

IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – NINTY-SIXTH MEETING
Teleconference, 7 July 2021

CONCLUSIONS & DESICIONS

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), 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), Sandro Federici (TFI TSU Head), Noemie Leprince-Ringuet (SYR TSU Head), Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary).

IPCC Secretariat:

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

Invited:

Elvira Poloczanska (TSU WGII), Raphael Slade (WGIII TSU)

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The provisional agenda (EXCOM-XCVI/Doc.1, Rev.1) as attached in Annex 1 was adopted. Three additional items on Informal Group of Publications, Intellectual Property Rights and Staffing Requirements were added to Any Other Matters.

The ExCom adopted the provisional 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**

There was no discussion under this agenda item.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

3.1 Ongoing and planned activities

The Head of Communications updated the ExCom on the communication activities, highlighting that the Communications Team is working on the release of the upcoming Working Group I report, that a statement had been issued in response to the leak of the

Working Group II report, and that the special issue of the IPCC newsletter on the 54th Session of the IPCC focused solely on the Working Group I report.

The ExCom thanked the Communications Team for their response to the Working Group II report leak. The ExCom noted the emphasis on the communications material during this cycle that improved communications at all levels and the need to review the policy regarding leaks. The ExCom took note of the update.

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-95 one case has been received and two error claims 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

- **54th Session of the IPCC and 14th Session of Working Group I**

The IPCC Vice-Chair updated the ExCom on the work of the Task Team who worked hard to finalize the guidance note sent to IPCC Focal Points. Working Group I Co-Chair thanked all involved and asked the ExCom to suggest people as facilitators for the contact groups. A request was made to use the trust fund for paying the cost of hotel rooms for authors who have young children. Working Group I Technical Support Unit Head stated the Task Team has been looking closely at the comments received and noted the need for an informal discussion session to explain how the schedule works.

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the preparations for the 54th Session of the IPCC and the 14th Session of Working Group I. The guidance note has been sent to IPCC Focal Points, Bureau members and IPCC observer Organization, along with the invitation letter and thanked, IPCC Vice-Chair Ko Barrett for the intensive collaboration. The Secretary stated that the plenary will be held virtually with the Secretariat staff based in Geneva and the Working Group I team in Paris. He also shared lessons learned from a recent meeting with the Head of Conference Services at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). He noted the confirmation from heads of WMO and UNEP in addressing the opening ceremony of the 54th Session of the IPCC and the 14th Session of Working Group I. He stated that the special edition of the newsletter will be used as an extended explanatory note and a video to explain the approval process is under preparation. Two interpretation teams have been hired to manage simultaneous interpretation. The critical technical experts from Working Group I Technical Support Unit and the Secretariat have been meeting regularly to ensure a smooth meeting.

The ExCom took note of the update.

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Update on Informal Group on Publications

The Working Group III Co-Chair updated the ExCom on the Informal Group on Publications. The decision taken by the IPCC Bureau and the Panel is that the group should appoint a developing country co-chair, expand the membership to cover all official languages and extend the mandate to cover translations. The first meeting will be held after the 14th Session of Working Group I approval session. The Working Group I report will be the priority and look at the processes between the Secretariat, the Working Group I Technical Support Unit and the Informal Group on Publications.

The Secretary made a presentation on the new mandate on the Informal Group on Publications noting that the original mandate was fulfilled and at the 60th Session of the IPCC Bureau it has now been extended to address the issue of translations of IPCC products. The Secretary informed that Jim Skea and Taha Zadari are the Co-Chairs of the Informal Group on Publications. New members represent each of the UN official languages and comprise of: Arabic – Mr Noureddine Yassaa, Chinese – Mr Panmao Zhai, French – Ms Valérie Masson-Delmotte, Spanish – Mr Eduardo Calvo, Russian – Mr Sergey Semenov. The Secretary presented the new process for translating IPCC products that involve review by voluntary native speakers and hiring a scientific editor.

The ExCom asked if the Secretariat and scientific editor could finalize the publications as the Technical Support Units will be dismantled. The Secretary confirmed that the Working Group I Technical Support Unit will be involved from the beginning and that the Secretariat will collaborate with the Technical Support Unit. He added that it is expected to detect IPCC language without compromising the neutrality of IPCC reports. Each Working Group will oversee their reports and work closely with the Secretariat.

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the publications, and the contract is in the signature phase, and the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) numbers for the Working Group I report will be ready by 15 July 2021 from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

The next meeting on the Informal Group on Publications will be before the 54th (bis) Session of the IPCC.

The ExCom took note of the update.

6.2 Update on intellectual property rights of IPCC products

The Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI) Co-Chair updated the ExCom on the intellectual property rights question of whether the intellectual property remains vested in WMO or with the IPCC. The IPCC Legal Officer stated that the issue on whether copyright vests with the IPCC and WMO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) jointly was discussed in the 92nd Meeting of ExCom and the 81st Meeting of ExCom in July 2020, and that in alignment with the Memorandum of Understanding between WMO and UNEP on the IPCC, the legal language of agreements provides for copyright vesting jointly between WMO and UNEP, but that all publications will be indicated as originating from the IPCC.

The ExCom took note of the update.

6.3 Information on the replacement of the Head of Communications

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the recruitment process for the replacement of the Head of Communications following his retirement and the Information Technology (P1) post. The post has been advertised and is undergoing a competitive recruitment process guided by UN rules and regulations on staff recruitment. The Secretary is discussing with WMO management options for the transition of the outgoing Heads of Communication as well as plans for a smooth transition and handover process. The Information Technology post has been posted and shortlisted and is being followed closely with WMO.

The ExCom took note of the update.

- **The next meeting of the ExCom**

The Secretary confirmed the next meeting of ExCom will coincide with the plenary session and a Doodle poll will be sent.

The meeting concluded at 15:40.

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EXCOM-XCVI/Doc. 1, Rev. 1
(5.07.2021)
Agenda Item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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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:

- Update by the Secretariat on the preparations for the 54th Session of the IPCC and 14th Session of Working Group I
- Update by the Task Team on the preparations for the 54th Session of the IPCC and 14th Session of Working Group I

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

6.1 Update on Informal Group on Publications

6.2 Update on intellectual property rights of IPCC products