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ORGANIZATION OF THE FUTURE WORK OF THE IPCC IN LIGHT OF THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

(Submitted by the Secretary of the IPCC)



ORGANIZATION OF THE FUTURE WORK OF THE IPCC IN LIGHT OF THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE

Introduction

At the 47th Session of the IPCC (Paris, France, 13-16 March 2018), the Panel adopted the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the Task Group on the Organization of the Future Work of the IPCC in Light of the Global Stocktake. The Panel mandated the Task Group (TG) to start its work and to present progress reports at IPCC Sessions, and to comply with IPCC procedures and ensure transparency and inclusiveness.

Member governments who accepted the invitation to join the Task Group were requested to raise their flags during the 47th Session. Those Governments that had expressed their interest to join the group but had been inadvertently omitted from the list notified the IPCC Secretariat and were subsequently included, and thus receive all relevant communication. To ensure inclusiveness, the Task Group will continue to accept member governments who may wish to join at any stage of the work. The members of the Task Group are listed in Annex 1.

Progress since the 47th Session of the IPCC

The Co-Chairs of the Task Group invited members of the Task Group to volunteer to serve as rapporteurs. Norway kindly offered to be one of the rapporteurs. The group still requires a second rapporteur, preferably from a developing country or a country with Economy in Transition.

Member governments who have accepted to join the Task Group have been requested to designate a contact person to represent them in the group. In cases where governments have not designated a contact person, the IPCC National Focal Point is assumed to be the contact person for the work of the Task Group. Designated members and IPCC National Focal Points who are assumed to be members of the group are listed in Annex 1.

Action Plan

The Co-Chairs of the Task Group have drafted an action plan which identifies salient activities to be undertaken during the period of work, their sequences and estimated duration. The draft action plan was submitted to Task Group members for comments and suggestions through the recently developed IPCC e-Discussion Forum (http://www.ipcc.ch/apps/eboard/), which has been until now the most viable mode of exchange of ideas and information for the group. Owing to the size of the group, the geographical locations of the members which imply vast differences in time zones, teleconferencing might not be feasible.

The draft action plan has been revised taking into consideration submissions by group members and is presented below for information to the Panel at the 48th Session of the IPCC.

Following comments made on the e-Discussion Forum, the co-chairs suggest to give the short name "TG-FWLGST" to the TG, which is an acronym for the long name "Task Group on the organization of the future work of the IPCC in light of the global stocktake".

The next major activity entails soliciting inputs from member governments and IPCC Observer Organizations for the identification of any viable options for organizing and scheduling future work of the IPCC, beginning from the seventh assessment cycle, taking into account the scientific information requirements of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in general, and the global stocktake in particular, as well as information needs of other users of IPCC products. The inputs obtained during this phase will complement earlier submissions in response to the request by the Secretary of the IPCC through the letter which was sent on 12 October 2017 (Ref: 5312-17/IPCC/AR6).

Way Foward

Governments who are not listed in Annex 1 but still want to join the Task Group are welcome to express their interest to ipcc-alignment@wmo.int. IPCC National Focal Points who wish to designate a contact person to contribute to the work of the group should send the communication to the same email address.

The Panel is requested to take note of the action plan and of the suggested TG short name, and provide guidance as appropriate.

Activities	2018											20	19						2020									
	J	Α	S	0	N	D	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0
Collect and take into account the feedback of the TG members on the draft Action Plan																												
2. Finalization of the TG Action Plan; writing of a progress report by TG co- chairs and rapporteurs to inform IPCC-48 on current and planned TG activities																												
3. Send a call to governments and IPCC Observer Organizations for submissions limited to the identification of different options ¹																												
4. Analysis and summary by TG members of the submissions received ²																												
5. Submission of the list of options identified to the TG members ³																												

Entails the organization and timing of the future work of the IPCC, particularly the seventh assessment cycle, taking into account the scientific information needs of the global stocktake and of the UNFCCC more generally, as well other users of IPCC assessments and products, in accordance with principles governing IPCC work, and with respect to the rate of progress in the state of knowledge of various aspects of climate change. The call for submissions will make it clear that the TG does not expect at this stage any opinion on the pros and cons of the submitted options but providing information on the rationales of the options proposed will be encouraged. Deadline of responses to this call should be towards the end of November 2018

Interaction among TG members will be through the dedicated web forum and/or mail exchanges to finalize a list of the main identified options

Feedback expected by mid-March 2019

6. Summarize the feedback received ⁴														
7. Physical TG meeting during IPCC-49 ⁵														
8. Identification of the issues, pros and cons associated with the different options														
9. Preparation of the final report to be submitted at IPCC-52														

Activities		2018						2019											2020									
	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D	J	F	М	Α	M	J	7	Α	S	0	Ν	D	J	H	M	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0

Writing of the progress report of the TG, including a revised list of options

⁵ Presentation of the list of options; update of the detailed Action Plan

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