

IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SEVENTY-EIGHTH MEETING
Teleconference, 6 May 2020

CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

Participants

Chair:

Hoesung Lee

Members:

Ko Barrett (IPCC Vice-Chair), Thelma Krug (IPCC Vice-Chair), Youba Sokona (IPCC Vice-Chair), Valérie Masson-Delmotte (WGI Co-Chair), Panmao Zhai (WGI Co-Chair), Joy Pereira (WGII Vice-Chair), Hans-Otto Pörtner (WGII Co-Chair), Debra Roberts (WGII Co-Chair), Priyadarshi Shukla (WGIII Co-Chair), Jim Skea (WGIII Co-Chair), Eduardo Calvo (TFI Co-Chair), Kiyoto Tanabe (TFI Co-Chair)

Advisory members:

Anna Pirani (WGI TSU Head), Elvira Poloczanska (WGII Science Advisor), Melinda Tignor (WGII TSU Head), Roger Fradera (WGIII TSU Head of Operations), Raph Slade (WGIII Head of Science), Sandro Federici (TFI TSU Head), Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary)

IPCC Secretariat:

Jesbin Baidya, Laura Biagioni, Judith Ewa, Joëlle Fernandez, Ermira Fida, (Deputy Secretary), Jonathan Lynn (IPCC Head of Communications), Nina Peeva, Mxolisi Shongwe

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The provisional agenda (EXCOM-LXXVIII/Doc. 1), as attached in Annex 1, was adopted, with the addition of two items for agenda item 6 (Any Other Matters) – the printing contract for the Special Reports, and nomination for the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team.

Abdalah Mokssit introduced the new Deputy Secretary, Ermira Fida, and Jim Skea introduced the new Working Group III Technical Support Unit Head of Operations, Roger Fradera. The ExCom welcomed them.

A minute's silence was held to respect the memory of Sir John Houghton.

2. URGENT ISSUES RELATED TO IPCC PRODUCTS AND PROGRAMME OF WORK THAT REQUIRE PROMPT ATTENTION BY THE IPCC BETWEEN PANEL SESSIONS

2.1 Coronavirus related issues: Impact on AR6 schedules and products

The Secretariat introduced the document that is being drafted for consideration by the Bureau at its 58th Session on 19-20 May 2020, and the letter prepared to inform National Focal Points about the decisions taken and their implications, which was requested by ExCom at its 76th meeting.

The ExCom noted that the details of decisions taken by the ExCom so far need to be spelled out in the document and in the letter, highlighting the provisional nature of decisions being taken against the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts.

The ExCom noted that the WGIII Bureau would review at the end of June whether changes in the WGIII schedule would be needed.

The ExCom noted further changes being considered by the WGI Bureau to the WGI schedule communicated the previous day to the Informal Group on Strategic Planning, including a one-month extension of the cut-off date to 31 January 2021, and a three-month postponement of the WGI approval plenary to July 2021. The Secretary informed the ExCom that he is in discussion with Singapore about hosting the WGI approval plenary, once a date is confirmed.

The ExCom noted that since the previously announced changes to the TFI's schedule for the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers, the host of one of the meetings had announced it would no longer be able to host a meeting this year, which put the whole schedule in question. The TFI would like the Bureau to consider a date for a Session of the Panel that can consider the outline of the Methodology Report.

The Chair requested the TFI Co-Chairs to suggest dates for a Session of the Panel to approve the outline of the SLCF Methodology Report, so that the ExCom can make the appropriate proposal to the Bureau.

The Chair asked the Secretariat to revise the draft document for the Bureau to take account of the outcomes of the ExCom, with the caveat that all changes remain tentative, and invited members to send the Secretariat any further suggestions. The Chair asked the Secretariat to convene an extraordinary meeting of the ExCom in writing to consider the proposed changes to the WGI schedule. He invited members to send the Secretariat further comments on the letter to National Focal Points by the following day to allow timely distribution of the letter.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

3.1 Ongoing and planned activities

Jonathan Lynn, IPCC Head of Communications, informed the ExCom that outreach activities have virtually ceased because of COVID-19. One exception was the virtual outreach event held by WGIII following the eLAM targeting climate change in Latin America. The Secretariat would develop proposals for a programme of virtual activities. He reported that the latest meeting of the Communications Action Team had asked the ExCom to clarify practice on obituaries. The ExCom noted that obituaries should in future be carried as news items, not on the IPCC home page, and focus on the subject's contribution to the IPCC. The ExCom took note of the oral report by the Head of Communication.

The ExCom noted that the WGIII virtual event had attracted more than 500 participants showing there are some positive aspects to this kind of activity. Even after COVID-19 it would be worth conducting more virtual events.

4. RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE ERRORS IN COMPLETED ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER IPCC PRODUCTS

4.1 Update on the implementation of the Error Protocol and follow-up

The Secretary of the IPCC informed the ExCom that five groups of claims remain outstanding.

The TFI Co-chairs informed the ExCom that the TFI has set up an Initial Review Group under the Error Protocol to consider five disputed claims about the 2006 Guidelines.

The ExCom took note of the update.

5. COORDINATION BETWEEN WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES ON ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCTION OF ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER RELEVANT IPCC PRODUCTS

5.1 Update on forthcoming meetings

The Secretary informed the ExCom about the technical and logistical preparations for the virtual 58th Session of the Bureau on 19-20 May. He invited Co-Chairs to provide recorded presentations of progress reports.

The ExCom noted the scope and preparation of the Bureau meeting agenda and reaffirmed the importance of ensuring that the AR6 remains relevant in the changed circumstances of COVID-19.

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

The ExCom was informed about work undertaken by the WGIII TSU on the printing of special reports. This would require a further discussion between the WGIII TSU and the Secretariat on contractual aspects.

The Chair provided an update on nominations for the Synthesis Report Core Writing Team.

The next meeting will be on the first Wednesday of June (3 June) and the Secretariat is to confirm the date through a doodle poll.

The Chair closed the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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EXCOM-LXXVIII/Doc. 1
(4.5.2020)
Agenda Item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 2. URGENT ISSUES RELATED TO IPCC PRODUCTS AND PROGRAMME OF WORK THAT REQUIRE PROMPT ATTENTION BY THE IPCC BETWEEN PANEL SESSIONS**
 - 2.1 Coronavirus related issues: Impact on AR6 schedules and products
- 3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**
 - 3.1 Ongoing and planned activities
- 4. RESPONSE TO POSSIBLE ERRORS IN COMPLETED ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER IPCC PRODUCTS**
 - 4.1 Update on the implementation of the Error Protocol and follow-up
- 5. COORDINATION BETWEEN WORKING GROUPS AND TASK FORCES ON ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCTION OF ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER RELEVANT IPCC PRODUCTS**
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