

IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – EIGHTY-THIRD MEETING

Teleconference, 5 August 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), Debra Roberts (WGII Co-Chair), Hans-Otto Pörtner (WGII Co-Chair), Jim Skea (WGIII Co-Chair), Priyadarshi Shukla (WGIII Co-Chair), Eduardo Calvo (TFI Co-Chair), Kiyoto Tanabe (TFI Co-Chair), Joy Pereira (WGII Vice-Chair).

Advisory members:

Anna Pirani (WGI TSU Head), Melinda Tignor (WGII TSU Head), Roger Fradera (WGIII TSU Head of Operations), Raphael Slade (WGIII TSU Head of Science), Sandro Federici (TFI TSU Head), Noemie Leprince-Ringuet (SYR TSU Head), Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary), Elvira Poloczanska (TSU WGII).

IPCC Secretariat:

Ermira Fida (Deputy Secretary of IPCC), Jonathan Lynn (IPCC Head of Communications), Oksana Ekzarkho, Mxolisi Shongwe, Jesbin Baidya.

Invited:

Komila Nabiyeva (TSU WGII)

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The provisional agenda (EXCOM-LXXXIII/Doc. 1), as attached in Annex 1, was adopted with three additions as follows: a proposal for IPCC youth and children visual art contest for young people, under item 3; an update on the preparations for the 53rd Session of the IPCC (IPCC-53) under item 5 and the membership of SYR Core Writing Team under item 6.

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 – SYR schedules.

The Chair introduced the agenda item with appreciation to Ms Noemie Leprince-Ringuet, Head of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) Synthesis Report (SYR) Technical Support Unit (TSU) as well as the Heads of the three Working Groups (WGs) TSUs for their contribution to the consolidated document. He indicated that the SYR schedule would be affected by the changes to the WGs schedule causing a knock-on effect of 4 months on the SYR schedule. To make the most effective use of Core Writing Team (CWT) meetings, it is proposed to hold the First Core Writing Team meeting (CWT-1) in early January 2021, once all the Second Order Drafts (SODs) are available and the CWT-2 at the end of October 2021 once all the Final Drafts are available. As a result, the approval session of the SYR cannot take place in May 2022 as initially planned but will most likely be held in October/ November 2022.

Working Group II Co-Chair informed the ExCom of the dates for the joint workshop of IPCC and IPBES which will be held virtually on 14-17 December 2020.

The Chair reminded the ExCom that the 58th Session of the Bureau took note of the revised AR6 schedule and provided guidance to the Secretariat as responsible for refining the Strategic Planning Schedule. He reaffirmed that the Secretary will consult with the Bureau seeking their feedback before the ExCom make the final decision. A letter informing the Governments and a press-release will follow.

The ExCom took note of the proposed schedule and requested the Secretariat to undertake consultations with the Bureau.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

3.1 Ongoing and planned activities

The Secretariat reported on the communication and outreach activities since the last ExCom. Outreach activities continue running virtually at a slow pace and a few other outreach events and interviews are planned. Three press releases were issued on the changes to the WGIII schedule; WGIII eLAM (6 July) and SYR CWT (22 July).

The Secretariat informed the ExCom of the 30th anniversary of the First Assessment Report (FAR) of IPCC at the end of August 2020. The ExCom welcomed the idea of a statement by the Chair commemorating the first report and considering how the scientific understanding of climate change had evolved in the subsequent 30 years, looking ahead to the coming reports.

The ExCom took note of the report from the Secretariat and decided to post a statement from the Chair on the 30th anniversary of the FAR.

3.2 IPCC youth and children visual arts contest for young people

The WGII TSU communications officer presented the project on IPCC youth and children visual arts contest as a cross-WGs initiative in partnership with UN Foundation and as a great opportunity to reach out to children and youth in the run up to the coming assessment reports. The objective of the contest is to raise children and youth interest and awareness about the coming reports and encourage them to learn about the IPCC mandate and work through the production of a library of images for various uses by the IPCC. There will be no financial prize or remuneration and this decision will be carefully explained in light of the IPCC volunteer work principle. The initiative is planned to be launched on the 1st of September with a submission deadline in early January 2021 and finalists announced at the end of March 2021. There might be issues, such as copyright and lower age limit which are seeking the advice of the IPCC Legal Officer.

The ExCom took note of this initiative. The Chair will consult the Secretariat on the way forward.

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 Secretariat informed that since the last reporting, five error claims have been closed. Five error claims were processed but not considered closed because the claimants have not yet been informed. No new error claims were received. The Secretariat sought the help of the relevant TSUs to help work towards the closure of the pending cases.

The ExCom took note of the report.

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 - P 53 planning

The Deputy Secretary informed the ExCom on the different options and format for the 53rd Session of the IPCC (IPCC-53) and the 59th Session of the Bureau (BUR-59).

BUR-59 will be held virtually building on the experience and lessons learned from the first virtual Bureau session (BUR-58). Challenges are identified for IPCC-53, mainly related to the relatively larger scale of participation, high cost of interpretation through online platforms; procurement of services, time zones, training and testing and the quality and availability of connection in some developing countries.

The Deputy Secretary informed the ExCom on the consultations with a few UN Conventions secretariat and organizations who confirmed the challenges in holding plenary sessions specially those requiring interpretation and decisions to be made.

Four options were identified and presented to the ExCom as follows: (i) virtual plenary held in December 2020; (ii) physical plenary postponed to next year, tentatively in the first quarter of 2021; (iii) plenary by correspondence in December 2020 and (iv) physical plenary held back to back with WGI approval session (dates to be confirmed). Only essential agenda items that cannot be postponed would be considered at this session.

The ExCom recommended that the Secretariat consult IPCC Focal Points seeking their views on the format of IPCC-53.

The Chair invited ExCom Members to send their views to the Secretariat on the proposed options for IPCC-53 noting that it is in the Secretariat's mandate to decide on the format of meetings including IPCC-53.

The ExCom took note of the document with options as presented by the Secretariat.

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Membership of SYR Core Writing Team

Working Group III Co-Chair raised the question of whether the Working Group Co-Chairs are included in the Core Writing Team of the Synthesis Report referring to the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) Core Writing Team, which included the IPCC Vice-Chairs, Working Group Co-Chairs, the IPCC Secretary and some TSU staff.

The Chair confirmed that there will be no change to the AR6 SYR process on this matter from previous assessment reports.

The next meeting of the ExCom will be held on the first Wednesday of September 2020.

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EXCOM-LXXXIII/Doc. 1
(5.08.2020)
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**
 - 5.1 Update on forthcoming meetings
- 6. ANY OTHER MATTERS**