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IPCC MEDIA ADVISORY

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IPCC at COP22

GENEVA, Nov 4 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will be present at the 22nd Conference of the Parties (COP22) of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Marrakech, Morocco, with a delegation of its scientific leadership led by IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee.

COP22, at which the IPCC represents the voice of science, runs from 7 November to 18 November.

One of the main aims for the IPCC at COP22 will be to inform participants about its Special Report *Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty*.

This report, requested a year ago by COP21 in Paris, will be delivered in 2018. The IPCC approved the outline of the report last month and has now issued a call for nominations of authors.

At COP22 the UNFCCC's Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) will also consider how IPCC assessments can inform the global stocktake, the five-yearly review set up under the Paris Agreement of progress towards the goal of holding global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels while pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

Besides participation in the official COP22 and related agendas, the IPCC is holding two side events at COP 22:

- 7 November, 13.15-14.45: *Refinement of 2006 IPCC Guidelines* at which speakers from the Taskforce on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Technical Support Unit and the UNFCCC Secretariat will discuss the *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. This methodology report, to be delivered in 2019, will update the IPCC's current methodologies that provide guidance to countries on measuring their greenhouse gas emissions and removals.
- 14 November, 18.30-20.00: *Responding to Paris: the IPCC's programme for the coming years* at which the IPCC Chair and other Bureau members will discuss the IPCC's workplan, including *Global Warming of 1.5°C* and the Sixth Assessment Report.

In addition Université Cadi Ayyad in Marrakech is hosting an event for policymakers, other stakeholders and the public on 10 November at which the IPCC will present findings from the Fifth Assessment Report and its current work programme.

For more information, and interview requests, contact:
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IPCC delegation

The IPCC delegation at COP22 will include IPCC Chair Hoesung Lee; IPCC Vice-Chairs Ko Barrett, Thelma Krug and Youba Sokona; Working Group I Co-Chair Valérie Masson-Delmotte; Working Group II Co-Chairs Hans-Otto Pörtner and Debra Roberts; Working Group III Co-Chairs Priyadashi R Shukla and Jim Skea; Taskforce on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Co-Chairs Eduardo Calvo and Kiyoto Tanabe; and IPCC Secretary Abdalah Mokssit.

What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the UN body for assessing the science related to climate change. It was set up in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The IPCC assesses the thousands of scientific papers published each year to tell policymakers what we know and don't know about the risks related to climate change. The IPCC identifies where there is agreement in the scientific community, where there are differences of opinion, and where further research is needed. It does not conduct its own research.

Thus the IPCC offers policymakers a picture of what the scientific community understands about climate change rather than promoting a particular view. IPCC reports are policy-relevant without being policy-prescriptive. The IPCC may set out options for policymakers to choose from in pursuit of goals decided by policymakers, but it does not tell governments what to do.

To produce its reports, the IPCC mobilizes hundreds of scientists. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. Only a dozen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

The members of the Panel are its 195 member countries. They work by consensus to endorse the reports of the IPCC and set its procedures and budget in plenary meetings of the Panel. The word "Intergovernmental" in the organization's name reflects this.

IPCC reports are requested by the member governments and developed by authors drawn from the scientific community in an extensive process of repeated drafting and review. Scientists and other experts participate in this review process through a self-declaration of expertise. The Panel endorses these reports in a dialogue between the governments that request the reports and will work with them and the scientists that write them. In this discussion the scientists have the last word on any additions or changes, although the Panel may agree by consensus to delete something.

Sixth Assessment Cycle

At its 41st Session in February 2015, the IPCC decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report (AR6). At its 42nd Session in October 2015 it elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. At its 43rd Session in April 2016, it decided to produce three Special Reports, a Methodology Report and AR6.

At its 44th Session in October 2016, the IPCC approved the outlines of *Global Warming of 1.5°C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty* to be delivered in 2018, and *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* to be delivered in 2019.

In 2019 the IPCC will also finalize two Special Reports: on climate change and oceans and the cryosphere; and on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems. The AR6 Synthesis Report will be finalized in the first half of 2022.