

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST MEETING**  
**Teleconference, 9 April 2025**

**CONCLUSIONS & DECISIONS**

Participants

Chair:

*Jim Skea*

Members:

*Ladislav C'hang'a (IPCC Vice-Chair), Ramón Pichs-Madruga (IPCC Vice-Chair), Diana Ürge-Vorsatz (IPCC Vice-Chair), Robert Vautard (Working Group I [WGI] Co-Chair), Xiaoye Zhang (WGI Co-Chair), Winston Chow (Working Group II [WGII] Co-Chair), Bart van den Hurk (WGII Co-Chair), Katherine Calvin (Working Group III [WGIII] Co-Chair), Joy Jacqueline Pereira (WGIII Co-Chair), Takeshi Enoki (Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories [TFI] Co-Chair), Mazhar Hayat (TFI Co-Chair), Laura Gallardo (representing Region III).*

Advisory members:

*Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary), Clotilde Péan (WGI Technical Support Unit [TSU] Head), Melinda Tignor (WGII TSU Head).*

IPCC Secretariat:

*Ermira Fida (IPCC Deputy Secretary), Andrej Mahecic (Head of Communications and Media Relations), Mxolisi Shongwe (Programme Officer), Judith Ewa (Programme Officer) Jennifer Lew Schneider (Legal Officer), Jesbin Baidya (Information Technology and Logistics Officer), Nina Peeva (External Relations Officer), Werani Zabula (Communications and Information Specialist), Melissa Walsh (Communications Officer), Joelle Fernandez (Administrative Assistant and Assistant to the Secretary), Laura Biagioni (Web Information and Publications Assistant), Minang Acharya (Programme Officer).*

Invited:

*Géninha Lisboa (Executive Assistant to the IPCC Chair), Emilie Vanvyve (Science Adviser to the IPCC Chair)*

## **1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Chair opened the One Hundred and Thirty-first Meeting of the Executive Committee (ExCom-131).

ExCom adopted the provisional agenda (EXCOM-CXXXI/Doc. 1), as attached in Annex 1.

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

### **2.1. Update on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities**

A Working Group II (WGII) Co-Chair provided an update on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities. The zero-order draft was on track for submission. Several Coordinating Lead Author (CLA) meetings and webinars have been planned.

A Working Group III (WGIII) Co-Chair noted that some Trust Fund-supported authors experienced delays in the disbursement of funds, possibly due to the changes in system.

The Secretary acknowledged that as the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has been transitioning to a new ERP system and this process posed some challenges. The Secretariat was managing the transition successfully including with view to ensure that the disbursements of funds are made on time.

ExCom took note of the progress on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities.

## **2.2. Update on the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage**

A Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (TFI) Co-Chair provided an update on the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage. With a view of the outcomes of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the IPCC (IPCC-62), the Task Force Bureau (TFB) had discussed the next steps including the feasibility of completing the report by the end of 2027. The TFI Technical Support Unit (TSU) was coordinating with the Working Groups' (WG TSUs to coordinate the schedules and avoid potential overlaps in the review periods to the extent possible.

The Chair proposed arranging preliminary discussions with the Secretariat on the preparations for the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IPCC (IPCC-63), which was welcomed by the Co-Chair.

ExCom took note of the updates on the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage.

## **2.3. Update on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers**

The TFI Co-Chair provided an update on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF). The First Lead Author Meeting (LAM1) from 24 - 26 March 2025 in Bilbao, Spain was successful. Several gaps in expertise coverage were identified, and additional authors were to be proposed soon. The Second Lead Author Meeting (LAM2) has been planned for the first week of October 2025 and a host country has been already identified.

ExCom took note of the updates on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers.

## **2.4. Update on the Working Group Reports**

A Working Group I (WGI) Co-Chair reported that the preparations for the author selection process for the WGI report was underway with tasks allocated among Bureau members for different chapters and regions. Criteria for the membership selection of the Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data) were also being prepared. WGI has conducted pre-nomination webinars with the other WGs.

A WGII Co-Chair informed that the last webinars were being held, including a joint one with WGIII for the Asian region. WGII had defined areas of expertise and was preparing to begin the author selection after the nomination deadline.

A WGIII Co-Chair reported with appreciation that the TSU was working with the Secretariat on developing the review platform and the author selection system. The TSU Malaysia had received clearance for international scientists' salaries, with senior scientists expected to join by mid-2025.

An IPCC Vice-Chair acknowledged the usefulness of the nomination webinars and noted concerns raised regarding clarity in the nomination form for identifying Indigenous knowledge holders.

The Chair acknowledged that due consideration of Indigenous Peoples participation will be considered by the respective Working Groups. The Chair concluded that nominations for experts were progressing through various channels, noting potential changes in regional representation balance compared to the previous assessment cycle.

ExCom took note of the update on the WG Reports and the SYR.

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

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

The Head of Communications and Media Relations provided an update on the communications activities since the 130<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ExCom (ExCom-130) seeking guidance on the content for the upcoming IPCC side event at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Subsidiary Bodies (SB62) meeting in June 2025.

A WGII Co-Chair proposed the circulation of a doodle poll to help plan for the next Communications Action Team (COAT) meeting.

The Chair suggested that ExCom members email their suggestions directly to the Secretariat.

ExCom took note of the update on the communications 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**

The Programme Officer informed the ExCom that one pending case remained from previous reports, which had been assigned to WGI.

