

## REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE IPCC BUREAU

Geneva, 9-11 July 1997

## 1. OPENING OF THE SESSION

1.1 The session was declared open by the Chairman of the IPCC, Prof. B. Bolin, at 1010 hours on Wednesday, 9 July 1997, in Salle III of the International Conference Centre of Geneva. The agenda as adopted is attached in Appendix A.

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE TWELFTH SESSION

2.1 The Report was approved without amendments.

## 3. THE IPCC THIRD ASSESSMENT REPORT (TAR) AND THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF THE IPCC BUREAU: CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT DECISION PAPER BY THE CHAIRMAN-ELECT, DR ROBERT T. WATSON

3.1 The Bureau noted that the draft paper had been circulated (for the second time) to governments, organizations and individual experts for review on 30 May 1997. It requested the Chairman-Elect to revise the paper in the light of the comments received and the discussions at this (Bureau) session. It expressed the view that the revised draft be forwarded to the IPCC at the Thirteenth Session (Maldives, 22 & 25-28 September 1997) for decisions on the issues.

3.2 A number of governments had made nominations for membership in the IPCC Bureau, scheduled to be elected at the Thirteenth session of the IPCC, or had signalled their intention to do so. This information was made available to the Bureau (see Appendix B for a listing of communications from governments).

3.3 The following governments took the opportunity to announce their wish to continue to serve on the IPCC Bureau:

- Germany to make a nomination for the Co-Chairmanship of Working Group III, expected to be reorganized;
- the United States of America to make a nomination for the Co-Chairmanship of Working Group II, expected to be reorganized;
- Senegal to make a nomination for a Vice-Chairmanship of either Working Group I or Working Group II;
- Nigeria to make a nomination for a Vice-Chairmanship of Working Group I;
- Zimbabwe to make a nomination for Co-Chairmanship of Working Group II or for another position in the Bureau;
- France to make a nomination for a Vice-Chairmanship of Working Group III.

#### 4. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UN FCCC AND THE IPCC

4.1 This agenda item was scheduled for Friday, 11 July 1997. The discussion centered around the issue of methodologies.

4.2 The following comments were made in this context:

- by the Executive Secretary for the UN FCCC that budget requests of \$350,000 for 1998 and \$400,000 for 1999 for the IPCC would be submitted to the Third Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN FCCC (Kyoto, 1-12 December 1997);
- by the Executive Secretary that translation and publication of the methodologies developed by the IPCC for the FCCC are unlikely to be funded by the Convention in the 1998-1999 biennium; in this context, the question was raised of whether or not the best body to perform these tasks was not the one which does the developmental work;
- by the Chairman of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) supporting a clear division of labour between IPCC and FCCC bodies with regard to the entire issue of methodologies;
- supporting field testing as part of the developmental work on the methodologies;
- that the IPCC not offer any further work on the methodologies unless specifically requested and funding for the same was assured;
- that IPCC would welcome feedback from the FCCC bodies on the usefulness of the methodologies developed thus far by the IPCC.

4.3 The Bureau expressed the view that it would be desirable to establish a mechanism to receive inputs from the Convention bodies on the contents of the TAR. It was suggested that this be an item of discussion for the next meeting of the IPCC/FCCC Joint working Group.

4.4 In this context, the Bureau was of the view that the sessions of the IPCC Working Groups, scheduled for 1998 where the details of the TAR contents would be finalized, would provide a good opportunity to discuss what further work could be undertaken on, for example, methodologies; the result of the discussions could then be conveyed to the Convention bodies as part of the ongoing communication between the IPCC and the FCCC.

#### 5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 On other matters, the Bureau:

- took note of the progress report on *Technical Paper No. 4: Implications of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Limitations*; the Paper would be considered at the next session of the Bureau for release to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) and to the public;
- was informed, with respect to the *IPCC Special Reports*, that (i) efforts were being made to render the different parts of "Regional Impacts of Climate Change" as homogeneous as possible, (ii) another meeting of the Lead Authors of "Emissions Scenarios" was scheduled for 17-19 September 1997 in Amsterdam, (iii) "Aviation

- and the Global Atmosphere” was expected to be completed in late 1998 and (iv) “Methodological and Technological Aspects of Technology Transfer” was targeted for completion in the spring of 1999;
- noted that it would be more helpful for the *Task Group on Regional Climate Change Scenarios for Impact Analyses* to develop climate scenarios which span the range of climate sensitivities in addition to those dealing with the upper part of the range;
  - decided that the proceedings of the Workshop, cosponsored by the IPCC, held in Copenhagen on *costing methodologies for impacts and adaptations, particularly for developing countries* would not be published as IPCC supporting material;
  - welcomed the offer of the Government of the Netherlands to host the *Workshop on Rapid Non-Linear Climate Change* from 31 March to 2 April 1998 and agreed that the proposal should be carried forward to the Thirteenth Session of the IPCC;
  - agreed that the report of the *IPCC Workshop on the Economic Impacts of the Actions of Annex I Parties on all Countries*, scheduled to take place in Oslo from 18 to 20 August 1997 be forwarded to SBSTA at its Seventh Session (Bonn, 24-28 October 1997);
  - was informed by the Secretary that the *IPCC budget proposal for 1998-2000* was required to be transmitted to governments 60 days in advance of IPCC-XIII; in this context, the Bureau agreed broadly with the Secretary's *suggested elements of the budget* and requested the Chairman of the IPCC Ad Hoc Financial Task Group (AIFTG), Mr D. Reifsnyder, to convene a meeting at the end of the session to discuss the nature and the details of the elements;
  - requested Mr D. Warrilow, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Group for the examination of *Proposed Minor Amendments to the IPCC Principles and Procedures*, to revise the draft proposals in the light of its (Bureau's) comments and forward them as a draft information paper to IPCC-XIII for decision by the Panel on adoption at a later date.

## 6. TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT SESSION

6.1 The Fourteenth Session of the Bureau would take place in Bandos island in the Maldives on 21 September 1997.

## 7. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE SESSION

7.1 The report, in draft form, would be submitted to the next session for approval.

## 8. CLOSING OF THE SESSION

8.1 The session closed at 1705 hours on Friday, 11 July 1997.

8.2 The list of participants is attached in Appendix C.