

REPORT OF THE 27TH SESSION OF THE IPCC

Valencia, 12-17 November 2007

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Session was held in the Principe Felipe Science Museum in the City of Arts and Science, Valencia, Spain, under the kind invitation of and with outstanding facilities offered by the Government of Spain.

Dr Rajendra K. Pachauri, Chairman of the IPCC, called the Session to order at 10:00 hours on 12 November 2007. He expressed IPCC's gratitude to the Government of Spain for hosting the 27th Session of the IPCC, and briefed the Assembly on recent events, including his participation in the high level event "The future in our hands" convened by the UN Secretary General in September 2007 and the recognition achieved by IPCC through the Nobel Peace Prize. He summarized the latest advances in the preparation of the Synthesis Report, looking forward to achieve agreement by all on its final formulation.

The delegates were welcomed by Señora Rita Barbera Nolla, Mayor of Valencia.

Mr Janos Pasztor, on behalf of UNEP, and Prof. Hong Yan, on behalf of WMO, confirmed the commitment of IPCC's sponsors to its activities and successes, stressing the importance of the Fourth Assessment Report, thanking its authors, the IPCC Chair and Working Group Co-chairs, and looking ahead to the usefulness of IPCC messages for the Bali meeting.

Mr Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, further congratulated the IPCC for its achievements including the Nobel Peace Prize, highlighting the informational role of the Panel and the challenges facing the international community at the upcoming Conference of the Parties in Bali.

Ms Tereza Fernández de la Vega, First Vice-President of the Government of Spain, presented the official welcome of the host country, stressing the importance of climate change issues for the world and the informational role of the IPCC.

Mr Francisco Camps Ortiz, President of the "Generalitat de Valencia", added his own welcome, offering the warm hospitality of the Province, very much concerned with environmental and climate-related issues.

The Agenda as approved is attached as **Annex 1**. The list of participants is attached as **Annex 3**.

2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION

The draft report of the 26th Session was approved, except for one point, concerning the report of the expert meeting dealing with benchmark emission scenarios, clearly indicating that it had to be subjected to peer review.

3. SHORT PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE CORE WRITING TEAM OF THE VARIOUS TOPICS OF THE DRAFT SYNTHESIS REPORT OF THE IPCC FOURTH ASSESSMENT REPORT "CLIMATE CHANGE 2007"

As an introduction to the consideration of the various parts of the Summary for Policymakers and Synthesis Report, short presentations were made by members of the Core Writing Team.

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL/ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT SYNTHESIS REPORT OF THE IPCC FOURTH ASSESSMENT REPORT (AR4) (IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 3)

4.1 The Summary for Policymakers of the Synthesis Report was discussed line by line and the final text approved.

4.2 The longer part of the Synthesis Report was discussed and adopted.

5. IPCC PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008 TO 2010

The Financial Task Team (FiTT) met twice during the Session and considered proposed modifications to the 2008 budget, following the Panel decisions at the 26th Session (translation of the Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water into all UN languages and an increase of the outreach budget by CHF 100,000.-), and a few new requirements.

These new requirements are two additional expert meetings for the Emission Factors Database (EFDB), an increase of CHF 35,000.- for the 2006 Inventory Guidelines Software Development, an increase in participation from developing countries to the Renewable Energy Scoping Meeting (displaced from 2007 to January 2008), the printing of the report from the Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Assessment (TGICA) expert meeting on Regional Climate Change, and an increase of CHF 50,000.- of the annual budget of the Secretariat.

The Panel adopted the draft decisions prepared by FiTT and the modified 2008 budget as attached in **Annex 2**.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS

6.1 IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Programme (NGGIP)

On behalf of the Co-chairs, Mr Taka Hiraishi, TFI Co-Chair, presented “document 11”, providing an update on the work programme of the Task Force, as approved at IPCC-26.

