

IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND MEETING
Teleconference, 14 May 2025

CONCLUSIONS & DECISIONS

Participants

Chair:
Jim Skea

Members:
Ladislav Chang'a (IPCC Vice-Chair), Ramón Pichs-Madruga (IPCC Vice-Chair), Diana Ürges-Vorsatz (IPCC Vice-Chair), Robert Vautard (Working Group [WGI] Co-Chair), Xiaoye Zhang (WGI Co-Chair), Winston Chow (Working Group II [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).

Advisory members:
Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary), Clotilde Péan (WGI Technical Support Unit [TSU] Head), Melinda Tignor (WGII TSU Head), Rob Sturgiss (TFI TSU Head).

IPCC Secretariat:
Ermita Fida (IPCC Deputy Secretary), Andrej Mahecic (Head of Communications and Media Relations), Mxolisi Shongwe (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), Joelle Fernandez (Administrative Assistant and Assistant to the Secretary), Laura Biaigioni (Web Information and Publications Assistant), Minang Acharya (Programme Officer)

Invited:
Géninha Lisboa (Executive Assistant to the IPCC Chair), Michael Westphal (WGIII TSU Head of Science).

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Chair opened the One Hundred and Thirty-second Meeting of the Executive Committee (ExCom-132).

The Secretary noted two additional items, namely 3.1 and 6.1.

The IPCC Executive Committee (ExCom) adopted the provisional agenda (EXCOM-CXXXII/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, noting that the zero-order draft has been finalised and would be sent for internal review. Planning for the Second Lead Author Meeting (LAM2), scheduled to take place in Mombasa, Kenya, from 21 to 26 July 2026, was underway. The three Working Groups

(WGs) and their respective Technical Support Units (TSUs) were involved in developing the programme. Co-Chairs' discussions were ongoing regarding the pre-LAM2 activities.

Outreach and communication efforts related to LAM2 would require some coordination. Multiple events were being planned before and after LAM2 by various organisations, including the host country. The African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), a UN-Habitat workshop, the Global Covenant of Mayors, and a media briefing were scheduled to take place prior to LAM1. Outreach events were scheduled for 25 and 26 July. Clarification was needed on the participation of the Bureau and authors, as well as whether organisational support would be provided by the host country, the TSU, or the Secretariat.

The Chair congratulated the Co-Chairs on the zero-order draft and suggested that discussions on the outreach in Kenya be continued under item 3.

ExCom took note of the update 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 (MR) on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage, noting a useful meeting the TFI Co-Chairs had with the Chair and the Secretary to consider the way forward in preparations for the 63rd Session of the IPCC (IPCC-63) in October 2025. The 62nd Session of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Bodies (SB-62) in June 2025 in Bonn would provide a good opportunity for engagement in preparation for IPCC-63. Completing the report by the end of 2027 was still possible, but would need careful consideration.

The Chair added the meeting with the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat identified the most likely landing zone for the methodology report. However, there was a need to discuss the options with interested parties to reach a rapid conclusion at IPCC-63.

ExCom took note of the update 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 updates on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF), noting that the volume teams were working hard on the drafts. At the First Lead Author Meeting (LAM1), gaps were identified, and 27 new authors were invited. Preparations for the LAM2 were going smoothly, and the meeting was scheduled for 7-9 October 2025.

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

2.4. Update on the Working Group Reports

A Working Group I (WGI) Co-Chair provided an update on the preparations for the joint WG LAM1 for the Seventh Assessment Report (AR7). WGI was also preparing for the selection of the AR7 WGI authors, with the first round of consultation within the WGI Bureau to be finalised this week. Bilateral consultations with the other WGs would be useful prior to the 69th Session of the IPCC Bureau (BUR-69) in Geneva on 2 July 2025, especially regarding potential authors who have been nominated to more than one WG. The World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) has taken the lead in preparing a co-sponsored expert meeting on tipping points, scheduled to take place from 26 to 28 November 2025, immediately following the joint WG LAM1. Vice-Chairs of WGII and WGIII would also be part of the Scientific Steering Committee

(SSC). The necessary documents for the meeting would be sent to the Secretariat in due course.

