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IPCC PRESS RELEASE

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Authors of IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere meet in Russia

KAZAN, Russian Federation, Feb 28 – Experts nominated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will meet in Russia on 4-8 March 2019 to further develop the *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* (SROCC). This Special Report evaluates how the ocean and life in it as well as those areas of the Earth where water is found in its solid state, for example in the icy polar or high-mountain regions, will be affected by climate change. It assesses what these changes might mean for people around the world and how those changes may challenge a sustainable and equitable future.

About 130 scientists from 37 countries will come together in the city of Kazan for one week to work on the Chapters and the Summary for Policymakers and to consider review comments on the Second Order Draft of the report, which is due to be finalized in September.

The IPCC received 16,142 comments from 34 governments and 473 experts in the Government and Expert Review of the Second Order Draft of the *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, which finished in January 2019.

The author teams carefully consider and address each comment when preparing the Final Draft of the report. This will be reviewed in the Final Government Distribution from 14 June to 9 August 2019. IPCC member governments will consider the Summary for Policymakers of the SROCC at the 51st Session of the IPCC on 20–23 September, in Monaco. Subject to approval, the report will be launched on 25 September.

“The broad range of expertise among reviewers ensures that the latest knowledge from all relevant scientific disciplines is included in the assessments and key questions of governments are addressed”, said Hans-Otto Pörtner, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group II. “We are therefore very grateful for the feedback we received. IPCC member governments from all parts of the world are encouraged to contribute to the final review this summer and support the authors in finalizing the draft report for approval.”

Working Group II Co-Chair Debra Roberts said the IPCC *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C* that became available in October 2018 highlighted how people and natural ecosystems would benefit from limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

“The *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* takes this story one step further by evaluating how human and natural communities will be affected by the impacts of climate change on two earth systems that touch all of our lives directly or indirectly, the ocean and the frozen areas of the world,” she said. “It also assesses how we can set the course for a more sustainable and equitable future by reducing or better managing this impact.”

Media briefing

Monday, 4 March 2019, 8:00 – 8:30
Kazan Federal University

Media are also invited to attend the opening ceremony on Monday 4 March at 9:00–10:00.

Please contact us at the addresses below for further information or additional interview requests.

Outreach event

Kazan Federal University
Tuesday, 5 March 2019, 18:30

Speakers:

Danis Nurgaliev, Deputy Rector Kazan Federal University (tbc)
Ko Barrett, IPCC Vice-Chair
Sergey Semenov, IPCC Working Group II Vice-Chair
Valérie Masson-Delmotte, IPCC Working Group I Co-Chair
Debra Roberts, IPCC Working Group II Co-Chair
Hans-Otto Pörtner, IPCC Working Group II Co-Chair
Thelma Krug, IPCC Vice-Chair
Youba Sokona, IPCC Vice-Chair

Details:

http://bit.ly/outreach_kazan

For more information contact:

IPCC Working Group II Technical Support Unit
Maike Nicolai (in Kazan 3-10 March), e-mail: maike.nicolai@ipcc-wg2.awi.de

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Notes for editors

About the SROCC

For the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC), more than 100 scientists from more than 30 countries are assessing the latest scientific knowledge about the physical science basis and impacts of climate change on ocean, coastal, polar and mountain ecosystems, and the human communities that depend on them. Their vulnerabilities as well as adaptation capacities are also evaluated. Options for achieving climate-resilient development pathways will be presented. The SROCC is prepared under the joint scientific leadership of Working Group I and Working Group II, with operational support from the Working Group II Technical Support Unit. It will be launched in September 2019.

Report web page: <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/srocc>.

About the IPCC

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was established by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in 1988 to provide political leaders with periodic scientific assessments concerning climate change, its implications and risks, as well as to put forward adaptation and mitigation strategies. It has 195 member states.

The IPCC has three working groups: Working Group I, dealing with the physical science basis of climate change; Working Group II, dealing with impacts, adaptation and vulnerability; and Working Group III, dealing with the mitigation of climate change. It also has a Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories that develops methodologies for measuring emissions and removals.

Comprehensive scientific assessment reports are published every 6 to 7 years; the latest, the Fifth Assessment Report, was completed in 2014. The next comprehensive assessment is due to be

completed in 2022. The IPCC also publishes special reports on more specific issues between assessment reports.

In addition to the *Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, the current Sixth Assessment Cycle includes two more Special Reports:

- *Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* was launched in October 2018
- *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*, is due to be completed in August 2019

The IPCC is also currently preparing the *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, for completion in May 2019.

The contributions of the three IPCC Working Groups to the Sixth Assessment Report will be finalized in 2021. The concluding Synthesis Report is due in 2022.

For more information visit www.ipcc.ch.