

**Event Name:** IPCC 49

**Date/Time:** 8 May 2019

**Location:** Kyoto, Japan

**Expectation:** Statement at the opening of the Plenary, four minutes.

- Mr. Chair, Your Excellency Mr Hideka Morimoto, Vice-minister, Ministry of Environment of Japan, Your Excellency Mr Daisaku Kadokawa, Mayor of Kyoto City, Mr Jian Liu, Director, Science Division, United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen. I'm grateful for the opportunity to speak to you today on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Secretariat in this venue where the Kyoto Protocol was adopted.

*[Introduction]*

- 2019 marks the beginning of an exciting **new phase in our collective efforts to address climate change**. This provides new opportunities to strengthen our collaboration.

## UNFCCC

- For us, you'll recall that in the final days of 2018, nations **finalized the Paris Agreement Work Program** at COP24 in Poland.
  
- This was an enormous accomplishment representing an incredible amount of work, at both the **state** and **non-state level**. It was a **triumph for multilateralism**. And while some tasks remain, its adoption was crucial.
  
- What the Work Program does, in basic terms, is to **operationalize the climate change regime contained in the Paris Agreement**.
  - The Program It ensures that **nations understand their roles** and what they must do under that agreement. It establishes **solidarity and a common trust**.
  
  - The guidelines adopted in Katowice for the enhanced transparency framework will provide just that – the trust that **action was taken**. And the 2019 Refinement of the 2006 Guidelines, the product that will be finalized here, will **provide the foundation for building that trust**.

- The Work Program also outlines **how countries will provide information about their Nationally-Determined Contributions (NDCs) and specific action they will take.**
- This is crucial. As you well know, **current pledges under the NDCs bring us nowhere close to where we need to be with respect to achieving our climate goals.**
- The Paris Agreement is clear: **we must limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C and, ideally, 1.5°C.** The IPCC Special Report on *Global warming of 1.5°C* reinforces this. **But current NDCs put us on a path to nearly double that.**
- The adoption of the **Katowice Climate Package** shows that nations recognize **that this isn't acceptable**—that there is a different way forward—one based, again, on **trust and solidarity.**

- The Package establishes a clear need for them—along with non-state actors—to **embrace the five-year cycle whereby climate action must be increased over time if we are to limit global warming at 1.5°C.**

## IPCC

- For IPCC, 2019 will be an important year. In addition to this approval session, the Panel will have approval sessions for other two products: **The Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate** and the **Special Report on Climate Change and Land.**
- In addition, the Panel is working at full speed on the preparation of the Sixth Assessment Report. And the First Order Draft of the Working Group I contribution to AR6 was finalized.
- I am confident that all involved in the UNFCCC process are waiting with great curiosity to read and use the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories as well as the findings of these special reports.

- A SBSTA-IPCC Special Event will be organized in May to present the 2019 Refinement.
- With the Katowice Package, nations now have a clear basis to focus on **one crucial priority: implementing the Paris Agreement.**

*[Katowice outcomes relevant for IPCC]*

- Now, let me draw your attention to some of the outcomes that are relevant for the 2019 Refinement of the 2006 GL.
- In relation to the **enhanced transparency framework** for action and support under the Paris Agreement, Parties adopted Modalities, Procedures and Guidelines (MPGs) which indicating that the first **Biennial Transparency Reports**, which will contain ex-post information on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation and support and will include a national GHG inventory, **will be submitted by 31 December 2024.**
- While some Parties may submit them earlier, it is not expected that all Parties will do so. Nevertheless, there will be sufficient time for Parties to familiarize themselves

with the 2019 Refinement and start using it, as appropriate.

- Each Party's GHG inventory will follow the 2006 IPCC guidelines and Parties were encouraged to use the 2013 Supplement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Wetlands.
- **The inventories will cover the six GHGs in Annex A of the Kyoto Protocol plus nitrogen trifluoride (NF3).** Each Party will also use the 100-year time-horizon GWP values from the IPCC Fifth Assessment Reports, or 100-year time-horizon GWP values from a subsequent IPCC assessment reports as agreed upon by the CMA.

[Closing]

- In closing, I would like to express again our appreciation to IPCC for making available the **Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 °C** in such a short for time.

- The Special Report was presented at the wrap-up of the preparatory phase of the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue and served as a key scientific input to the Dialogue.
- The COP **expressed its appreciation and gratitude to the IPCC and the scientific community for the timely response** to the request of the COP and for providing a report that reflects the best available science on this matter.
- **Parties were invited to make use of the information contained in the report** in their discussions under all relevant agenda items of the subsidiary and governing bodies.
- The **SBSTA will consider the report at its 50th session (June 2019)** with a view to strengthening the scientific knowledge on the 1.5 °C goal, including in the context of the preparation of the sixth assessment reports and the implementation of the Convention and strengthen the Paris Agreement.

- Finally, I would like to say that we have a busy schedule until the Climate Conference in Santiago de Chile and continuing our good collaboration will be very important.
- Thank you and I wish you a successful session in the beautiful city of Kyoto!

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