

COP-23 IPCC Side Event
2019 Refinement and other activities of IPCC TF on National GHG Inventories
Tuesday 7 November, 18:30-20:00 Meeting Room 7

Opening remarks by WMO
Dr Elena Manaenkova Deputy Secretary-General

Welcome on behalf of IPCC co-sponsors the World Meteorological Organization and UN Environment.

Paris agreement has set an ambitious temperature target. Patricia Espinosa stressed that it is essential to achieve the ultimate goal of the Paris to hold the global average temperature rise from pre-industrial time to well below 2 degrees Celsius and as close as possible to 1.5 degrees. She underlined that immediate progress was urgent and we need to move forward to fulfill the commitments that are due in 2020. In this regard, pledges to cut greenhouse gas emissions are key.

The WMO in its Greenhouse Gas Bulletin released on 30 October reported that concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere surged at a record-breaking speed in 2016 to the highest level in 800 000 years - 403.3 parts per million. CO₂ remains in the atmosphere for hundreds of years and in the oceans for even longer. Greenhouse Gas Bulletin reports on atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases. Emissions represent what goes into the atmosphere. Concentrations represent what remains in the atmosphere after the complex system of interactions between the atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere and the oceans. About a quarter of the total emissions is taken up by the oceans and another quarter by the biosphere, the natural sinks, reducing in this way the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

Emissions Gap Report by UN Environment released on 31 October tracks the policy commitments made by countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and analyses how these policies will translate into emissions reductions through 2030. The report finds that national pledges only bring a third of the reduction in emissions required by 2030 to meet climate targets.

Together, the Greenhouse Gas Bulletin and Emissions Gap Report provide a scientific base for decision-making at the UN climate change negotiations.

Furthermore, WMO, UN Environment and other partners are working towards an Integrated Global Greenhouse Gas Information System (IG3IS) to provide information that can help Parties to track the progress toward implementation of their national emission pledges, improve national emission reporting and inform additional mitigation actions. This system builds on the long-term experience and expertise of WMO in greenhouse gas instrumental measurements and atmospheric modeling. This new methodology has matured and applied in a number of countries.

The IPCC-44 approved the outline of the Methodology Report "2019 Refinement of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories" to be produced by May 2019. The aim is to provide an updated and sound scientific basis for supporting the preparation and continuous improvement of national greenhouse gas inventories.

The Methodology Report will provide:

- Supplementary methodologies for sources or sinks of greenhouse gases only where currently there are gaps or where new technologies and production processes have emerged requiring elaborated methodologies or for sources or sinks that are not well covered by the 2006 IPCC Guidelines;
- Updated default values of emission factors and other parameters based on the latest available science only where significant differences from currently adopted factors are identified;
- Provide additional or alternative up-to-date information and guidance, where possible, as clarification or elaboration of existing guidance in the 2006 IPCC Guidelines.