

SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Geneva, Switzerland - 27 February 2013, 2:00-7:00PM

CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

Participants:

Members:

R. K. Pachauri (Chair); all Members of the Executive Committee.

Advisory Members:

R. Christ; P. Midgley; D. Dokken; J. Minx; L. Meyer.

Others:

G. Leone (minutes); J. Lynn; N. Leprince-Ringuet (silent observer upon request of the Chair).

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The ExCom adopted the provisional agenda of the meeting (EXCOM-XVII/Doc.1), attached as **Annex 1**. The Head, WGI TSU requested to discuss also the following item: *Papersmart meetings and implications for AR5 approval sessions*. This was done under item 8: *Any Other Matters*.

2. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

2.1 AR5 Outreach Programme

The Communications Manager briefly recalled that the document entitled *AR5 Communications Strategy* (BUR-XLVI/Doc. 13) would be discussed at the 46th Bureau Session starting the following day. In response to the concern expressed by T. Stocker, Co-Chair, WGI, that time may be tight for the preparation of an AR5 video before the WGI approval session, the Communications Manager commented that he had already been in touch with a number of individuals interested in producing it, and that the request for proposals had been launched by WMO. He expressed confidence that the film can be prepared in time.

The Head, WGIII TSU, enquired about the IPCC Facebook account. It was agreed that this issue would be discussed at the next ExCom meeting.

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
1.	To include the item <i>IPCC Facebook account</i> to the agenda of the 18 th Meeting of the ExCom (3 April 2013).	Secretariat	April 2013

2.2 Resource mobilization for AR5 outreach and follow up to the letter by Mr Tim Wirth, President, UN Foundation

The Chair reported on the meeting that he had held in the morning with representatives of the Oak Foundation in Geneva, accompanied by G. Leone, P. Midgley, and N. Leprince-Ringuet. The meeting was constructive and the Foundation will review the possibility of supporting the AR5 outreach programme and the IPCC Scholarship Programme.

The Chair informed the ExCom that he would write again to the UN Foundation (UNF) to follow up on previous correspondence. The Secretary and C. Field, Co-Chair, WGII reported on communications they had received from UNF; they have also been in touch with WGI. The Chair asked that contacts be coordinated, and that a clear plan of action would be identified for discussion during the following days.

3. INTERACTION WITH THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF WMO AND UNEP

The Secretary-General of WMO joined the meeting and the Executive Director of UNEP was connected by videoconference. They both confirmed their strong support to the work of the IPCC, especially to the outreach campaign for the AR5. In particular, the Secretary-General of WMO offered the services of a WMO staff member, who will be seconded to the IPCC for the launch of the AR5. He stressed the fact that WMO has a large network of meteorological services well connected with media, which could be used as an amplifying factor for IPCC. IPCC would also benefit from the support of UN coordination mechanisms, such as the High-Level Committee on Programmes of the Chief Executives Board, chaired by the Executive Director of UNEP.

The Executive Director of UNEP shared his views on the different reality in which the AR5 is being issued compared to 2007, when the AR4 was released, of the higher awareness about climate change issues of policy-makers and public opinion, but also of the more confrontational and crystallized nature of the current debate and of the need to minimize the potential for media that are looking for negative stories. He offered support and commitment to the work of the IPCC and in particular to the AR5 outreach, including at the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in early 2014.

In response, Executive Committee Members emphasized the uniqueness of the AR5 conclusions and spoke of the need to be aware of assessment reports being issued by the parent organizations.

4. MATTERS OF COORDINATION AND ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCTION OF ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER RELEVANT PRODUCTS

4.1 Confidentiality of drafts and timing of release of the chapters of AR5 and methodology reports

The Secretary clarified the two inter-linked issues to be reviewed under this item, namely: (i) the confidentiality of draft reports; and (ii) the time of the release of the AR5 chapters. She referred to the text of the [*Procedures for the Preparation, Review, Acceptance, Adoption, Approval and Publication of IPCC Reports*](#).

The Executive Committee decided that, as well as the approved Summaries for Policy Makers (SPM) that will be released immediately after the approval sessions, the unedited version of the chapters and Technical Summaries as prepared for the final government distribution (FGD) together with the FGD version of the SPM will be released on the first or second working day following the approval session. They will be accompanied by the document accepted by the Plenary that contains the list of changes to be made to the chapters for consistency with the approved SPM, and with an explanation/disclaimer of their status.

