

**IPCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SECOND MEETING
Teleconference, 10 April 2024**

CONCLUSIONS & DECISIONS

Participants

Chair:

Jim Skea

Members:

Robert Vautard (Working Group [WG] I Co-Chair), Xiaoye Zhang (WGI Co-Chair), Winston Chow (WGII Co-Chair), Bart Van den Hurk (WGII Co-Chair), Katherine Calvin (WGIII Co-Chair), Joy Jacqueline Pereira (WG III Co-Chair), Takeshi Enoki (Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories [TFI] Co-Chair), Mazhar Hayat (TFI Co-Chair), Ines Camilloni (representing Region III)

Advisory members:

Abdalah Mokssit (IPCC Secretary), Clotilde Péan (WGI Technical Support Unit [TSU] Head), Melinda Tignor (WGII TSU Head), Dave Dokken (WGIII TSU Head), Rob Sturgiss (TFI TSU Head of Operations).

IPCC Secretariat:

Invited: Ermira Fida (IPCC Deputy Secretary), Andrej Mahecic (Head of Communications and Media Relations), Mxolisi Shongwe (Science Programme Officer), Jennifer Lew Schneider (Legal Officer), Jesbin Baidya (Information Technology and Logistics Officer), Nina Peeva (External Relations Officer), Werani Zabula (Information and Communications Specialist), Joëlle Fernandez (Administrative Assistant and Assistant to the Secretary), Laura Biagioni (Office Assistant – Web Information and Publications)

Invited:

Géninha Lisboa (Executive Assistant to IPCC Chair)

Apologies: Ladislaus Chang'a (IPCC Vice-Chair), Ramón Pichs-Madruga (IPCC Vice-Chair), Diana Üрге-Vorsatz (IPCC Vice-Chair), Sandro Federici (TFI TSU Head of Science)

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The IPCC Executive Committee (ExCom) adopted the provisional agenda (EXCOM-CXXII/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

On behalf of the Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee (SSC) a WGII Co-Chair provided updates on the preparations for the Scoping Meeting of the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities to take place on 16-19 April 2024 in Riga, Latvia. SSC met 12 times and worked also through various subgroups on planning and documentation. The draft programme, participants list and background document were made available on Paper Smart. The meeting will be opened by the IPCC Chair, the Minister for Climate Change and Energy of Latvia, the

Mayor of Riga, and a Youth Representative. Media and outreach activities would also take place.

The Secretary reported on support provided to the Scoping Meeting, including on the travel arrangements to meeting participants from developing countries and countries with economies in transition and on resolved budgetary constraints related to the meeting. Additionally, he noted the efforts made to ensure the participation of all those who were invited to the meeting, highlighting that if in-person attendance was not possible, it was essential to ensure virtual participation.

The WGII Co-Chairs noted that virtual participation in the Scoping Meeting would be possible with some logistical limitations for the break-out group sessions (BoGs). Some Bureau members would also attend the Scoping Meeting virtually, and the TSUs would contact the Secretariat about the arrangements.

The Chair expressed gratitude to the SSC, the WGII, the other WGs, their TSUs and the Secretariat for the work on the preparations for the Scoping Meeting.

The ExCom took note of the updates on the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities.

2.2. Development of the AR7 Strategic Planning Schedule

A WGI Co-Chair reported on the status of the draft Strategic Planning Schedule (SPS) which will be shared with the Bureau at its 67th session (BUR-67). The provisional plans included a joint Scoping Meeting for the three Working Groups' (WGs) contributions to the Seventh Assessment Report (AR7) in December 2024, an outline approval Session in February 2025 and a joint WGs Lead Author Meeting (LAM) in December 2025. He noted that the expertise for nominations for the scoping was under preparation and was to be shared with the Secretariat by the end of April. Additionally, the WGI report was planned for completion in May 2028, the WGII report in June 2028 and the WGIII report in July 2028. The Special Report on Climate Change and Cities and the Methodology Report on Short-lived Climate Forcers (SLCFs) remain as scheduled. The SPS document takes into account the discussions and relevant decisions from the 60th Session of the IPCC (IPCC-60) and will be ready in time for the Bureau with a view to submitting a final document to the 61st Session of the IPCC (IPCC-60).

The Chair highlighted the importance of clarifying the rationale behind the proposed time schedule. He reminded the Co-Chairs that the deadline for submitting documents for BUR-67 was the end of April. He invited them to share the draft white paper with the Secretariat as soon as possible.

The Deputy Secretary said that the SPS was on the agenda for the TSUs Liaison Group meeting scheduled for 11 April.

A WGI Co-Chair and the WGIII Co-Chair took the floor.

Clarification was requested regarding what was the expected action from the Panel at IPCC-61. It was proposed to include in the document a draft decision for consideration by the Panel. It was confirmed that Malaysia would be hosting the scoping meeting.

The Chair advised having a table with all the relevant dates and information to governments, including review and approval periods.

The Secretary explained that the Panel should be provided with a document allowing for a decision. He also reported that the Secretariat was in touch with Malaysia, the potential host, on preparations for a scoping meeting, as well as with a developed country that may provide additional financial support.

