

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – NINETY-SECOND MEETING**  
**Teleconference, 14 April 2021**

**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), Hans-Otto Pörtner (WGII Co-Chair), Debra Roberts (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 (WG II TSU Head), Roger Fradera (WGIII TSU Head of Operations), Sandro Federici (TFI TSU Head), Noemie Leprince-Ringuet (SYR TSU Head), Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary).

*IPCC Secretariat:*

Ermira Fida (IPCC Deputy Secretary), Jonathan Lynn (Head of Communications), Jennifer Lew Schneider (Legal Officer), Nina Peeva, Laura Biagioni, Mxolisi Shongwe, Jesbin Baidya, Melissa Walsh, Werani Zabula, Joelle Fernandez.

*Invited:*

Elvira Poloczanska (TSU WGII).

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The provisional agenda (EXCOM-XCII/Doc.1, Rev.1) as attached in Annex 1 was adopted.

**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**

**• Update on the changes to the schedule of Working Group III**

Working Group III Head of Technical Support Unit (TSU) presented the proposed changes to the Working Group III (WGIII), and their impacts on Working Group II (WGII) and Synthesis Report (SYR) schedules which consist of the WGIII Final Government Review commencing on the 29 November 2021, SYR Review shifting to 10 January 2022 and the WGII approval session moving earlier to 14 February 2022. The normal eight-week review periods are now nine weeks for WGIII Review and ten weeks for SYR Review. The WGIII approval session will start on 21 March 2022.

The Secretary noted that the availability of the venue in Switzerland for the SYR approval session is the last week of September 2022.

The Chair thanked the Government of Switzerland for hosting the Synthesis Report approval session. He asked the ExCom to note the changes to the WGIII schedule and the changes to the WGII and SYR schedule. The Chair invited the Secretariat to consult with the Bureau before seeking approval by correspondence by the Panel, for which precedent has been established, on the changes regarding the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) Strategic Planning Schedule (SPS).

### **3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

#### **3.1 Ongoing and planned activities**

The Secretariat updated the ExCom on the Communication activities and highlighted that press releases have been issued on the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IPCC, the changes to the Working Group I (WGI) approval session, and WGIII virtual Fourth Lead Author Meeting (eLAM4).

The Secretariat reported on several outreach events, with the most notable as the Guatemala outreach event on the side lines of Working Group II eLAM4, the preparation of materials for two virtual Africa outreach events on 26 and 27 May 2021. The increase in followers on Facebook to now over 150,000 followers, and that the plan to release the bi-monthly newsletter was reported.

The Chair thanked the Secretariat for the update on communications and outreach activities appreciating the efforts to make IPCC visible around the world and thanked the communications team for their efforts.

### **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 the ExCom that since the last reporting to ExCom-91, one case on Table 4.1 from the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate has been closed, with thanks to Working Group II colleagues. There are now three error cases pending.

The ExCom took note of the Error Protocol 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**

- **54<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC and 14<sup>th</sup> Session of Working Group I**

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the plans for the 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC (IPCC-54) and the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of Working Group I (WGI-14). He highlighted that the Secretariat has demonstrated through the previous three virtual meetings that it's possible to hold successful virtual approval meetings. These meetings also lay the ground for lessons learned and they broke new ground for holding approval sessions.

He added the next step is to revise the document presented at BUR-60 (bis) to reflect the input from the Bureau. The Secretariat is working in consultation with WGI TSU to revise the document from its current state as a Consultation Paper with the view to solicit views by the

Panel and turn it into an element for preparation document with the view to share the document with the Panel.

Working Group I Co-Chair updated the ExCom on the plans for preparing the WGI approval session and invited IPCC Vice-Chair Ko Barrett to work with a small team to develop the plans for preparations for the WGI-14. IPCC Vice-Chair Ko Barrett accepted the invitation

The ExCom took note of the update.

## **6. ANY OTHER MATTERS**

### **6.1 Update on the draft IPCC/IPBES workshop-report**

Working Group III Co-Chair proposed a solution regarding the document circulated by WGII Co-Chair which could be divided into two parts with the workshop proceedings as the main part and the scientific document appended as an annex. The document could be published online with the IPCC logo connected to main proceedings, while the scientific component could be available as an annex without the IPCC logo, to avoid misperceptions.

