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IPCC MEDIA ADVISORY

1 April 2016

IPCC meetings in Nairobi

GENEVA, April 1 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will be holding its 43rd Session in Nairobi, Kenya, on 11-13 April 2016.

Among other questions, the Panel will consider the IPCC's work programme for the next 5-7 years including the schedule for the Sixth Assessment Report and the Special Reports that will be undertaken during this cycle. On 14 April 2016 the Executive Committee of the IPCC will meet to follow up on the Panel's decisions.

The full agenda of the Panel Session and other relevant documents can be found here:

http://ipcc.ch/scripts/session_template.php?page=43ipcc.htm

Press conference

A press conference to discuss the results of the Session will be held on Thursday 14 April 2016.

When: 12.30 Nairobi time on Thursday 14 April 2016
(05.30 ET, 09.30 GMT, 11.30 CEST, 18.30 JST)

Where: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters, United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya

The Chairman of the IPCC, Dr. Hoesung Lee, some Bureau members and the Acting Secretary of the IPCC, Dr. Mannava Sivakumar, will take part in the press conference. The press conference is open **only** to media representatives accredited to the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) Nairobi and holding a land pass for the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON). The press conference will also be webcast live. The IPCC will communicate the address for the webcast nearer the time.

Opening session

The opening of the Session will be held on Monday 11 April 2016 from 10.00 to 11.00 Nairobi time at UNEP headquarters. The opening is open **only** to media representatives accredited to UNIC Nairobi and holding a UNON land pass. It will be addressed by the IPCC Chair and special guests including senior representatives of UNEP, the World Meteorological Organization, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Otherwise the IPCC meeting is closed to the public and to media.

For more information, contact:

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Notes for editors

What is the IPCC?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is the world body for assessing the science related to climate change. The IPCC 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 does not do its own research, conduct climate measurements or produce its own climate models; it 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.

Thus the IPCC offers policymakers a snapshot 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 who – like the Chair and other elected officials – work as volunteers. These scientists and officials are drawn from diverse backgrounds. They are not paid for their work at the IPCC. Only a dozen permanent staff work in the IPCC's Secretariat.

The members of the IPCC, comprising the Panel, are its 195 member governments. 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. It is not a United Nations agency, but is sponsored by two UN organizations – WMO and UNEP.

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.

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee exists to strengthen and facilitate timely and effective implementation of the IPCC work programme, strengthen coordination between IPCC Working Groups and the Task Force and address issues that require prompt attention by the Panel in between its Sessions. Its members are the IPCC Chair, IPCC Vice-Chairs, Working Group Co-Chairs and the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on Greenhouse Gas Inventories. The Secretary of the IPCC and the Heads of the Technical Support Units are advisory members to the Executive Committee.

For more information go to http://ipcc.ch/pdf/tor/TOR_ExComm.pdf.

Sixth Assessment Report

The Panel during its meeting in Nairobi in February 2015 decided to produce a Sixth Assessment Report. In October 2015 the Panel elected a new Bureau that would oversee the work on this report and Special Reports to be produced in the assessment cycle. The 43rd Session of the IPCC on 11-13 April 2016 is when the Panel will set out the work programme for the Sixth Assessment Cycle.

For more information, including links to the IPCC reports, go to:

www.ipcc.ch