The NGGIP is developing software to assist inventory compilers in implementing the 2006 Guidelines. A demonstration system will be tested at the end of 2007 and beginning of 2008, and a TFB meeting is scheduled to prepare its implementation. An extension of this software is scheduled to be completed in 2009, in order to include remaining emission/removal sectors. The Panel approved this proposal and suggested to have the black carbon sources included.

The NGGIP is continuing to maintain the Emission Factor Data Base (EFDB), and two expert meetings were proposed and approved to contribute to this database in specific sectors, in addition to one meeting of the EFDB Board.

Following the Task Force Bureau meeting in October 2007 in Geneva, an introduction to the 2006 Guidelines was produced, and a colour leaflet is in preparation for wide distribution.

The TFB proposed to hold an expert meeting on the land use and forestry sector in the first half of 2008. This proposal was approved by the Panel.

The Panel congratulated the Co-chairs and the Technical Support Unit for their work.

6.2 Future Work on Scenarios – report about the Expert Meeting in Noordwijkerhout

An IPCC Expert Meeting on New Scenarios was held in Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands, 19-21 September 2007, in order to identify requirements and plans for the development of new scenarios of emissions, climate change, impacts, vulnerability, adaptation and mitigation.

Mr Richard Moss and Mr Ismail Elgizouli, Co-chairs of the Steering Committee on New Scenarios, reported on the meeting, as outlined in “document 9”, and announced that the draft report would be shortly circulated for review. A process for scenario development was discussed at the workshop that is expected to lead to development of new scenarios by the research community. To initiate this development process, the workshop identified four representative concentration pathways, the lowest one conditional on a scientific/technical evaluation.

The strong participation from developing countries and countries with economies in transition was emphasized with the participation of 40 experts from those countries and a full Session dedicated to related issues.

The Co-chairs indicated that there is a great demand for integrated assessment models and made a general plea for government support to research teams. The Panel expressed its thanks and appreciation to the Committee, noting the great value of engaging the three Working Groups and major representatives of the “user” community.

6.3 Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water

On behalf of the Technical Support Unit of Working Group II, Ms Jean Palutikof presented the status of the Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water, as outlined in “document 10”. Co-ordinating Lead Authors will meet in February 2008 to consider final government comments and the Technical Paper will be finalized at the 37th Session of the Bureau in Budapest. The Panel decided to increase the budget for translation by CHF 100, 000.- in order to enable translation in all UN languages.

6.4 Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Assessment (TGICA)

Mr Richard Moss made a short presentation on TGICA activities, a written report being prepared for the next Session.

It will cover the following items:

- Operation of the data distribution centre;
- Technical guidelines on socio-economic scenarios for regional and national studies;
- Data sets available in relation with AR4;
- Relation with UNFCCC;
- Participation in workshop(s) in relation with Nairobi Work Programme;
- Report on the Fiji Regional Expert Meeting (to be available in February 2008).

6.5 Outreach

The Chair and the Secretary of the IPCC informed the Panel about the IPCC outreach activities, as outlined in “document 7”, including specific reports on Working Group I, Working Group III and outreach activities in Latin America.

Ms Renate Christ emphasized the success of press events at the launch of the three Working Group Reports, presented a summary of past and planned outreach events, mentioned the challenges posed by the timely preparation of translated version of the IPCC documents, and reported on the website restructuring. A comment was made about the quality of the French translation of the Working Group I summary.

Ms Christ also emphasized the need to reinforce the overall outreach approach with the participation of partner organizations, and requested a budget increase for this item, which was approved by the Panel.

7. FUTURE OF THE IPCC

The Chair introduced the item and announced that a discussion paper will be distributed in the first days of 2008 in order to start a dialogue on key elements of the future of IPCC work and seek reactions and proposals from governments, organizations and authors involved in the Fourth Assessment Report. This topic will be a primary agenda item at the 28th Session.