A WGII Co-Chair added that WGII Bureau was also in the midst of author selection for the WGII contribution to the AR7, the Update to the IPCC Technical Guidelines for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptations and the Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data). The process could be helped by a bilateral meeting or sharing of the lists between the WGs. The Co-Chairs could discuss how to resolve overlaps before BUR-69. The preparations for the expert meeting on the Methodologies, Metrics and Indicators for Assessing Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation were progressing with an SSC being formed, and communication with a tentative host was ongoing. Additionally, a co-sponsored expert meeting on health has been developed in collaboration with the Wellcome Trust. Bureau member representatives from all WGs are involved. The relevant document would be submitted to the Secretariat shortly. The tentative timing for this meeting was February 2026.

A WGIII Co-Chair updated that WGIII was also working through the process of selecting authors. Particular attention has been given to regional balance, expertise balance and intra-regional balance and trying to ensure representation from countries with a large number of nominations. The WGIII Head of Science was on board, and interviews for a Senior Science Officer in Malaysia were about to start. There was also a plan in place to complete the rest of the TSU, with some details under consideration regarding the required skills and which parts of the TSU needed to be addressed. They were also working on the selection of TG-Data members, with WGI taking the lead on this. Appreciation was expressed to the Chair's Office and the WGI TSU for the support provided.

Two IPCC Vice-Chairs took the floor, congratulating the WGs on the progress made, noting that coordination among the leadership of the three IPCC Working Groups was essential during the author selection process to ensure balanced representation across regions. Careful attention needs to be given to avoiding over-representation from certain countries. Attention should also be given to inclusivity, particularly the integration of Indigenous Knowledge and the participation of Indigenous Peoples, with high expectations during this cycle.

An IPCC Vice-Chair, who is also the Chair of the Gender Action Team (GAT), added that with the expert meeting on Gender, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity provisionally scheduled for the end of September 2025, it would no longer be possible to incorporate its input into the author selection process. Following a consultation with the IPCC Legal Officer, the GAT meeting on 15 May would also discuss items related to the ongoing effort to strengthen inclusivity and diversity in the author selection process. WGs were encouraged to attend this meeting.

The Chair provided updates on the two co-located workshops, "Engaging Diverse Knowledge Systems" and "Methods of Assessment." A Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) with two subcommittees for each workshop, comprising both external and internal members, has already begun its work. One of the main concerns discussed was the tight timeline for organising the workshop, which requires nominations from governments and observer organisations. The Chair has been consulting with the WG Co-Chairs and has already received strong signals from the WGI and WGII Co-Chairs that they would prefer more thoughtful and robust recommendations, even if that means holding the workshop early next year instead of prior to the joint WG LAM1.

A WGIII Co-Chair supported the views of WGI and WGII and noted it would be crucial to share as much advanced background information as possible with LAM1.

The Chair concluded that useful observations would certainly emerge from the deliberations of the SSC. He would continue his consultations to determine the timing as soon as possible.

The Secretary provided an update on the TG-Data nominations. On 7 March 2025, IPCC Member countries and Observer Organisations were invited to nominate experts to serve as members of the TG-Data. A total of 195 nominations were received. The IPCC Bureau was tasked with selecting the TG-Data members. WGI was taking the lead on this in coordination with the other WGs. The Secretariat has prepared the necessary tools to support the process.

The Chair, while reminding that the final selection would be made by the Bureau, encouraged the Working Groups, to prepare in advance of the upcoming BUR-69 to ensure an efficient process.

ExCom took note of the updates provided.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

3.1. Ongoing and planned activities

The Head of Communications and Media Relations provided an update to ExCom on communications activities since the 131st Meeting of ExCom (ExCom-131), highlighting support for the calls for nominations for AR7 and TG-Data. The IPCC side event at the 62nd Subsidiary meetings of the UNFCCC (SB-62) has been confirmed for 18 June from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. The skeleton of the content was agreed upon in the Communications and Outreach Action Team (COAT). Feedback from the WGs was expected on the speakers, and a decision on the moderator was pending. Great care should be taken to ensure gender balance.