Members expressed support for the proposed approach.

Working Group II Co-Chair noted there is an intention to prepare the workshop report with a proceedings report, and a scientific report as part of an annex is a good solution.

The Chair summarized that there is a need to protect the IPCC as an institution and for the record he read the decision taken at ExCom-91 after the legal review related to the use of the logo in the workshop. The conclusion was to allow time for the WGII Co-Chair to make the satisfactory corrections otherwise the measures indicated in the legal review, i.e, para 22<sup>1</sup> will take effect. The Chair concluded that the ExCom would need a final version, before publication, to check if all the concerns have been addressed and invited the WGII Co-Chair to provide the ExCom a final version for checking.

Working Group II Co-Chair noted this is a preliminary report that has been circulated and asked the ExCom to please advise if there are corrections that need to be made.

The ExCom took note of the update on the co-sponsored workshop draft report.

### **6.2 Information on GEO-GFOI Virtual Workshop with the participation of IPCC experts, notably from TFI**

The Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI) Co-Chair updated the ExCom on the Group on Earth Observations - Global Forest Observations Initiative (GEO-GFOI) Virtual Workshop with participation of the TFI TSU at the end of May.

The TFI and IPCC Vice-Chair Thelma Krug will be participating in the workshop. The draft concept note has been circulated to the ExCom. The workshop subject is relevant to the TFI work and the outcome will be useful to upgrade the TFI software. The workshop will not be an IPCC co-sponsored event. The IPCC will not be part of the organizing committee of this workshop and the IPCC logo will not be used.

---

<sup>1</sup> Legal review of risk concerns for the IPCC regarding an IPBES/IPCC co-sponsored workshop report, 2 March 2021: para 22. "ExCom invites through the Secretariat the Bureau to consider prohibiting the uses of the IPCC logo, IPCC name and distinction of IPCC co-sponsorship by the above-mentioned workshop until the concerns regarding IPCC fundamental values are fully addressed."

The workshop has the support of both TFI Co-Chairs. IPCC Vice-Chair noted that there will be an active participation from the TFI Co-Chairs. The workshop will refer to satellite imagery and this is appropriate for the TFI to understand new and innovative technologies.

ExCom took note of the report.

### **6.3 Intellectual property rights of IPCC products**

TFI Co-Chair updated the ExCom on a matter on intellectual property rights of IPCC products. In drafting a new letter of agreement between the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), (host of the TFI TSU) and WMO on the work of TFI's inventory software, IGES has been advised that the copyright should be with WMO and UNEP, not with IPCC, which is not in line with the ExCom's conclusion at its 81<sup>st</sup> Meeting which noted that the copyrights or intellectual property rights should be vested in the IPCC as has been the case for 30 years. TFI Co-Chair would like a deadline established as the matter is longstanding and affects IPCC products.

The Legal Officer noted she is aware of the issue and is working with WMO to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

The Secretary stated there is a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNEP and WMO and there is a reference to this copyright issue.

The Chair noted that the Secretary and Legal Officer have noted the significance of this matter.

The ExCom took note on the update of the intellectual property rights of IPCC products.

- **The next meeting of ExCom**

The Secretary updated the ExCom that the next meeting will be the first Wednesday in May 2021.

The Chair thanked the ExCom for their contributions. The Chair concluded the meeting at 15:10.

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – NINETY-SECOND MEETING  
Teleconference, 14 April 2021**

EXCOM-XCII/Doc. 1, Rev. 1  
(14.04.2021)  
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
    - Update on the changes to the schedule of Working Group III
- 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:
    - 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC and 14<sup>th</sup> Session of Working Group I
- 6. ANY OTHER MATTERS**
  - 6.1 Update on the draft IPCC/IPBES workshop-report
  - 6.2 Information on GEO-GFOI Virtual Workshop with the participation of IPCC experts, notably from TFI
  - 6.3 Intellectual property rights of IPCC products