8. MEMBERSHIP OF THE IPCC BUREAU AND THE TASK FORCE BUREAU

The proposal by the Government of Venezuela to replace Dr Maria Martelo with Dr Miriam Diaz, both from Venezuela, had been submitted to the 26th Session, but the decision postponed awaiting further information. The Secretariat approached the Government of Venezuela and its response is included under “document 5”. Several Panel members were not satisfied with this response and, according to rule 12 of the Election

Procedures, were expecting a personal resignation message from Dr Maria Martelo before accepting her replacement.

The Secretariat was therefore requested to seek personal contact with Dr Maria Martelo, either directly or through the Venezuela IPCC Focal Point, before a decision on this matter can be taken.

9. IPCC OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

Document IPCC-XXVII/INF 2 summarizes the status concerning this item, which will be addressed at the 37th Session of the IPCC Bureau for approval of a revised list of observer organizations at the 28th Session of the IPCC.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Under this item, the Chairman presented “document 6”, recalling the joint award of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize to IPCC and Mr Al Gore, and the modalities of its upcoming celebration in Oslo on 10 December 2007. A delegation of 25 persons which reflects current and past contributors to IPCC work will take part in the ceremony. In order to acknowledge the wide contribution of many to this outstanding achievement, the Secretariat will explore with the Nobel Foundation the best ways to recognize this contribution by personalized letters and/or copies of the award certificate to appropriate individuals.

The Panel agreed to the proposition of the Chairman to set up a Task Group of three persons to work with him in developing a plan for the use of the funds from the Nobel Peace Prize, to be submitted to the Panel at its 28th Session.

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 28TH SESSION

The Panel accepted with thanks the offer by the Government of Hungary to host the 28th Session of the IPCC in Budapest on 9-10 April 2008, to be preceded by the 37th Session of the IPCC Bureau on 7-8 April 2008.

It was also decided that the 29th Session, where the new Bureau will be elected, will take place in Geneva on the first week of September 2008, and it will be associated with the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the IPCC.

The Panel noted with thanks the offers from Turkey to host the 30th Session of the IPCC in Istanbul and from Indonesia to host either the 31st or the 32nd Session.

12. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

Before closing the Session the Panel expressed deep sorrow and support to the Government of Bangladesh for the tragic consequences of the landing of cyclone Sidr on 15 November on the country's coast, possibly the worst natural disaster in 2007.

The Session closed at 12.00 hours on Saturday, 17 November 2007, with an official statement by Mr Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary-General, in the presence of Mr Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General of WMO, Mr Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, and the representatives of the Government of Spain.

Mr Ban Ki-moon in his statement highlighted the threats of climate change which can potentially push developing countries back into the poverty trap. He called slowing and reversing climate change the defining challenge of our age, while noting that there are real and affordable ways to deal with climate change.

In closing, the UN high level representatives and the delegates thanked the Government of Spain for hosting the meeting. The Chair thanked the delegates and adjourned the meeting.

ANNEX 1

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL
ON CLIMATE CHANGE

TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION
Valencia, 12-17 November 2007

IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 1
(27.VIII.2007)

Agenda item: 1
ENGLISH ONLY

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

The Chairman of the IPCC Dr Rajendra K. Pachauri, will call the session to order at 10:00 hours on Monday, 12 November 2007.

Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish will be provided during the plenary meetings of the session. All documentation will be in English only.

It is suggested that the working hours be from 10.00 – 13.00 and from 15.00 – 18.00 hours. If required, arrangements will be made for evening and night meetings.

After opening remarks, the provisional agenda will be submitted for approval. The agenda may be amended at any time during the session.