4.2 Cross cutting scientific technical matters

The Co-Chairs of WG II and III described the approaches taken in relation to issues cutting across chapters.

4.3 Quality of translations of IPCC summary products

V. Barros, Co-Chair, WGII, recalled his proposal previously submitted to the ExCom on how to deal with the translation of IPCC products, which has not been fully satisfactory in the past. The Secretary explained that the responsibility of translating the reports into UN languages lies with the UN translators. Some Members stressed the need to involve scientists into the professional translation process. The Secretary suggested having the AR5 glossary and the Plenary-approved outline translated as soon as possible to ensure the correctness and uniformity of the basic terminology. The ExCom agreed to the suggestions made by the Secretary, who was requested to

review the proposal made by the Co-Chair, WGII, revise it in line with the discussion and in consultation with the WMO translation service, and submit it to the ExCom for decision.

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
2.	To revise the proposal made by the Co-Chair, WGII, and submit it to the ExCom for decision.	Secretariat	22 March 2013

T. Hiraishi, Co-Chair, TFI, informed the ExCom that the TFI is finalising the errata for the Chinese version of the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

5. FUTURE OF THE IPCC

The Secretary provided the background and summarized the Bureau document BUR-XLVI/Doc. 15 entitled *Future of the IPCC*. This matter would come up the following day at the Bureau session.

6. POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE “ASSESSING ASSESSMENTS” STUDY BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)

The Chair introduced this issue, which was discussed also at the Fifteenth Meeting of the ExCom. Members reiterated that it is necessary to obtain the agreement of the authors to having scientists observing their work at meetings. Some Members raised the issue of timing of the NSF study, and, considering the late stage of preparation of the AR5, suggested to discuss this matter with authors at the beginning of the AR6 cycle. It was recognized, however, that this would greatly delay the finalization of the work of the NSF or of the others who have made similar proposals to the IPCC. The ExCom considered the option of using the SYR process for the purpose of these requests. The Chair stated that, whatever the option eventually agreed upon by the ExCom, the approval of the Plenary would be necessary.

	<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Deadline</i>
3.	To write to NSF and to Prof. M. Hulme, who made a similar proposal in the past, asking for detailed terms of reference and their suggestions for a study during the remaining phases of AR5 and/or AR6.	Chair	22 March 2013

7. ISSUES RELATED TO LEAD AUTHOR MEETINGS AND FACILITATION OF ARRANGEMENTS

With reference to some difficulties recently encountered in the preparation and approval of arrangements for Lead Author Meetings, the Chair emphasized the need for cooperation and collegiality in searching for solutions. It was agreed that the Chair would seek a contact at Ministerial level with the host country, to facilitate a rapid positive conclusion of the preparations of WGII's Fourth Lead Author Meeting.

8. ANY OTHER MATTERS

8.1 Papersmart meetings and implications for AR5 approval sessions

The IT Officer, IPCC Secretariat, presented the system developed for papersmart meetings. In response to questions raised about the appropriateness of introducing the system at approval sessions, the additional cost of the system, and the need to have a fall-back option, the Secretary clarified that, as a transitional measure, the papersmart system will be used in parallel with the production of printed in-session documents. Only pre-session documents will be made available exclusively through the papersmart portal. The process of approval of in-session documents before their distribution will be discussed by the Secretariat with relevant WGs/TFI, starting with WGI.

The meeting closed at 07:00PM.

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – SEVENTEENTH MEETING
Geneva, 27 February 2013**

EXCOM-XVII/Doc. 1
(18.II.2013)
Agenda Item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

(Submitted by the IPCC Secretariat)

- 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 2. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**
 - 2.1 AR5 Outreach Programme
 - 2.2 Resource mobilization for AR5 outreach and follow up to the letter by Mr Tim Wirth, President, UN Foundation
- 3. INTERACTION WITH THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF WMO AND UNEP**
- 4. MATTERS OF COORDINATION AND ACTIVITIES PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCTION OF ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER RELEVANT PRODUCTS**
 - 4.1 Confidentiality of drafts and timing of release of the chapters of AR5 and methodology reports
 - 4.2 Cross cutting scientific technical matters
 - 4.3 Quality of translations of IPCC summary products
- 5. FUTURE OF THE IPCC**
- 6. POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE “ASSESSING ASSESSMENTS” STUDY BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF)**
- 7. ISSUES RELATED TO LEAD AUTHOR MEETINGS AND FACILITATION OF ARRANGEMENTS**
- 8. ANY OTHER MATTERS**