ExCom took note of the update on the implementation of the Error Protocol.

### **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 on the preparations for the 63<sup>rd</sup> Session of the IPCC

The Secretary provided an update on preparations for IPCC-63, reporting that the host country agreement with Peru had been signed by the WMO Secretary-General and the Peruvian authorities, pending final approval by the Peruvian Congress. The Peruvian government had indicated that suitable venues would be available from November 23, one month later than initially planned.

A WGI Co-Chair and an IPCC Vice-Chair expressed concerns about the IPCC-63 timing in later November, recalling that the decision at ExCom-130 was for the IPCC-63 to be held in October and the first joint Working Group Lead Author Meeting (LAM1) in December, due to the need of having the plenary as early as possible. In particular, the decision to hold the joint

LAM1 in December was made to accommodate IPCC-63 in October. The proposed IPCC-63 timing in November conflicts with the UNFCCC 30<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP30) in Brazil, the first joint WG Lead Author meeting (LAM1) in France, and the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) in Nairobi, which would create nearly five consecutive weeks of climate-related meetings.

The Secretary informed that the Secretariat is actively coordinating with the host country representatives to explore options in line with the initially proposed October timeframe.

The Chair emphasized the need to clearly communicate with the hosts that the proposed scheduling for November could present a significant problem due to overlapping activities.

Regarding the Seventh Assessment Report (AR7) schedule, the Secretary informed that following the discussions at ExCom-130 and conversations with countries, there was interest in submitting broad proposals of their positions regarding the schedule.

The IPCC Vice-Chairs, the WGI Co-Chairs and a WGII, and a WGIII Co-Chair, as well as the Representative of Region III took the floor. Attention was drawn to the necessity of developing bridging options to accommodate different views and facilitate consensus at IPCC-63. There was a view against developing alternative schedules without a mandate from member countries. The need to understand the principles was highlighted in order to develop new options. Mid-May as a deadline for providing information on the design principles, and specifically as it regards the review process, was suggested. Transparency in the process was key. All regions need to be included. It was also suggested to contact the Focal Points via e-mail. More information about the WGIII TSU was needed.

The Chair concluded that there was a need for additional information regarding WGIII and the various country groups' concerns about timelines on the review processes. The Chair and the Secretary were to keep ExCom updated on the various conversations they may have. He suggested pausing the discussions temporarily until having all the necessary elements to allow successful preparations for IPCC-63.

- Provisional plans for subsequent Bureau/Plenary meetings

The Secretary provided information on the upcoming Bureau meeting scheduled for three days in Geneva from 30 June to 2 July 2025. The Bureau meeting would be dedicated to selecting the WGs authors and TG-Data members.

An IPCC Vice-Chair and a WGII and a WGIII Co-Chair took the floor. The discussions focused on the need for a dedicated time for the WGs to finalise the author selections with expectations about the first two days being WGs Bureau meetings without government representatives present. Clarity was also sought on the change in modality from the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) cycle. The need for the involvement of the entire Bureau was also highlighted following the procedures and previous practices.

The Secretary responded that during the AR6 it was requested for the WG Bureau meetings to be held separately from the IPCC Bureau session at the WMO Headquarters. Also, following past practice, the selection of authors started before the in-person IPCC Bureau session. This time, in order to accommodate a request of training for Bureau members, he proposed the tentative schedule as follows: the first day, 30 June, to be dedicated to the individual WG Bureau meetings; the second day, 1 July (whole day) and the third day, 2 July (morning) to the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the IPCC Bureau to finalise the author selection, and 2 July (afternoon) to the Bureau members training.

The Chair added that in the previous cycle there had been iterations between the IPCC Bureau as a whole and the individual Working Group Bureaux and that it could be useful to meet as a single Bureau initially. He suggested that the Secretary prepare a draft schedule for circulation to the ExCom based on the discussions.

The Secretary also outlined plans for the 64<sup>th</sup> Session (IPCC-64) and the 65<sup>th</sup> Session (IPCC-65) to take place potentially in March and in October 2026. Discussions with potential host countries were ongoing.

ExCom took note of the information provided on the forthcoming meetings.

## **6. ANY OTHER MATTERS**

### **6.1. Access to literature that is not open access**

The Science Adviser to the IPCC Chair presented an analysis of journal citations in AR6, identifying the major publishing houses accounting for 65% of all cited materials. Open access rates varied significantly among publishers.

The Chair reported on discussions with the American Geophysical Union (AGU), which had agreed to provide access to all their journals for IPCC authors. A coordinated media release with AGU was suggested to demonstrate this initiative to other publishers.

A WGII Co-Chair noted that arrangements for AR7 WGIII access through university partnerships were still under discussion, and this and similar initiatives were appreciated.

ExCom took note of the information provided.

The meeting concluded at 16.20.

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH MEETING**  
**Teleconference, 19 March 2025**

EXCOM-CXXX/Doc. 1  
(17.III.2025)  
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**

- 2.2. Update on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities
- 2.3. Update on the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage (CDRT and CDCUS)
- 2.4. Update on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF)
- 2.5. Update on the Working Group Reports

**3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

- 3.2. Ongoing and planned activities

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

- 4.2. 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**

- 5.2. Update on forthcoming meetings:
  - Update on the preparations for the 63rd Session of the IPCC
  - Provisional plans for subsequent Bureau/Plenary meetings

**6. ANY OTHER MATTERS**

- 6.2. Workshops, expert meetings and outstanding expert meetings proposals