2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH SESSION
(IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 2)

3. SHORT PRESENTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE CORE WRITING TEAM OF THE VARIOUS TOPICS OF THE DRAFT SYNTHESIS REPORT OF THE IPCC FOURTH ASSESSMENT REPORT "CLIMATE CHANGE 2007" (IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 3)

4. CONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL/ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT SYNTHESIS REPORT OF THE IPCC FOURTH ASSESSMENT REPORT (AR4) (IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 3)

4.1 Approval of the draft Summary for Policymakers of the Synthesis Report (IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 3a)

4.2 Adoption of the longer part of the Synthesis Report (IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 3b)

5. IPCC PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008 TO 2010

The Panel at its 26th Session agreed to translate the Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water into all UN languages and agreed to consider the budgetary implications at its 27th Session. It was also suggested to consider an increase of the budget for outreach activities.

6. PROGRESS REPORTS

6.6 IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories

6.7 Future Work on Scenarios – report about the Expert Meeting in Noordwijkerhout

6.8 Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water

6.9 Task Group on Data and Scenario Support for Impact and Climate Assessment (TGICA)

6.10 Outreach

7. FUTURE OF THE IPCC

The Chair will introduce a discussion paper on the future of the IPCC.

8. MEMBERSHIP OF THE IPCC BUREAU AND THE TASK FORCE BUREAU

Consistent with Rule 12 of the "Rules of Procedure for the Election of the IPCC Bureau and any Task Force Bureau" the Panel is invited to consider proposals for replacement of Bureau members.

9. IPCC OBSERVER ORGANIZATIONS

Consistent with the "IPCC Policy and Process for Admitting Observer Organizations" the Panel is invited to consider admission of new observer organizations.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

11. DATE AND PLACE OF THE 28TH SESSION

12. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

The session is expected to close on 13.00 hours on Saturday, 17 November 2007.

IPCC PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2008 to 2010

Decision taken by the Panel at its 27th Session

1. The Panel thanked the Secretariat of the IPCC for the update of the status of IPCC Trust Fund and the proposal for revised budget for 2008, as contained in document IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 4 and IPCC-XXVII/Doc. 4 add.1.
2. The Panel noted that the contributions and statements of expenditure in the document are provisional and reflect only the interim status of the IPCC Trust Fund. These items are yet to be finalized by the end of the year and will be presented to the Panel at its 28th Session.
3. The budget for 2008 had been adopted at the 26th Session of the IPCC. The Panel adopted the revised budget for 2008 as attached.
4. The Panel expressed its gratitude to the WMO and UNEP for their contributions to IPCC Trust Fund and for financing one position each, and to WMO for hosting the Secretariat. It also thanked the UNFCCC for its generous contribution and spirit of cooperation.
5. The Panel expressed its gratitude to governments, including those of developing countries, for their generous contributions to the IPCC Trust Fund and others through hosting IPCC meetings and supporting IPCC outreach activities. Special thanks go to those governments that host TSUs and provide special support to them, including the support provided by the Government of India to the Chair and to the TSU for the Synthesis Report, and the support by the Government of UK to the head of the TSU.
6. The Panel invited governments that may be in a position to do so to continue to make stable contributions to the IPCC Trust Fund taking into account the work programme and financial requirements for the future work of the IPCC, and requested the Chair to write formally to governments and other possible contributors requesting such contributions.