Some of the outreach events in conjunction with the Special Report, LAM2, listed by the WGII Co-Chair were news to the Head of Communications and Media Relations. The communications team at the Secretariat had a call with the host country's Focal Point, a WGII Vice Chair, and an IPCC Vice Chair on 11 April. They subsequently briefed the COAT on 15 April and invited further coordination during the COAT and follow-up correspondence, most recently on 24 April, but the response was pending. The COAT minutes were circulated to the ExCom. Another meeting with the WGII Vice-Chair, who represents the Focal Point's views on outreach issues took place on 14 May. It was confirmed that the vision was for an event to take place on 25-26 July, encompassing the overall IPCC engagement issues as well as the specific issues related to the Special Report. The Head of Communications reminded the meeting that the Communication Strategy and Implementation Plan specifies that briefings or seminars organised on the occasion of Lead Author meetings, expert meetings and other meetings are prepared by the relevant Working Group/Task Force in consultation with the IPCC Secretariat Communications and outreach team.

The WGII Co-Chair suggested holding regular COAT meetings for coordination purposes, including after the ExCom.

The Chair noted the confusion regarding the outreach during LAM2. The WGII Vice-Chair was not conveying the views of the Focal Point but had been delegated to take the position on behalf of the host country. He suggested that all parties involved should come together to reach a shared view, whether within the COAT or in a more informal meeting, emphasising the critical role of the host country in outreach planning.

A WGI Co-Chair and an IPCC Vice-Chair took the floor. It was urgent to know whether Bureau members have to stay an additional day after LAM2 in order to organise their travel. Generally, for all outreach invitations, it should be clear whether IPCC representatives will have an active role in the event.

The Head of Communications added that as the Secretariat was responsible for travel, the 26th of July had already been included in the plan.

The Chair emphasised the importance of an active role in outreach and suggested pre-recorded messages for brief speaking slots.

The Secretary stressed that it was key to utilise outreach events for fundraising, citing recent examples of his involvement.

The ExCom took note of the update on the communications activities and invited the Head of Communications and Media Relations at the Secretariat to convene a meeting with the Working Groups, led by WGII, as soon as possible and work out the process for the LAM2 outreach event.

3.2. Use of social media

A WGII Co-Chair noted that the WGII Co-Chairs and a WGI Co-Chair were of the opinion that certain social media platforms should no longer be used by IPCC, as it has outlived its usefulness for an impactful scientific engagement as opposed to other forms of social media. Correspondence on this matter was exchanged in March with the Head of Communication and Media Relations, who presented a rationale as to why this platform should continue to be used. However, following further discussions with the Bureaux, it was noted that the engagement with IPCC content on this platform was relatively smaller and often coming from bots or climate contrarians. While discontinuing the use, the account could be retained to prevent it from being taken over by another. The Co-Chairs would share a note on this for the Secretariat's consideration.

A WGI Co-Chair added that the IPCC posting on this platform could have the opposite of the intended effect and trigger misinformation.

A Vice-Chair supported the views of the Co-Chairs, suggesting also that references to this platform be removed from the different communications pages. Furthermore, it was queried where the discussions on the use of the platform took place. As the IPCC Vice-Chairs were not part of the COAT, they could be excluded from essential communications-related discussions. To improve the process, at least one Vice Chair could attend the COAT meetings.

The Head of Communications and Media Relations responded that the COAT was guided by the ExCom. The composition was not his decision and was outlined at the beginning of the cycle.

Regarding the matter of proposals for IPCC to leave the social media platform in question, he emphasised that the IPCC is an entity of the United Nations (UN) and has the responsibility to provide factual, reliable, and accurate information to people around the world. And this platform continues to be used widely within the UN System. There was no evidence supporting the thesis that the responses and engagements with IPCC content were coming from automatic bots. The size of IPCC audience was larger than many other UN organisations had, and the IPCC channels record boosts in terms of new followers during the releases of its reports, providing examples from the AR6. More importantly and beyond mere number of followers, the IPCC content was receiving four to five times larger audience engagements/reactions compared to many other UN organisations.