The ExCom took note of the updates provided on the SPS development.

3. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

3.1. Ongoing and planned activities

The Head of Communications and Media Relations provided an update to the ExCom on communications activities since the 121st Meeting of ExCom (IPCC-121). A continued media interest should be expected around the dates when Copernicus regularly releases information about the hottest months on record. He offered the possibility of a monthly running commentary or looking at another strategic approach as to when to stress the IPCC's key messages. The Head of Communications also highlighted the outreach and media activities to take place in Riga, Latvia as follows: an IPCC briefing for the national media on 15 April; a briefing for the Members of Parliament as well as an event on Climaax research project; and links with IPCC on 17 April and an event at the Riga City Council scheduled for 19 April. He announced that Melissa Walsh was appointed as Communications Officer at the IPCC Secretariat.

The Chair advised forwarding interview requests to ExCom members with the relevant expertise and limiting media expectations on running commentary regarding Copernicus results, as these have not been covered in the IPCC reports.

A WGI Co-Chair indicated that he was interviewed on the relevant matters. He asked if the IPCC Secretariat could track such interviews.

The Head of Communications indicated that although the Secretariat has a media monitoring service, it remained challenging to track broadcasting work on a regular basis.

The ExCom took note of the report on communications and outreach activities.

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 Science Programme Officer informed the ExCom that two cases had been closed since the last report to ExCom-121. With this, there were four pending cases remaining.

A WGII Co-Chair provided updates on WGII-related pending cases and requested information on the process when authors are contesting a case.

The Chair requested the Secretariat to provide this information as soon as possible offline.

The ExCom took note of the Error Protocol report.

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 67th Session of the IPCC Bureau**

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the preparations for the BUR-67 to take place in the WMO Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, from 30 to 31 May 2024. The meeting would take place in person, with the possibility of remote participation upon request. The most important topic would be the SPS and indicated that the outcomes of the meeting would be essential for the successful discussions at the IPCC-61.

The ExCom took note of the updates on preparations for BUR-67.

- **Update on the preparations for the 61st Session of the IPCC**

The Secretary updated the ExCom on the preparations for IPCC-61, which is scheduled for 26 July to 2 August 2024 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The work was ongoing on the host country agreement (HCA) and stressed the importance of having the HCA ready in advance to anticipate any potential issues, including visa-related matters. The invitations will be sent as soon as possible.

The Secretary also presented an IPCC-61 provisional agenda, which included many important items, such as the approval of the Special Report on Climate Change and Cities, the Methodology Report on SLCFs and discussions on the SPS. In order to ensure optimal participation of the registered delegates in the Plenary, the Secretariat would organize a pre-briefing to the Session on 26 July, particularly for new delegates unfamiliar with the IPCC. There would be also training sessions for Bureau Members on ethics and the prevention of sexual harassment. IPCC-61 should close by 6.00 pm on Friday, 2 August.

The Chair highlighted the ambitious agenda and the hard choice between a prolonged session and two sessions in 2024. He indicated that having a longer plenary prevailed as a more efficient option.

A WGIII Co-Chair sought clarification on the implications of not having budget-related discussions at IPCC-61 for some decisions, including on potential expert meetings.

The Secretary suggested as an option to follow the same approach as for the 2024 budget, informing the Panel at the end of 2024 about the use of the provisional budget for 2025 approved at IPCC-60. This budget would cover the period from the start of 2025 until the Panel/FiTT meets in February the first trimester of 2025 to approve the IPCC budget. Should there be a request for a new meeting to be held beginning of 2025, agreement will be sought for this meeting.

The ExCom took note of the updates on preparations for IPCC-61.

- **Provisional plans for subsequent Bureau/Plenary meetings**

The Chair indicated that this item was already covered in the discussions on the SPS.

The ExCom took note of the update.

- **Update on preparations for forthcoming Expert Meetings**

A TFI Co-Chair reported that the two expert meetings on Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Technologies and on Land on Reconciling Anthropogenic Land Use GHG Estimates were to take place in July 2024. The invitations for both meetings had been sent out. The IPCC Software Inventory Workshop was also being planned, with the timing and potential hosts still being discussed.

The TFI TSU Head of Operations indicated that the TSU Liaison Group meeting on 11 April would serve as a forum to discuss the options for the Software Inventory Workshop and other matters.

The Secretary encouraged the TSUs to work with the Secretariat from the beginning of the event planning and before selecting the host country to allow the Secretariat to support in the best possible way, including in mitigating any complications, such as visa-related issues.

Based on recent lessons learned, the Chair highlighted the need for wide consultation from the beginning of meeting organization. He congratulated Rob Sturgiss on his new role as TFI TSU Head of Operation. The Chair indicated that he would be honoured to participate in the CDR expert meeting.

The ExCom took note of the update.

6. ANY OTHER MATTERS

The meeting concluded at 14:55

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EXCOM-CXXII/Doc. 1
(4.IV.2024)
Agenda Item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

- 1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
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 - 2.2. Development of the AR7 Strategic Planning Schedule
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