UNFCCC-IPCC joint side event on greenhouse gas inventory software, Bonn, 6 June 2023

IPCC Secretary's opening remarks

Dear TFI Co-Chairs (Kiyoto Tanabe and Eduardo Calvo),

Dear Dominique (D Revet representative of the UNFCCC),

Distinguished delegates and dear colleagues,

As the Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – IPCC – I am delighted and honored for the privilege to address this IPCC – UNFCCC side event on the new generation of the IPCC inventory software.

Our joint event today is yet another proof of the steadfast and continuing cooperation between IPCC and UNFCCC and our respective Secretariats. There are many more such examples throughout this entire conference.

The IPCC's work continually informs the critical international talks on climate change and climate action. With the publication of the Synthesis Report to the Sixth Assessment Report, the IPCC has just brought our current assessment cycle to a successful completion.

This latest report is already feeding into important, highly participatory discussions here at SBSTA, such as the Global Stocktake Technical Dialogues which began this morning. These are important overtures and preparations for the first Global Stocktake taking place at the COP28 in Dubai in December.

As we are about to formally close the sixth assessment cycle and open a new one in July, it must be underlined that this has been the most productive and busiest assessment cycle so far.

We have delivered a record number of critically important contributions to the understanding of climate change. Namely, in this cycle, we have completed and published three special reports, three Working Groups' reports, the Synthesis Report and the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

This rich body of scientific work has clearly laid out for policymakers worldwide the most robust and most up-to-date scientific evidence for the understanding of the climate system, impacts of climate change, adaptation, and mitigation. Most importantly, we have pointed policymakers towards multiple, feasible and effective options, available today, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to human-caused climate change. Right now, we are not on track to limit the global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and our actions in this decade will reverberate for thousands of years.

This brings me to the work of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories - the TFI. For the past quarter of the century, the TFI is continually working on the development

and refinement of an internationally agreed methodology and software for the calculation and reporting of national GHG emissions and removals.

The main objective of today's joint event is to present the new version of the IPCC Inventory Software. This version includes important interoperability with the UNFCCC reporting tool for Common Reporting Tables of national GHG inventories. For example, the IPCC Inventory Software is expected to calculate GHG emissions and removal and to export those in a format readable by the UNFCCC reporting tool.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are well aware of UNFCCC's expectations regarding our work on national GHG inventories. Continuous improvement of national GHG inventories is key to enhanced transparency and building of trust and confidence amongst the UNFCCC Parties vis-a-vis the action they have taken to meet their national climate targets and efforts defined in their NDCs under the Paris Agreement. Combined with the most up-to-date scientific research and findings it can ensure a meaningful and substantive input to the global stocktake. Ultimately, this will hopefully lead to more determined, more comprehensive and genuine collective climate action globally.

Before I return the floor to my distinguished colleagues, allow me to extend our sincere thanks to the TFI Co-Chairs and Bureau and their TSU. I wish to acknowledge their hard work, as well as the generous support of the government of Japan in hosting the TFI.

I wish you a constructive discussion and outcomes of this joint side event.

Thank you.
