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PROGRESS REPORTS

Expert Meeting on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture

(Submitted by Chris Field, Co-Chair of Working Group II)

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Expert Meeting on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture

At its 40th Session (IPCC-40), the Panel decided to organize an Expert Meeting on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture during 2015 with the mandate to consider existing IPCC information on this matter and to recommend to the Panel possible further action, including the options of producing a Technical Paper or a Special Report, or to address the matter otherwise in the forthcoming assessment cycle. The Republic of Ireland generously offered to host the meeting in Dublin.

The Chair of the IPCC formed a planning committee consisting of Renate Christ, Chris Field (Convener), Hoesung Lee, Carlos Martin-Novella, Youba Sokona, and Thomas Stocker. After considering the topic and the necessary expertise, the planning committee expanded its membership by adding Long Cao (China), Thelma Krug (Brazil), Cheikh Mbow (Senegal), Alexander Popp (Germany), Geert Jan von Oldenborgh (Netherlands), Pete Smith (United Kingdom), and Katharine Vincent (South Africa), with Ellie Farahani (WGIII), Susanne Kadner (WGIII), Katharine Mach (WGII), Michael Mastrandrea (WGII), Jan Minx (WGIII), Gian-Kasper Plattner (WGI), and Melinda Tignor (WGI) providing TSU support.

The planning committee has met four times by conference call, on December 17, 2014, January 7, 2015, and February 10 and 19, 2015. The focus of these calls was finalizing the goals and agenda for the meeting, the list to be submitted to the Chair of IPCC of participants to be invited, and the meeting dates.

The meeting will be held May 27-29, 2015. There will be approximately 50 total participants, including 20 funded by the Trust Fund.

The expert meeting will address the following themes:

- 1) The food-water-energy-climate nexus.
- 2) Food production and food security.
- 3) Future demand for food: Relevance of mitigation, land use, and lifestyles.
- 4) Potential impacts of mitigation scenarios on bio-energy deployment, land use, and food security.
- 5) Projected changes in temperature and precipitation, climate variability.
- 6) Climate-change impacts/adaptation for crops.
- 7) Climate-change impacts/adaptation for domestic animals.
- 8) Climate-change impacts/adaptation for fisheries and aquaculture.
- 9) Climate-change impacts/adaptations for post-harvest components of food systems.
- 10) GHG emissions and emission reduction potential in the food sector
- 11) Forestry: afforestation, reducing deforestation, and REDD+.
- 12) Bio-energy.
- 13) Adaptation and mitigation responses.

The meeting structure will be approximately 50% presentations and 50% discussions over the first two days of the meeting. The presentations would follow the themes above. Each of the presentations would focus on the overall state of knowledge as reflected in the AR5, as well as the most compelling new opportunities in emerging research. Break-out groups will explore key scientific results and options for future IPCC work on this topic. During the morning of day 3, discussion will focus on developing recommendations for future IPCC work.

The planning committee has agreed on an initial list to be submitted to the Chair of IPCC of participants to be invited, and invitations are to be issued before the end of February.