synthesis Report. It was decided that the Chair, in consultation with the Working Group Co-Chairs, would nominate the candidates for the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team, and that the 45th Bureau Session of IPCC, Geneva, 13-14 March 2012, would decide on the selection of this team.

Nomination process

In January 2012, the Chair invited the Co-Chairs to suggest 6-7 candidates for the SYR Core Writing Team from each Working Group, recalling the criteria considered at IPCC-34. In addition, each Working Group was invited to suggest three Review Editors each³. The Working Group Co-Chairs were asked to use the following criteria for suggested individual authors:

- A SYR author could be a Working Group Lead Author, Coordinating Lead Author or Review Editor;
- The expertise of the author should match one or more of the bullets in the SYR topics. The Co-Chairs were asked to indicate the principal areas of expertise of each candidate with regard to the SYR topics and bullets, and to provide their CVs.
- A clear commitment is required regarding the availability of the authors for the SYR writing team until its finalization in October 2014;
- The author should have affinity to cross-cutting issues and the synthesis of AR5 findings;
- The author should have the ability to write in a non-technical style, accessible to policymakers.

The Chair considered criteria for the team as a whole. The total slate of authors should:

- Cover all the required expertise to address all bullets pertaining to the SYR topics described in the SYR scoping document;
- Cover the range of scientific, technical and socio-economic views and expertise;
- Have adequate geographical representation, ensuring appropriate representation of experts from developing and developed countries and countries with economies in transition;
- Have a mixture of experts with and without experience in previous IPCC assessments;
- Take into account gender balance.

¹ Report to 32nd session of the IPCC, Annex IV p. 40-44, http://ipcc.ch/meetings/session32/final_report_32.pdf

² IPCC-XXXIV/Doc. 5 - Preparation of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) - Implementation of decisions by IPCC-32 on the Synthesis Report, http://ipcc.ch/meetings/session34/doc05_p34_prep_ar5.pdf

³ That would deliver nine names for Review Editors. Since the Synthesis Report will contain four Topics and a Box with information relevant to Art.2 of the Climate Convention, the idea was to have two Review Editors per Topic and (at least) one Review Editor for the Box on Art.2. That would result in $4 \times 2 + 1 = 9$ names.

Decisions by the 45th session of the Bureau

In order to obtain full coverage of the expertise needed for the Synthesis Report as well as a balanced geographical representation, the list of names of Working Group authors to the Core Writing Team of the Synthesis Report, as finally decided by the Bureau, became larger than initially suggested at IPCC-34. The Bureau approved a slate of 9 authors from WG I, 11 authors from WG II, and 9 authors from WG III.

The members of the Executive Committee with responsibilities in the Working Group Assessment Reports and Crosscutting Themes and Methods were added to the Core Writing Team: the IPCC Chair (who will lead the team), the three IPCC Vice-Chairs (with responsibilities with regard to the Crosscutting Themes and Methods), the Working Group Co-Chairs, a representative of each Working Group Technical Support Units, the Head of the SYR Technical Support Unit, and a representative from the IPCC Secretariat.

The total number of Core Writing Team Members is now 45, of which 29 from the three Working Groups and 16 from the Executive Committee. At a later stage, Extended Core Writing Team members may be chosen to cover specific areas of expertise. Geographical distribution will then be taken into account as well.

The Core Writing Team and the Review Editors as decided by the IPCC Bureau at its 45th session on 14 March 2012 is given in Annex A. The geographical balance statistics are given in Annex B. These are comparable with those of the team for the AR4 Synthesis Report.

Next steps

From 11-13 June 2012, the first Core Writing Team of the Synthesis Report will be held at WMO Headquarters, Geneva.

The agenda for this meeting includes:

- Division of tasks and responsibilities in the development of the SYR
- Review of the timeline, consistent with the decisions taken by the Panel
- Process for adopting Extended Core writing team members
- Process for evolution of the outline of the Synthesis Report⁴

⁴The decision of IPCC-32 stated: 'The topic and box headings and the structure for the SYR, outlined here, are agreed. However, flexibility is provided to the SYR writing team in the development of the proposed content (list of bullets) provided here as guidance, and not as a constraint. All bullets will be considered by the core writing team (CWT). The coverage of the bullets will depend on the assessment of the literature by the authors, cognizant of the page length restrictions. The IPCC Chair will report to the Panel on the evolution of the outline of the SYR after the zero order draft has been produced'.