Two IPCC Vice-Chairs, and WG I and WGII Co-Chairs took the floor. Views expressed included that there were ways to transfer followers from one platform to another. Numbers sometimes didn't mean as much in terms of impact. Since the time of the release of the IPCC AR6, the algorithms of this platform have changed, making the IPCC vulnerable to misinformation. Given the authoritative voice of the IPCC in science, its context needs to be considered outside the UN system. It was noted that a thorough discussion was needed on the pros and cons and whether and how the IPCC should continue to actively use this platform without damaging its reputation.

The Chair added that although the IPCC may be a UN entity, none of the scientists or members of the ExCom were UN employees. Their respective institutions may have different policies and people need to feel free at the individual level on whether to use this or other platforms. He concluded that it wouldn't be possible to get a decision at this ExCom meeting. The topic would be brought to another ExCom meeting and invite much more detailed evidence to support the decisions.

ExCom took note of the information provided.

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 there were no new cases.

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 63rd Session of the IPCC

The Secretary provided an update on the preparations for the 63rd Session of the IPCC (IPCC-63). Following the discussions at the last ExCom, the Secretariat has informed the host country that the proposed dates in November were not convenient and that it would be important to hold the meeting in the last week of October 2025. Unfortunately, the host country has not yet found a suitable venue for October. While the host country was still exploring the possibility, the Secretariat has also been looking for contingency options to comply with ExCom decision to hold the meeting in the last week of October 2025. Content-wise the session would be dedicated, amongst other topics to the timeline of the Working Group reports, the outline of the Methodology Report on Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Dioxide Capture, Use and Storage and the budget. Preparations for the session would be key for the success of the meeting and the Chair and the Secretary would also use the SB-62 and other meetings in the lead up to the plenary for engagement and preparations.

The Chair added that SB-62 and BUR-69 would provide a significant opportunity to advance the discussions on this matter, stating that another critical issue would be the approval of the IPCC plenary meeting reports.

The Secretary informed that progress on this matter has begun and that consultations on the quantifiers would be necessary due to the divergent views.

- Provisional plans for subsequent Bureau/Plenary meetings

An IPCC Vice Chair, who is also the GAT Chair, requested to have both a GAT and SSC meetings for the Diversity, Gender and Inclusivity expert meeting, during BUR-69.

An IPCC Vice-Chair, who is also the Conflict of Interest Committee (COI) Chair, requested a slot for a COI committee meeting during the Bureau meeting.

The Chair concluded that the Secretariat would consider the appropriate time for adding the requested meetings.

ExCom took note of the information provided.

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

6.1. Matters related to the UNFCCC

- IPCC engagement at SB62 (16 - 26 June)

The Deputy Secretary provided an update on the UNFCCC SB62 session to take place from 16 to 26 June 2025 in Bonn, which would focus on several key areas, including the global goal on adaptation (GGA), loss and damage mechanisms, progress under the Global Stocktake, and methodological issues related to transparency and reporting. These discussions would aim to lay the groundwork for the 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30).

The IPCC delegation, led by the Chair, would be present at and participate in several events, including the SB62 Opening, the 17th Earth Research Dialogue, the GGA / Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA)–IPCC special event and the IPCC side event. The Chair would hold several potential high-level bilateral meetings. Meetings and briefings with the constituencies were also being planned. The Secretariat would be following the negotiations, including the Research and systematic observation (RSO) and the budget discussions.

On the sidelines of the meeting, a training on meeting management for the Chair, IPCC Vice-Chairs and the Secretariat would be organised.

In preparation for the meeting, a Joint SBSTA-IPCC Working Group (JWG) meeting would take place in early June.

The Secretariat has requested information from the WGs, the TFI and the IPCC Vice-Chairs regarding their attendance at SBs. The Secretariat would provide conference accreditation and financial assistance to eligible IPCC delegation members.

An IPCC Vice-Chair took the floor, thanking the Secretariat for the efficient planning and emphasising the importance of all the events, as well as the need for the IPCC to follow the RSO closely.

The meeting concluded at 15.59.

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EXCOM-CXXXII/Doc. 1
(12.V.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

- 2.1. Update 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 (CDRT and CDCUS)
- 2.3. Update on the Methodology Report on Short-Lived Climate Forcers (SLCF)
- 2.4. Update on the Working Group Reports

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- 3.1. Ongoing and planned activities
- 3.2. Use of social media

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