TABLE 1

REVISED BUDGET FOR 2008 ADOPTED AT IPCC-XXVII

Activity	Purpose	DC/EIT support	Other Expenditure	Sub-total
Governing bodies				
IPCC-28 3 days	Future of IPCC, Outreach	540,000 120 journeys	156,000	696,000
IPCC-29 3 days	Bureau election, Programme & budget	540,000 120 journeys	156,000	696,000
Bureau	2 sessions	162,000 36 journeys	208,000	370,000
TFB	1 session	31,500 7 journeys	4,095	35,595
SBSTA/COP/JWG and other meetings		67,500 15 journeys		67,500
SUB-TOTAL				1,865,095
Scoping meetings, expert meetings and workshops				
TGICA	2 meetings	63,000 14 journeys	8,190	71,190
New Scenarios	1 expert meeting	135,000 30 journeys	17,550	152,550
Possible future IPCC tasks	contingency for LA and expert meetings	270,000 60 journeys	35,100	305,100
EFDB Board	1 meeting	94,500 21 journeys	12,285	106,785
EFDB Expert Meetings	2 meetings	90,000 20 journeys	11,700	101,700
NGGIP inventories software review	1 expert meeting	90,000 20 journeys	11,700	101,700
Use of inventory guidelines and GPG	1 expert meeting	90,000 20 journeys	11,700	101,700
Renewable Energy*	Scoping meeting	180,000 40 journeys	23,400	203,400
SUB-TOTAL				1,144,125
Other Expenditures				
EFDB	Update/management			6,000
Publications	Publication & translation AR4 SYR			600,000
	Technical Paper on Climate Change and Water			300,000
	Publication & translation new scenarios			150,000
	TGICA Meeting Report on Regional Climate Change			30,000
2006 GL software	software development			105,000
Outreach				400,000
Secretariat				820,000
Co-Chairs				200,000
SUB-TOTAL				2,611,000
TOTAL				5,620,220

* The meeting was budgeted for 2007 but will be postponed to January 2008

Valencia, Spain, 17 November 2007 - UN Secretary-General's address to the IPCC upon the release of the Fourth Assessment Synthesis Report

Dr. (Rajendra) Pachauri, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

Mr. Michel Jarraud (Secretary-General of World Meteorological Organization)

Mr. Achim Steiner (Executive Director of UN Environment Programme)

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Buenos Dias.

I am delighted to join you for the release of the synthesis report of the IPCC fourth assessment.

Let me commend all members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on this landmark achievement. And on behalf of the entire United Nations family, let me congratulate, once again, Dr. Pachauri, all former chairs of the IPCC, and the thousands of scientists who have worked tirelessly for the Panel, on receiving this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Let me also congratulate the UN Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization for their vision to create the IPCC and their ongoing efforts to support its work.

I come to you humbled after seeing some of the most precious treasures of our planet -- treasures that are being threatened by humanity's own hand.

Antarctica, the Torres del Paine glaciers, the Amazon -- all humanity must assume responsibility for these jewels, on behalf of succeeding generations.

In Antarctica, the message was chillingly simple: the continent's glaciers are melting. I saw the heart-bursting beauty of ice shelves that have already started to break up. I was told that if large quantities of Antarctica's ice were to melt, sea levels could rise catastrophically.

In the Amazon, I saw how the rainforest -- the "lungs of the earth" -- is being suffocated. Brazil is making serious strides in fighting deforestation and promoting sustainable forest management. But the Government fears that global warming is already undercutting these efforts. If the Panel's most severe projection comes true, much of the Amazon rainforest will transform into savannah.

In Punta Arenas, Chile, near the centre of the famous "ozone hole" in the earth's atmosphere, children wore protective clothing against ultraviolet radiation. There are days when parents don't let them play outside, or even go to school.

These scenes are as frightening as a science fiction movie. But they are even more terrifying, because they are real.

Slowing -- and reversing -- these threats are the defining challenge of our age. The world looks to our climate brain trust to educate, inform and guide us.

One of our guideposts is the synthesis report you are releasing today. It distils key findings from the thousands of pages of the working group reports. It gives policymakers an easy-to-use guide.

And it contains one overarching message for all of us: that there are real and affordable ways to deal with climate change.

I have been heartened by how Governments have embraced the Panel's scientific findings so far. Their support has set the stage for decisive action and informed policymaking on this vital issue. As this report makes clear, concerted and sustained action now can still avoid some of the most catastrophic scenarios under your forecasts.

Our sights are now set on the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali next month. It is the opportunity to provide political answers to these scientific findings.

This report will be formally presented to the Conference in Bali. Already, it has set the stage for a real breakthrough -- an agreement to launch negotiations for a comprehensive climate change deal that all nations can embrace.

