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IPCC MEDIA ADVISORY

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IPCC authors meet in Colombia for final stages of *Climate Change and Land* report

GENEVA, Feb 5 –Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) authors will meet in Cali, Colombia, on 11-15 February 2019 to make final preparations for the special report on *Climate Change and Land* to be released later this year.

Around 125 authors and IPCC Bureau members from about 45 countries will come together in Cali for their Fourth Lead Author Meeting to start work on preparing a final draft of the report for consideration by governments on 29 April-23 June in the light of over 14,800 government and expert comments from the recent review of the report's second order draft.

The report, whose full name is *Climate Change and Land, an IPCC special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems (SRCCL)*, assesses topics around climate change and land use.

“Governments and experts have given us valuable guidance and insights on the second order draft of the report,” said P.R. Shukla, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III. “The authors will now prepare the final draft drawing on this expertise which reflects the importance of the review process to the work of the IPCC.”

The report, one of three to be issued this year by the IPCC, is being prepared under the scientific leadership of all three IPCC Working Groups and the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, with support from the Technical Support Unit of Working Group III.

The meeting in Cali is hosted by the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

“We’re honoured to be hosting this distinguished group of authors,” said Louis Verchot, a senior scientist at CIAT and an IPCC author. “This report will be especially relevant for stakeholders throughout the countries where we work and provide essential information for policymakers who are working with the myriad issues surrounding land use and climate change.”

Further information about *Climate Change and Land* can be found on the IPCC website at <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/srccl/>.

The agreed outline is at : https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/04/Decision_Outline_SR_LandUse.pdf and a list of authors is available at <https://archive.ipcc.ch/report/authors/report.authors.php?q=34&p=&>.

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Notes for editors

What is the IPCC?

The IPCC provides regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

Created in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific information that they can use to develop climate policies. IPCC reports are also a key input into international climate change negotiations.

The IPCC is an organization of governments that are members of the United Nations or WMO. The IPCC currently has 195 members. Thousands of people from all over the world contribute to the work of the IPCC. For the assessment reports, IPCC scientists volunteer their time to assess the thousands of scientific papers published each year to provide a comprehensive summary of what is known about the drivers of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and how adaptation and mitigation can reduce those risks.

An open and transparent review by experts and governments around the world is an essential part of the IPCC process, to ensure an objective and complete assessment and to reflect a diverse range of views and expertise. Through its assessments, the IPCC identifies the strength of scientific agreement in different areas and indicates where further research is needed. The IPCC does not conduct its own research.

The IPCC is divided into three Working Groups and a Task Force. Working Group I deals with The Physical Science Basis of Climate Change, Working Group II with Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability and Working Group III with Mitigation of Climate Change. The main objective of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories is to develop and refine a methodology for the calculation and reporting of national greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

Alongside the Working Groups and the Task Force, other Task Groups may be established by the Panel for a set time period to consider a specific topic or question. One example is the decision at the 47th Session of the IPCC in Paris in March 2018 to establish a Task Group to improve gender balance and address gender-related issues within the IPCC.

Sixth Assessment Cycle

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). At its 42nd Session in October 2015 it elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. At its 43rd Session in April 2016, it decided to produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report and AR6.

The first of these Special Reports, *Global Warming of 1.5°C* was released in October 2018.

The Methodology Report, entitled *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, will be delivered in May 2019. The *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* in September 2019 and *Climate Change and Land* will be delivered later in 2019.

The three working group contributions to the Sixth Assessment Report will be finalized in 2021 and the Synthesis Report will be delivered in 2022.

CIAT

The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is one of the research centres of CGIAR (formerly the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research), a global research partnership for a food-secure future dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security and improving natural resources.

For further information about the IPCC and its reports, go to:

www.ipcc.ch

For further information about CIAT and CGIAR, go to:

www.ciat.cgiar.org and www.cgiar.org