ANNEX A. SYNTHESIS REPORT AUTHORS AND REVIEW EDITORS

Table 1: Working Group Authors to the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team

WG	Name	Role in AR5	Ch.	Affiliation	Country of affiliation
I	John Church	CLA	13	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	Australia
I	Pierre Friedlingstein	LA	12	University of Exeter	UK
I	PiersForster	LA	7	University of Leeds	UK
I	GabrieleHegerl	LA	10	University of Edinburgh	UK
I	Jochem Marotzke	CLA	9	Max Planck Institute for Meteorology	Germany
I	Scott Power	CLA	11	Australian Bureau of Meteorology	Australia
I	MatildeRusticucci	CLA	2	University of Buenos Aires	Argentina
I	Vladimir Kattsov	LA	9	VoeikovMainGeophysicalobservatory	Russian Federation
I	Jan Fuglestad	LA	8	Center for International Climate and Environmental Research (CICERO)	Norway
II	PurnamitaDasgupta	CLA	9	Institute of Economic Growth,, University of Delhi Enclave	India
II	StephaneHallegatte	LA	17	CIREN and Meteo-France	France
II	Mark Howden	LA	7	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	Australia
II	Blanca JimenezCisneros	CLA	3	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)	Mexico
II	Hans-Otto Pörtner	CLA	6	Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research	Germany
II	Benjamin Preston	CLA	16	Oak Ridge National Laboratory	USA
II	Gary Yohe	CLA, LA	18,1	Wesleyan University	USA
II	JoyJ.Pereira	CLA	24	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)	Malaysia
II	Robert Scholes	CLA	4	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)	South Africa
II	Andy Reisinger	CLA	25	NZ Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre	New Zealand
II	Karen O'Brien	LA	20	University of Oslo	Norway
III	John Broome	LA	3	University of Oxford	UK
III	Marc Fleurbaey	CLA	4	Princeton University	USA
III	Kevin Urama	LA	4	African Technology Policy Studies Network, Nairobi, Kenya	Kenya
III	Leon Clarke	CLA	6	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	USA
III	Robert Stavins	CLA	13	Harvard University	USA
III	NavrozDubash	LA	15	Centre for Policy Research	India
III	Luis Gomez-Echeverri	LA	16	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)	Austria
III	N.H. Ravindranath	LA	11	Indian Institute of Science	India
III	JiangKejun	CLA	6	Energy Research Institute	China

Table 2: Executive Committee Members to the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team

Name	Role in IPCC Executive Committee	Country of affiliation
R.K. Pachauri	Chair Writing team	India
Leo Meyer	Head TSU SYR	Netherlands
Thomas Stocker	WG I Co-Chair	Switzerland
QinDahe	WG I Co-Chair	China
Kasper Plattner	WG I TSU Director Science	Switzerland
Vicente Barros	WG II Co-Chair	Argentina
Chris Field	WG II Co-Chair	USA
Kris Ebi	Head WG II TSU	USA
OttmarEdenhofer	WG III Co-Chair	Germany
Ramon Pichs	WG III Co-Chair	Cuba
YoubaSokona	WG III Co-Chair	Mali
Jan Minx	Head WG III TSU	Germany
Hoesung Lee	IPCC Vice-Chair	Rep of Korea
IsmailElgizouli	IPCC Vice-Chair	Sudan
Jean-Pascal VanYpersele	IPCC Vice-Chair	Belgium
Renate Christ	IPCC Secretary	Switzerland

Table 3: Review Editors to the Synthesis Report

WG	Name	Role	Chapter	Country of affiliation
I	SylvieJoussaume	RE	12	France
I	FredolinTangang	RE	2	Malaysia
I	Zhang Xiao-Ye	LA	7	China
II	ZbigniewKundzewicz	RE	3	Poland
II	Thomas Downing	RE	21	UK
II	Pauline Aldunce	RE	12	Chile
III	JimSkea	RE	7	UK
III	Chen Wenying	RE	6	China
III	KanakoTanaka	LA	10	Japan

ANNEX B: BALANCES Core Writing Team Members and Review Editors

Region	Number	Percentage
Industrialized Countries	34	63
Economies in Transition	1	2
Developing countries	19	35
<i>Total</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>100</i>
WMO RA I Africa	4	7
WMO RA II Asia	11	20
WMO RA III South America	3	6
WMO RA IV North America, Central America and the Caribbean	9	17
WMO RA V South West Pacific	6	11
WMO RA VI Europe	21	39
<i>Total</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>100</i>
Gender Balance	Number	Percentage
Female	11	20
Male	43	80
<i>Total</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>100</i>