The Bali Conference should also map out the agenda for these negotiations, as well as their timeframe -- I hope in an agreement to conclude negotiations by 2009. Leaders were clear at the High-Level Event on Climate Change at the United Nations in September: we cannot afford to leave Bali without such a breakthrough.

One crucial aspect of the Panel's assessment is that climate change will affect developing countries the most. Those who are most vulnerable are also the most at risk from this threat. Melting glaciers will trigger mountain floods and lead to water shortages in South Asia and South America. Rising sea levels could inundate small island developing States. Reduced rainfall will aggravate water and food insecurity in Africa.

In fact, changing weather and temperature patterns can potentially push developing countries back into the poverty trap, and undo much of the progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

We cannot let this happen. Our response to climate change, in Bali and beyond, will not be effective if it sacrifices the poverty eradication and development aspirations of developing countries.

That is why industrialized countries need to continue to take the lead in climate change abatement. But at the same time, we cannot ignore the reality that if developing countries fail to join the effort, there can be no viable solution.

In Bali, let us not point fingers or apportion blame. Rather, let us find common ground. Let us recognize that the effects of climate change affect us all. And that they have become so severe and so sweeping that only urgent, global action will do. We are all in this together. We must work together.

Any grand bargain must include incentives to help developing countries move towards mitigation and adaptation. It needs to assist developing countries in three ways:

- It needs to provide for better funding for clean energy technologies;
- It needs to spur financial flows for adaptation; and
- It needs to enhance research and development cooperation, as well as transfer of clean technologies, particularly for energy supply and adaptation.

These are the challenges that lie ahead. In two weeks, the Bali Conference will test our resolve to deliver on them.

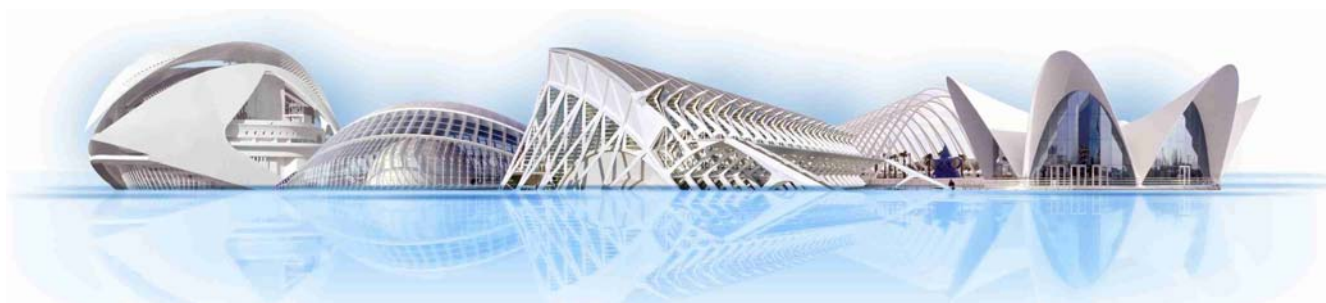
The United Nations should lead by example by moving itself towards carbon neutrality in its operations worldwide. Already, parts of the United Nations system have begun and our upcoming renovation of the United Nations Headquarters in New York should dramatically advance this important agenda.

Today, the world's scientists have spoken, clearly and with one voice. In Bali, I expect the world's policymakers to do the same. Together, we can do even more than address climate change -- we can transform a necessity into virtue. We can pursue new and improved ways to produce, consume and discard. We can promote environmentally friendly industries that spur development and job creation even as they reduce emissions. We can usher in a new era of global partnership, one that helps lift all boats on the rising tide of climate-friendly development.

The synthesis report has answered many of our policy questions. Now, starting in Bali, it is up to the rest of us to transform those answers into action. We must save all the treasures of our planet, for the sake of succeeding generations.

I thank you very much.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



TWENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Valencia, Spain, 12-17 November 2007

Participants are kindly requested to communicate corrections to the list of participants to the Conference Information Desk.

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